

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Council Chamber, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 22 May 2019 at 1.00pm.

Present: Councillors C Shiers, J Duff, W Wilson, C Ahern (substituting for Councillor C Reid), H Anderson, K Baird, A Forbes, D Illingworth (substituting for Councillor C Purves), X McDade, T McEwan, B Pover, J Rebbeck and F Sarwar;
Mr A Ferguson, Mrs P Giles, Mrs M McFarlane, Mrs A McAuley and Mrs C Weston.

In attendance: S Devlin, Executive Director (Education & Children's Services); J Pepper, G Boland, R Hill, S Johnston, K Robertson and C Taylor (all Education and Children's Services); J Beveridge, C Cranmer and P Marshall (all Housing and Environment); S Rodger, A O'Brien, C Flynn and L Brown (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for absence: Councillors Purves and Reid.

The Convener led discussion on Arts. 280-286 and 289-291, Vice-Convener Duff on Art. 288 and Vice-Convener Wilson on Art. 287.

Councillor C Shiers, Convener, Presiding.

280. BARBARA VAUGHAN DEN FOR YOUNG CARERS

Prior to the commencement of business the Convener advised of the opening of the Barbara Vaughan Den for Young Carers at the new PKAVS Centre in Lewis Place, Perth. The late Barbara Vaughan had been a member of the Committee for many years and had a particular passion that young carers should be afforded every opportunity to develop their academic achievements and that their caring responsibilities should not get in the way of their future success, particularly in relation to their schooling. The Convener conveyed her thanks to the officers of the Council who had been involved in delivering this living legacy to the late Councillor Vaughan.

281. SCHOOLS (CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010: - BLAIRINGONE AND GREENLOANING PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Prior to the commencement of business the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) advised of the decision of the Scottish Government not to call in proposals to close Blairingone and Greenloaning Primary Schools as approved by the Lifelong Learning Committee at its meeting on 27 March 2019 (Arts. 164 and 165 refer). The Executive Director further advised that the Scottish Government had attached no conditions to either case. Copies of the formal notification letters are available to view on the Scottish Government website.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
22 MAY 2019

282. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence and substitutions were noted as above.

283. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

284. REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATIONS TO BE HEARD

In terms of Standing Order 66 the Committee agreed to hear a request received from Councillor A Bailey to address the Committee in relation to Art. 286.

In terms of Standing Order 72 the Committee also agreed to hear a request received from Mr McGoldrick to address the Committee in relation to Art. 286.

The Committee agreed to hear both deputations and to vary the order of business to hear the deputations immediately before Art. 286.

285. MINUTES

(i) Lifelong Learning Committee

The minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 27 March 2019 (Arts. 159-167) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Executive Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 25 March 2019 was submitted and noted.
(Appendix I)

286. STATUTORY CONSULTATION – ABERNYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/153) (1) informing of the outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of the formal proposal to close Abernyte Primary School; and (2) seeking approval to implement the proposal from 1 July 2020, or as soon as possible thereafter.

In terms of Standing Order 66, Councillor A Bailey addressed the Committee and answered Members questions. Following his representation he withdrew to the public benches.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
22 MAY 2019

In terms of Standing Order 72, Mr McGoldrick addressed the Committee and answered Members questions. Following his representation he withdrew to the public benches.

THE COMMITTEE ADJOURNED FOR 10 MINUTES AT 14.25

MR FERGUSON LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED AT 14.35

Motion (Councillors C Shier and W Wilson)

- (i) **The contents of the Consultation Report, attached as Appendix A to Report 19/153, be noted.**
- (ii) **The implementation of the following proposal be approved:**
 - **Provision of a school at Abernyte Primary School be permanently discontinued with effect from 1 July 2020, or as soon as possible thereafter;**
 - **The pupils of Abernyte Primary School catchment area permanently receive their education at Inchturre Primary School, from 2 July 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter; and**
 - **The delineated catchment area of Inchturre Primary School be permanently extended to subsume the whole delineated catchment area of Abernyte Primary School from 2 July 2020.**

Amendment (Councillors B Pover and X McDade)

The Committee:

- (i) Notes the contents of the Consultation Report (attached as Appendix A).
- (ii) Approves that education provision at Abernyte Primary School is continued beyond 1 July 2020.
- (iii) Instructs the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to review the viability of a nursery class within Abernyte Primary School in a year's time, to see if this will further help sustain the future roll.

In terms of Standing Order 58 a roll call vote was taken.

7 members voted for the Motion as follows:

Councillors C Ahern, K Baird, J Duff, A Forbes, D Illingworth, C Shiers and W Wilson

6 members voted for the Amendment as follows:

Councillors H Anderson, X McDade, T McEwan, B Pover, J Rebbeck and F Sarwar.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

THE COMMITTEE ADJOURNED FOR 5 MINUTES AT THIS POINT.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

287. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES JOINT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2019/20 AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/154) summarising the Service performance over the past year and setting out the direction of improvement for the forthcoming year.

Resolved:

- (i) The Education and Children's Services Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan 2019/20 and Annual Performance Report 2018/19, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 19/154, be approved.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 19/154 would also be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 12 June 2019 for scrutiny and comment as appropriate.

288. EXPANSION OF EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/155), (1) providing an update on progress on the planning and delivery of 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare by 2020 within Perth and Kinross, (2) outlining the delivery of early phasing of 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare; and (3) updating on progress made towards full implementation at August 2020.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress to date be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to provide a further report on progress towards full implementation by June 2020.

MRS McFARLANE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

289. SCHOOL CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR GRANTS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/156) proposing a change to the eligibility criteria for School Clothing and Footwear Grants with effect from school session 2019/2020.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised eligibility criteria for school clothing and footwear grants to be used from school session 2019/2020 onwards, as set out in section 3.2 of Report 19/156, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to ensure the publication of the revised eligibility criteria for school clothing and footwear grants.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
22 MAY 2019

290. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE/SUB-COMMITTEE/PERTH AND KINROSS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Resolved:

- (i) It be agreed that Dean McBride and Jack Bell replace Robert McCall and Fraser Macdonald as the Youth Representatives on the Lifelong Learning Committee.
- (ii) It be noted that Councillor J Duff replace Councillor C Purves on the Executive Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee.
- (iii) It be agreed that Councillor J Duff be appointed to the Perth and Kinross Educational Trust Committee.

291. COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO SCHOOL/LEARNING ESTATE TRANSFORMATION

Prior to the conclusion of business the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) reported that the closing date for the on-line questionnaire on the potential to develop a joint community learning campus in collaboration with Angus and Dundee City Councils was 7 June 2019. As a consequence it would not be possible to report back on the findings of the questionnaire until after the Summer Recess.

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