

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Minute of meeting of Perth and Kinross Council held virtually on Wednesday 6 October 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Provost D Melloy, Councillors C Ahern, A Bailey, K Baird, M Barnacle, L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, R Brock, A Coates, H Coates, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, J Duff, A Forbes, T Gray, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, G Laing, M Lyle, I Massie, R McCall, S McCole, X McDade, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, C Purves, J Rebbeck, C Reid, W Robertson, F Sarwar, C Shiers, L Simpson, , C Stewart, R Watters and M Williamson.

In Attendance: B Renton, Interim Chief Executive and Executive Director (Communities); C Mailer, Depute Director (Communities); S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); K Donaldson, Chief Operating Officer; G Paterson, Chief Officer/Director – Integrated Health and Social Care (up to and including Item 5); N Ballantine, A Brown (up to and including Item 5), L A Cassidy (up to and including Item 5), S Crawford, F Crofts, C Daly (up to and including Item 5), L Dott (up to and including Item 5), M Dow (up to and including Item 5), C Leishman (up to and including Item 5), R Lyle (up to and including Item 5), W Mahoney, P Marshall, J McCrone, D McKeown, D McPhee (up to and including Item 5), S Merone, L Potter (up to and including Item 5), G Reeves (up to and including Item 5), F Robertson, A Seggie (up to and including Item 5), A Taylor, J Williams (Communities); G Boland (Education and Children's Services) L Simpson, S Hendry, S Mackenzie, S Walker, L Brady (up to and including Item 5), P Johnstone (up to and including Item 5), S Cannon (up to and including Item 5), L Harris (up to and including Item 5), A Brown, M Pasternak, B Parker and A McMeekin (all Corporate and Democratic Services); F Cameron and P Cromwell (Live Active Leisure)

Apology: Councillors F Smith and W Wilson.

The Provost led on Items 1-3 and 5 and the Depute Provost led on Items 4 and 6-10.

Provost D Melloy, Presiding

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Provost welcomed all those present to the meeting and an apology was noted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors B Brawn and J Rebbeck declared a non-financial interest in Live Active Leisure.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL OF 23 JUNE 2021

The minute of the meeting of Perth and Kinross Council of 23 June 2021 be approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

4. MOTIONS

(i) Older People's Champion

Motion by Councillors J Rebbeck and S McCole

Council recognises and values the contributions that older people play in our society. We are therefore seeking Council support for Age Scotland and the Scottish Older People's Assembly's (SOPA) campaign for every local authority in Scotland to establish the role of an Older People's Champion and to appoint a councillor to the position in Perth and Kinross. An Older People's Champion is a councillor who acts as a link between the council and older people in the local area. Age Scotland and SOPA also want to see a network of Older People's Champions from across Scotland who will be a voice for older people at local and national level, work together on shared challenges and collectively influence for change. It would be beneficial if our area were represented. With a growing older population, it is vital that local decision-making meets the needs of older people and that councillors have a better understanding of these. Local authorities, health and social care partnerships and the Third Sector are responsible for providing and supporting so many services upon which older people rely – such as public transport, social care provision, housing, planning and communities. As many local authority budgets are under pressure, older people need someone specifically tasked with standing up for their interests and finding out what they need from local decision makers. There is no budgetary implication attached to this role. We believe the impact of COVID-19 on Scotland's older people has only strengthened the need for an Older People's Champion here. We hope that Perth and Kinross Council can support this campaign and will establish the role of an Older People's Champion for our Council. If Council agrees this motion, then Councillor Ian Massie to be appointed as our Older People's Champion.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

(ii) Kinross-shire Local Committee

Motion by Councillors C Purves and M Barnacle

At its revenue budget-setting meeting in February, the Council agreed to undertake a 12-month pilot of a devolved decision-making committee for the Kinross-shire ward. The Kinross-shire Forum, which comprises the four Kinross-shire ward councillors and representatives from each of the six Kinross-shire community councils, developed a draft scheme of administration. This scheme has been revised following feedback and advice from senior Council officers and is set out at the appendix to this motion.

The Council is asked to agree the following:

- Approve the proposed Scheme of Administration for the Kinross-shire Local Committee as set out in the appendix to this motion;

- Delegate authority to the Head of Legal and Governance Services to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Scheme of Administration to give effect to this decision;
- Request that local elected members work with officers to determine evaluation criteria to review the effectiveness of the Scheme;
- Request that a report is brought back to Council following the conclusion of the 12-month pilot to consider whether any revisions to the Scheme are required;
- Note that Committee Services will liaise with the Convener to arrange the scheduling of meetings of the Committee;
- Note that no specific revenue or capital budgets are devolved to the local Committee as part of this motion setting up the pilot; and
- Appoint Councillor M Barnacle as Convener, noting that this is not a senior councillor appointment, and Councillor C Purves as Vice Convener of the Committee.

The Council were requested to suspend Standing Orders to allow officers to be asked and answer questions.

In terms of Standing Order 2.8 a roll call vote was taken.

35 Members voted agree as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, M Barnacle, L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, J Duff, A Forbes, T Gray, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, G Laing, M Lyle, I Massie, R McCall, S McCole, T McEwan, Provost D Melloy, A Parrott, B Pover, C Purves, J Rebbeck, C Reid, W Robertson, F Sarwar, C Shiers, L Simpson, C Stewart, R Watters and W Williamson.

3 Members voted disagree as follows:

Councillors A Bailey, R Brock and X McDade.

Standing Orders were suspended for the remainder of this Item.

Procedural Motion (Councillors P Barrett and G Laing)

1. That this item be deferred to a later date, no later than 15 December 2021 being the last Full Council meeting of this calendar year.
2. The Chief Executive brings it back to Council in a report with the relevant impact assessments and resource implications to enable Council to make a better informed decision on the matter; and to include an appraisal of any other potential models for delivery of a Kinross-shire Area Committee, which may better align with the principles of the Perth and Kinross Officer.

In terms of Standing Order 17.3 a simple majority agree/disagree vote was taken.

14 Members voted agree as follows:

Councillors L Barrett, P Barrett, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, T Gray, G Laing, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, F Sarwar, L Simpson, and W Williamson.

24 Members voted disagree as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, A Bailey, K Baird, M Barnacle, R Brock B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, M Lyle, R McCall, X McDade, Provost D Melloy, C Purves, J Rebbeck, C Reid, W Robertson, C Shiers, C Stewart, and R Watters.

The procedural motion therefore fell.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

(iii) COP26

Motion by Councillors F Sarwar and R Watters

Perth and Kinross Council welcomes the delegates of COP26 to Scotland and wishes Glasgow every success in their role as hosts. We recognise the importance of the conference and know that time is of the essence in our fight against the climate emergency.

We note the key goals of COP26 as crucial pillars in this fight and recognise their call to action around: Mitigation, Adaptation, Finance, and Collaboration.

Today we underline Perth and Kinross Council's commitment to being a leader in addressing climate emergency and promise to expedite and prioritise the Climate Action Plan.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

THERE FOLLOWED A 10 MINUTE RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11.34AM.

5. PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21

There was submitted a report by the Interim Chief Executive (21/179) providing an overview of how the Council performed in 2020/21 against the strategic objectives for Perth and Kinross, as set out within the Council's Corporate Plan 2018-2022.

Resolved:

The Perth and Kinross Council Annual Performance Report for 2020/21 be approved.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS FOR LUNCH.

G PATERSON, L POTTER, L DOTT, G REEVES, A SEGGIE, L BRADY, P JOHNSTONE, S CANNON, L HARRIS, A BROWN, L A CASSIDAY, C DALY, M DOW, C LEISHMAN, R LYLE, B MCPHEE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 1.15PM.

6. THE INVESTMENT BLUEPRINT

There was submitted a report by the Chief Operating Officer (21/180) introducing the Investment Blueprint as a key component of our wider Strategic Capital Investment Planning Framework; the Blueprint will support a more transparent and flexible approach to investment decision making to support the long-term vision of the Council.

Motion (Councillors M Lyle and J Duff)

Approve the Investment Blueprint, as attached at Appendix 3 to Report 21/180.

Amendment 1 (Councillors X McDade and A Bailey)

Approve subject to additional provisions in Appendix 3:

Under "Introduction" section:

Add: in situations where two or more of the overarching principles cannot be reconciled by skilful management, mitigating the impact on climate change and the environment should be given greater weight in recognition that we will not have inclusive economic growth; equality and fairness; sustainable public services or digital inclusion without first protecting the world we live in.

Under "Our investments will mitigate the impact of climate change" section:

Add at point 4: All planned and future roads projects will be assessed against the National Transport Strategy which sets out a hierarchy of transport, prioritising sustainable travel as follows: the first option should be walking and wheeling; followed by cycling; then public transport; then taxis and shared transport; and new infrastructure for private car should be the last resort.

THERE FOLLOWED A 10 MINUTE RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 2.00PM.

Amendment 2 (Councillors S McCole and T McEwan)

That the established project and programme governance, including the Gateway Review Process, is updated to reflect the opportunities the Investment Blueprint offers to ensure participation and political oversight from elected members at critical decision stages of the Gateway Review process for all projects and programmes included in the Investment Blueprint, so that political decision making and accountability is clear and unambiguous throughout the decision making process, and that the update to the Investment Blueprint governance arrangements are brought back for approval to the next Council meeting on 15 December 2021.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 2.45PM.

Councillor M Lyle, seconded by Councillor J Duff, advised that the administration would be willing to incorporate the first section of Amendment 1 within the Motion but not minded to incorporate the second section of Amendment 1. They were not minded to incorporate Amendment 2 in the Motion.

Revised Motion (Councillors M Lyle and J Duff)

Approve the Investment Blueprint, as attached at Appendix 3 to Report 21/180, subject to the following:

Under “Introduction” section:

Add: in situations where two or more of the overarching principles cannot be reconciled by skilful management, mitigating the impact on climate change and the environment should be given greater weight in recognition that we will not have inclusive economic growth; equality and fairness; sustainable public services or digital inclusion without first protecting the world we live in.

Councillor X McDade indicated that he was pleased that the first section would be included in the Motion but would still wish the second section to be voted on.

Revised Amendment 1 (Councillors X McDade and A Bailey)

Approve subject to additional provisions in Appendix 3:

Under “Our investments will mitigate the impact of climate change” section:

Add at point 4: All planned and future roads projects will be assessed against the National Transport Strategy which sets out a hierarchy of transport, prioritising sustainable travel as follows: the first option should be walking and wheeling; followed by cycling; then public transport; then taxis and shared transport; and new infrastructure for private car should be the last resort.

Under Standing Order 21.7 a roll call vote was taken.

21 members voted in accordance with the Revised Motion as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, M Barnacle, L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, M Lyle, R McCall, Provost D Melloy, C Purves, C Reid, W Robertson, C Shiers and C Stewart.

17 members voted in accordance with the Revised Amendment 1 as follows:

Councillors A Bailey, R Brock, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, T Gray, G Laing, I Massie, S McCole, X McDade, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar, L Simpson, R Watters and W Williamson.

The Revised Amendment 1 fell and the Revised Motion was then placed against Amendment 2 and a roll call vote was taken.

22 members voted in accordance with the Revised Motion:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, M Barnacle, L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, M Lyle, R McCall, Provost D Melloy, C Purves, C Reid, W Robertson, C Shiers, L Simpson and C Stewart.

16 members voted in accordance with Amendment 2:
Councillors A Bailey, R Brock, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, T Gray, G Laing,
I Massie, S McCole, X McDade, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, J Rebbeck,
F Sarwar, R Watters and M Williamson.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Revised Motion.

THERE FOLLOWED A 5 MINUTE RECESS.

7. CAPITAL BUDGET 2021/22 – 2028/29 UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Interim Chief Executive and Head of Finance (21/181) (1) providing an update on the Capital Budget approved on 30 September 2020; (2) setting out two options for progressing the budget in light of significant cost pressures and uncertainty currently being experienced in the construction sector; and (3) introducing two additional Capital proposals for consideration.

Motion (Councillors M Lyle and J Duff)

The Council is requested to:

- (i) approve adjustments to the Capital Budget based on Option B, along with the additions/adjustments in the table below.
- (ii) approve the use of the Capital Fund to manage the immediate Capital pressures of £35.4 million.
- (iii) approve setting the Capital Budget in February / March 2022.

| EXPENDITURE PRESSURES | £m |
|--|-------------|
| Capital Expenditure Proposals | |
| Perth High School Replacement | 8.3 |
| Blairgowrie Recreation Centre | 8.9 |
| Harris Academy / Invergowrie Pupils | 4.2 |
| Investment in Information Technology / Digital Capacity | 10.5 |
| North Muirton / Balhousie Primary School | 3.5 |
| TOTAL | 35.4 |
| FUNDING MEASURES | £m |
| Additional Borrowing Capacity from - use of Capital Fund | 35.4 |
| Total | 35.4 |

Amendment 1 (Councillors L Simpson and P Barrett)

The Council is requested to approve:

- (i) Adjustments to the Capital Budget based on Option B which focusses upon addressing the immediate Capital pressures identified by officers in section 4 of the report.
- (ii) The use of the Capital Fund to manage the immediate Capital pressures of £23.6 million.
- (iii) Setting the Capital Budget in February / March 2022.

Amendment 2 (Councillors G Laing and A Parrott)

| EXPENDITURE PRESSURES | £m |
|--|--------------|
| Option A | |
| PH20 | 70.0 |
| Perth High School Replacement | 8.3 |
| Blairgowrie Recreation Centre | 8.9 |
| Harris Academy / Invergowrie Pupils | 4.2 |
| Investment in Information Technology / Digital Capacity | 15.9 |
| North Muirton / Balhousie Primary School | 3.5 |
| | 110.8 |
| Additional Capital Budget Proposals | |
| Climate Change - capital investment to support future actions that will likely arise from the upcoming climate change report - either stand alone carbon reduction projects or supplementary funding to existing projects / programmes. The funding may also support bids to attract match funding. | 5.0 |
| A9 Dualling - additional investment in the C408 and U38 to improve links with the A9 dual carriageway. | 0.8 |
| School Estate - strategic capital investment in our school estate to improve the learning experiences for our young people. | 6.0 |
| | 11.8 |
| TOTAL | <u>122.6</u> |
| FUNDING MEASURES | £m |
| Additional Borrowing Capacity from - | |
| - increased savings from operational buildings | 53.0 |
| - use of Capital Fund | 50.0 |
| - additional borrowing funded by ringfencing growth in the number of Band D properties * | 19.6 |
| Total | <u>122.6</u> |
| *impact on revenue budget | <u>0.5</u> |
| No of Band D Properties | <u>372</u> |

Amendment 3 (Councillors X McDade and A Bailey)

Acknowledging the need to make time sensitive decisions on certain capital projects, but with the view that the right time to make wider capital decisions is alongside the revenue budget, we propose that the Council proceed with the recommendations set out in report 21/181 at 8.3 (i)-(iii). We further propose that add an additional recommendation (iv) be added to allocate from 2025 a revenue budget of £2.2m to be achieved through savings from operational buildings. This will create approximately 55m of borrowing capacity at current rates for planned and any new projects the Council may decide to proceed with when setting its capital budget alongside the revenue budget in early 2022. We believe this course of action to be the most fiscally responsible course of action at this time given the significant uncertainties around future revenue budget allocations from Government and the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on the Council and its wider services. In our view the Council must spend the next few months planning a fiscally sustainable future for the funding of the Councils Capital Fund to protect services for future generations.

In terms of Standing Order 21.6 a roll call vote was taken.

13 members voted in accordance with Amendment 2 as follows:

Councillors S Donaldson, E Drysdale, T Gray, G Laing, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar, R Watters and M Williamson.

3 members voted in accordance with Amendment 3 as follows:

Councillors A Bailey, R Brock and X McDade.

22 members Abstained as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, M Barnacle, L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, M Lyle, R McCall, Provost D Melloy, C Purves, C Reid, W Robertson, C Shiers, L Simpson and C Stewart.

Amendment 2 was carried.

7 members voted in accordance with Amendment 1 as follows:

Councillors A Bailey, L Barrett, P Barrett, R Brock, X McDade, W Robertson and L Simpson.

13 members voted in accordance with Amendment 2 as follows:

Councillors S Donaldson, E Drysdale, T Gray, G Laing, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar, R Watters and M Williamson.

18 members Abstained as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, M Barnacle, B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, M Lyle, R McCall, Provost D Melloy, C Purves, C Reid, C Shiers and C Stewart.

Amendment 2 became the substantive Amendment.

18 members voted in accordance with the Motion as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, M Barnacle, B Brawn, A Coates, H Coates, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, I James, A Jarvis, M Lyle, R McCall, Provost D Melloy, C Purves, C Reid, C Shiers and C Stewart.

14 members voted in accordance with the Amendment as follows:

Councillors A Bailey, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, T Gray, G Laing, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, A Parrott, B Pover, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar, R Watters and M Williamson.

6 members Abstained as follows:

Councillors L Barrett, P Barrett, R Brock, X McDade, W Robertson and L Simpson.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

8. JANUARY – MAY 2022 PROPOSED COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

It was agreed that this item be carried over to the special meeting of Perth and Kinross Council proposed to be held on 25 October 2021.

9. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2021

Resolved:

It be agreed that a special meeting of Perth and Kinross Council be held at 10.00am on Monday 25 October 2021 with the Property Sub-Committee now commencing at 9.00am.

10. UPDATES TO SCHEME OF ADMINISTRATION

It was agreed that this item be carried over to the special meeting of Perth and Kinross Council proposed to be held on 25 October 2021.