

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Council Chamber, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 4 September 2019 at 1.00pm.

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

In attendance: S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); J Pepper, G Boland, S Johnston, D Macleod, G McKendrick, E Paul, H Robertson, K Robertson, B Scott and C Taylor (all Education and Children's Services); J Beveridge and P Marshall (both Housing and Environment); S Rodger, A O'Brien, C Flynn and L Brown (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for absence: Councillor Anderson; and J Bell.

The Convener led discussion on Arts.419-425, 427 and 428, Vice-Convener Duff on Arts.426 and 431 and Vice-Convener Wilson on Arts.429 and 430.

Councillor C Shiers, Convener, Presiding.

419. MRS MARGARET McFARLANE

Prior to the commencement of business the Convener conveyed thanks to the former Roman Catholic Church representative, Mrs Margaret McFarlane, for her contribution to the work of the Committee over the past 10 years which had been greatly valued by members and officers alike. On behalf of the Committee the Convener wished her all the best for the future.

420. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

421. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

422. REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATIONS TO BE HEARD

In terms of Standing Order 72 the Committee agreed to hear deputations from Mr Charlton of Pitlochry High School Parent Council and Mr Pointer and Mr Wright of Breadalbane Academy Parent Council in relation to Art. 425 and a deputation from Mrs Kemp in relation to Art. 426.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

The Committee agreed to hear the deputations and to vary the order of business to hear from Mr Charlton, Mr Pointer and Mr Wright immediately before Art. 425 and Mrs Kemp immediately before Art. 426.

423. MINUTES

(i) Lifelong Learning Committee

The minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 22 May 2019 (Arts. 280-291) 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 20 May 2019 was submitted and noted.
(Appendix I)

(iii) Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff

The minute of meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 19 March 2019 was submitted and noted. *(Appendix II)*

424. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP OF 1 MARCH 2019

The minute of meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership of 1 March 2019 was submitted and noted.

425. SCHOOL ESTATE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME – PITLOCHRY HIGH SCHOOL

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/238) (1) exploring options for the delivery of senior phase education for Pitlochry High School and Breadalbane Academy; (2) recommending that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) proceed with the development of a Highland Perthshire Learning Partnership (HPLP); and (3) proposing that the plan for the HPLP be developed, as appropriate, with both school Senior Leadership Teams, Perth College UHI, young people, parents/carers and the wider community through a working group.

In terms of Standing Order 72 Mr Charlton of Pitlochry High School Parent Council, and Mr Pointer of Breadalbane Academy Parent Council each addressed the Committee and answered Members questions. Following their respective representations they withdrew to the public benches.

THE CONVENER CALLED A RECESS DURING QUESTIONS.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

A RECESS WAS CALLED DURING COMMENTS.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Motion (Councillors C Shiers and Councillor J Duff)

- (i) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to progress with developing a detailed plan for the HPLP as appropriate, with both school Senior Leadership Teams, Perth College UHI, young people, parents/carers and the wider community through a working group.
- (ii) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to report back to the November 2019 Lifelong Learning Committee with an update on the work undertaken by the working group.

Amendment (Councillors X McDade and M Williamson)

- (i) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) progress with developing a detailed plan for the HPLP with, as appropriate, both school Senior Leadership teams, Perth College UHI, young people, parents, carers and the wider community through a working group and engagement should take place with local elected members throughout the process.
- (ii) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) explore proposals to maximise wider community use of Pitlochry High School.
- (iii) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) consider as part of the development of HPLP different models for the delivery of education across the two sites which should include the delivery of S5 and S6 from Pitlochry High School and would not be detrimental to the educational offer at Breadalbane Academy.
- (iv) Requests that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) undertake a scoping exercise on the possibility of making Kirkmichael Primary School catchment area a dual catchment area for both Pitlochry High School and Blairgowrie High School.
- (v) Requests that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee at its January 2020 meeting with an update on the work undertaken by the working group, and to report back on the scoping exercise at the earliest opportunity.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Councillors C Shiers and J Duff agreed to withdraw their Motion in favour of the Amendment having received clarification on the terms of paragraph (iii) of the Amendment and subject to revisions to paragraphs(i) and (ii) as follows:

- (a) the inclusion of the words "where appropriate" in the last line of paragraph (i);

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

- (b) a revised paragraph (ii) “Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) to explore proposals to identify wider community use of Pitlochry High School and look at property and community facilities in conjunction with other services and partners.

Resolved:

- (i) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) progress with developing a detailed plan for the HPLP with, as appropriate, both school Senior Leadership teams, Perth College UHI, young people, parents, carers and the wider community through a working group. Engagement should take place with local elected members throughout the process, where appropriate.
- (ii) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) to identify proposals to maximise wider community use of Pitlochry High School and to look at property and community facilities in conjunction with other services and partners.
- (iii) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) consider as part of the development of HPLP different models for the delivery of education across the two sites which should include the delivery of S5 and S6 from Pitlochry High School and would not be detrimental to the educational offer at Breadalbane Academy.
- (iv) Requests that the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) undertake a scoping exercise on the possibility of making Kirkmichael Primary School catchment area a dual secondary school catchment area for both Pitlochry High School and Blairgowrie High School.
- (v) Requests that the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee at its January 2020 meeting with an update on the work undertaken by the working group and to report back on the scoping exercise at the earliest opportunity.

426. SCHOOL ESTATE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME – LOGIERAIT PRIMARY SCHOOL

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) (19/239) (1) advising of the outcome of the review of the Pitlochry Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Community Group associated with Logierait Primary School; and (2) recommending that the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) should proceed to establish a nursery at Logierait Primary School with a view to supporting the sustainability of the school.

In terms of Standing Order 72 Mrs Kemp addressed the Committee and answered Members questions. Following her representation she withdrew to the public benches.

Motion (Councillors J Duff and W Wilson)

- (i) Approves the proposal to establish a nursery class within Logierait Primary School from August 2020 with a view to developing a sustainable school roll.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

- (ii) Requests the Executive Director to review the position in 5 years' time in order to assess whether the establishment of the nursery has succeeded in developing a sustainable school roll at Logierait Primary School.

Amendment (Councillors M Williamson and X McDade)

That the Lifelong Learning Committee agrees that education provision at Logierait Primary School continues and further approves the proposal to establish a nursery class within Logierait Primary School from August 2020.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Councillors Williamson and McDade agreed to withdraw their Amendment in favour of the Motion subject to the deletion of paragraph (ii) from the Motion.

Resolved:

Approve the establishment of a nursery class within Logierait Primary School from August 2020 with the view to developing a sustainable school roll.

427. SCHOOL ESTATE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME – STRATEGIC SITES NORTH WEST/NORTH PERTH

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/240) (1) updating the Committee on the expected house building at the strategic sites at North West/North Perth; (2) advising that due to anticipated house building a new school is required for this area by approximately 2024; (3) proposing Bertha Park as the location for the new school; and (4) seeking approval for the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to proceed with options appraisals in relation to the catchment area for the new school, which will also consider implications for the future of Ruthvenfield Primary School and its catchment area.

Motion (Councillors C Shiers and W Wilson)

- (i) Notes the outcome of the high level feasibility study for Ruthvenfield Primary School;
- (ii) Approves Bertha Park as the preferred location for a new primary school.
- (iii) Agrees that options appraisals, which includes informal consultation, are undertaken in relation to both the catchment for the new school and the future of Ruthvenfield Primary School.
- (iv) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to submit the findings of the options appraisals to Lifelong Learning Committee in March 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

Amendment (Councillors C Purves and X McDade)

- (i) Note the outcome of the high-level feasibility study of Ruthvenfield Primary School and that no further option appraisal in relation to the future of the school is carried out at this time.**
- (ii) Defers a decision on Bertha Park as the preferred location for a new primary school and undertake an option appraisal to establish whether the necessary adjustments to the catchments of existing primary schools can be made to ensure that pupils from developments in the strategic sites can be accommodated in those schools, and, in addition, explores whether the pupils from the development could be accommodated by extending capacity at existing primary schools in the local area.**
- (iii) Requests the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) submit the findings of the options appraisal to the Lifelong Learning Committee in January 2020.**

In terms of Standing Orders 58 a Roll Call Vote was taken.

6 Members voted for the Motion as follows:

Councillors K Baird, J Duff, A Forbes, C Reid, C Shiers and W Wilson.

7 Members voted for the Amendment as follows:

Councillors X McDade, T McEwan, B Pover, C Purves, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar and M Williamson.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Amendment

428. COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO SCHOOL/LEARNING ESTATE TRANSFORMATION – UPDATE ON JOINT 2-18 COMMUNITY LEARNING CAMPUS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (19/241) providing an update on a number of key areas which have been considered in terms of the potential feasibility of a joint 2-18 community learning campus. Similar update reports will be considered at the respective committees of Angus and Dundee City Council.

Motion (Councillors C Shiers and W Wilson)

- (i) Notes the progress that has been made through collaboration between the three local authorities.
- (ii) Notes that, the exploratory work that has been undertaken has clarified that the joint 2-18 community learning campus is not the right solution for each local authority at this time.
- (iii) Approves that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) ceases involvement in the exploration of a joint 2-18 community learning

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

campus at this time and focuses on the improvement of the existing learning estate.

Amendment (Councillors J Rebbeck and B Pover)

Instruct the Executive Director to continue working with our Tayside Partners and the Scottish Government in renewed scoping of a multi-authority secondary only school. This is consistent with the original ambition of Perth and Kinross and will positively offer Dundee, and potentially Angus substantial benefits for their Secondary School Estate.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

THERE FOLLOWED A FURTHER RECESS.

THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Councillors Rebbeck and Pover agreed to withdraw their Amendment subject to a revision to paragraph (iii) of the Motion and the inclusion of an additional paragraph (iv) as follow:

- (a) the deletion of the words “and focuses on the improvement of the existing learning estate” in the last line of paragraph (iii).
- (b) the inclusion of an additional paragraph (iv) “Request the Executive Director to relay to the Directors of Education of Dundee City and Angus Councils this Committee’s ongoing commitment to partnership working on innovative collaborative projects related to the learning estate and the learner journey.”

Resolved:

- (i) Notes the progress that has been made through collaboration between the three local authorities.
- (ii) Notes that the explanatory work that has been undertaken has clarified that the joint 2-18 community learning campus is not the right solution for each local authority area at this time.
- (iii) Approves that the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) ceases involvement in the exploration of a joint 2-18 community learning campus at this time.
- (iv) Request the Executive Director to relay to the Directors of Education of Dundee City and Angus Councils this Committee’s ongoing commitment to partnership working on innovative collaborative projects related to the learning estate and the learner journey.

429. SECOND ANNUAL UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REACH

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) (19/242) (1) providing an update on the progress of the REACH

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

project, following the successful implementation of the new model in January 2019; and (2) an initial evaluation on the positive impact REACH has had on the lives of young people and their families in Perth and Kinross who are considered to be “on the edge of care”.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress of the REACH project and completion of the implementation phase be noted.
- (ii) The approach to evaluation and the initial evidence of the impact of REACH be noted.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) be requested to provide a third progress update on REACH by September 2020.

430. STATUTORY CONSULTATION – SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) (19/243) seeking approval for the Executive Director to engage in formal consultation to review and vary the School Admission Policy for Perth and Kinross Council.

Resolved:

- (i) For the purpose of consultation it be agreed the Council proposes to review the existing School Admission Policy to vary the admission arrangements in respect of the handling of catchment enrolments and placing requests for primary and secondary schools.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) be requested to publish a Proposal Paper and formally consult the appropriate bodies and persons in relation to the proposal to vary the School Admission Policy, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- (iii) Authority be delegated to the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) to investigate and manage any alleged omissions or inaccuracies during the consultation process and to take appropriate action in accordance with The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) be requested to prepare a report on the results of the consultation and report back on the outcome of these consultations at a future meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee.

431. APPOINTMENT OF CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE AND PARENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (19/244) bringing confirmation from the Roman Catholic Church of a replacement representative on the Committee following the retirement of Mrs Margaret McFarlane and advising of nominations received to fill vacancies on the Committee for two Parent Council representatives, one to represent primary schools and one to represent secondary schools.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2019

Resolved:

- (i) The appointment of the Very Reverend Doctor Canon Thomas Shields as the Roman Catholic Church representative on the Lifelong Learning Committee as reflected in paragraph 8.1 of the Council's Scheme of Administration be noted.
- (ii) There being no other nominations received it be agreed to confirm the appointment of Mr Martin Gowrie as the Primary School Parent Council Representative on the Lifelong Learning Committee, as reflected in paragraph 8.1 of the Council's Scheme of Administration, until the next local government elections in May 2022 be approved.
- (iii) Mr Andy Charlton be appointed as the Secondary School Parent Council Representative on the Lifelong Learning Committee, as reflected in paragraph 8.1 of the Council's Scheme of Administration, until the next local government elections in May 2022.

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