

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Minute of hybrid meeting of Perth and Kinross Council held in the Council Chamber, 2 High Street, Perth on Monday 22 January 2024 at 1.00pm.

Present: Provost X McDade, Depute Provost A Parrott, Bailies A Bailey, R Brock, C McLaren and M Williamson, Councillors K Allan, H Anderson L Barrett, P Barrett, B Brawn, S Carr, A Chan, D Cuthbert, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, J Duff, A Forbes, M Frampton, N Freshwater, K Harvey, D Illingworth, I James, N Khogali, G Laing, B Leishman, I MacPherson, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, J Rebbeck, W Robertson, C Shiers, F Smith, C Stewart, G Stewart, R Watters and J Welch.

In Attendance: T Glen, Chief Executive; C Mailer, Director – Strategy, People and Resources; L Simpson, Strategic Lead - Legal and Governance; B Renton, Executive Director (Communities); S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services); K Donaldson, Chief Operating Officer; S Walker, Strategic Lead – Finance & Business Support, D Littlejohn, Strategic Lead – Economy, Development and Planning, S Crawford, Strategic Lead – Property Services, J Pepper, Director/Chief Officer – Health and Social Care Partnership/Chief Social Work Officer; N Ballantine, B Martin-Scott, B Reid, S Hendry, A Brown and M Pasternak (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in attendance: P Cromwell (Live Active Leisure Ltd.) and N Ross (Integratis Consulting)

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Apologies for Absence: Bailie C Ahern and Councillor C Reid.

Provost X McDade, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Provost McDade welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors’ Code of Conduct, Baillie M Williamson declared a non-financial interest in item 8 on the agenda.

• REQUEST FOR DEPUTATIONS

In terms of Standing Order 13, the Council agreed to hear deputations in relation to the Item 7 on the agenda, Transformation Review of Leisure Assets.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL OF 6 DECEMBER 2023 FOR APPROVAL

The minute of meeting of Perth and Kinross Council of 6 December 2023 was submitted and approved as correct record.

4. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS STATEMENT

The Outstanding Business Statement was noted, and it was agreed to remove the completed actions.

5. TAY FOREST NATIONAL PARK BID – ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS AND SUBMISSION

There was submitted a report by Strategic Lead – Economy, Development and Planning (24/17) (1) updating members on recent consultation on the Council's bid to create a new national park in northern Perthshire and (2) seeking authority to submit a bid to the Scottish Government.

Resolved:

- (i) The findings of the engagement process carried out in October and November 2023 (Appendix 1) be noted.
- (ii) Officers to hold an elected member briefing on the draft bid prior to its submission.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Communities) be authorised to submit a bid to the Scottish Government, following final consultation with the Tay Forest National Park Member/Officer Working Group.

6. CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

There was submitted a report by Director (Strategy, People & Resources) and Executive Director (Communities) (24/18) introducing the Corporate Asset Management Framework (Appendix 1 of the report) as a key component of the Council's wider Strategic Capital Investment Planning Framework.

Resolved:

- (i) The Corporate Asset Management Framework (Appendix 1) and its integration into the Strategic Capital Investment Planning Framework be approved.
- (ii) The asset information contained within the Corporate Asset Management Plan to be used to assist in setting future budgets.
- (iii) The establishment of a Strategic Investment Advisory Group (Members and Officers) based upon Appendix 2 of the report, to further develop the Strategic Investment Planning processes, be approved.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 2.15PM.

7. TRANSFORMATION REVIEW OF LEISURE ASSETS

There was submitted a report by Head of Culture and Communities Services (24/19) summarising the findings of a transformation review of leisure assets and making 10 recommendations to maintain accessible, affordable, and sustainable leisure provision for communities over the next 5-10 years.

Mr Vincent Bryson (CEO, Scottish Curling) and Mr Peter Loudon (Vice-Chairman, Perth Curling 1988 and Chairman Perth Masters Bonspiel) made their deputations and answered Members' questions.

Ms Eve Thomson (President of Perth City Swim Club) and Mr Stuart Eadington (local resident) made their deputations and answered Members' questions.

THERE FOLLOWED A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 4.40PM.

Motion (Councillors G Laing and E Drysdale)

Council:

- 1. Notes the Review findings set out in section 5 of the report. In relation to paragraph 5.3, considers that the information on past and current usage as well as future trends does not provide sufficient evidence to support the removal of ice from the mix of activities available at PH20.**
- 2. Approves the recommendations set out in section 6 of the report, subject to deletion of recommendation 2 and replacement with:
 - (i) Further work to be undertaken on Curling usage, market trends, and affordability factors, including current curling demand and usage for 2023/24 and consideration of growth opportunities for curling;**
 - (ii) Options for the sustainable provision of ice at PH20 being included within the transition plan and rescoping exercise referred to in recommendation 3 in section 6.1.**
 - (iii) Officers be instructed to include an ice rink component within a fully costed PH20 proposal to be brought to Council in August 2024.****
- 3. Approves the next steps set out in section 7 of the report and additionally asks that:
 - (i) The Council's contract for services with Live Active Leisure maintains family-friendly leisure swimming as a core service requirement, as an activity which enables a broad section of the local population to be healthy and active.**
 - (ii) The design of a new swimming pool for Perth, as part of the rescoped PH20 project, reflects this requirement and will allow a family-friendly leisure swim offering alongside fitness and lesson swims.****

First Amendment (Councillors J Duff and A Chan)

In accordance with the Motion but that recommendation 2 be added to as follows:

- 2(iii) Officers be instructed to include an ice rink component within a fully costed PH20 proposal to be brought to Council in August 2024, including costed options which would allow Perth to host curling competitions and events up to and including national and international level.**

- 2(iv) A User Reference Group, including key representatives of the clubs and organisations involved, should be established as soon as possible to assist the Council in its high-level design of a revised PH2O sports complex.
That Recommendation 3 be added to as follows:
- 3(iii) Officers be requested to include a costed option for a separate family friendly leisure pool area to complement the swimming pool facilities in a revised PH2O proposal.

Second Amendment (Baillie A Bailey and Councillor B Leishman)

In accordance with the Motion but with recommendation 3 to be added to as follows:

- 3(iii) Officers be requested to include a costed option for a separate family friendly leisure pool area to complement the swimming pool facilities in a revised PH2O proposal.

THERE FOLLOWED A SHORT RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 5.13PM.

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

12 Members voted for the First Amendment as follows:

Councillors K Allan, H Anderson, B Brawn, A Chan, J Duff, A Forbes, N Freshwater, D Illingworth, I James, N Khogali, C Shiers and F Smith.

6 Members voted for the Second Amendment as follows:

Provost X McDade, Bailies A Bailey and R Brock, Councillors D Cuthbert, B Leishman and W Robertson.

20 Members abstained as follows:

Depute Provost A Parrott, Bailie M Williamson, Councillors L Barrett, P Barrett, S Carr, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, M Frampton, K Harvey, G Laing, I MacPherson, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, C McLaren, J Rebbeck, C Stewart, G Stewart, R Watters and J Welch.

The First Amendment was carried and became the substantive Amendment which was then put against the Motion.

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

23 Members voted for the Motion as follows:

Provost X McDade, Depute Provost A Parrott, Bailies R Brock, C McLaren and M Williamson, Councillors L Barrett, P Barrett, S Carr, D Cuthbert, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, M Frampton, K Harvey, G Laing, I MacPherson, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwan, J Rebbeck, W Robertson, G Stewart, R Watters and J Welch.

15 Members voted for the Amendment as follows:

Bailie A Bailey, Councillors K Allan, H Anderson, B Brawn, A Chan, J Duff, A Forbes, N Freshwater, D Illingworth, I James, N Khogali, B Leishman, C Shiers, F Smith and C Stewart.

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

8. LEARNING ESTATE

There was submitted a report by Strategic Lead – Property Services and Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) (24/20) providing an update on the work undertaken to review the Learning Estate (as requested at the meeting of Learning and Families Committee on 2 November 2022 (Report No. 22/263) and the meeting of Perth and Kinross Council on 1 March 2023 (Report No. 23/73)).

Resolved:

- (i) No further action to be taken following the outcome of the feasibility of introducing Early Learning and Childcare provision in all rural primary schools currently without one as there are no solutions that would help to generate a sustainable school roll.
- (ii) No further action to be taken following the outcome of the work undertaken on catchment analysis that seeks to utilise available capacity in low occupancy primary schools as there are no solutions that would help to generate a sustainable school roll.
- (iii) The Director (Strategy, People and Resources) be instructed to commence community engagement to seek the views of stakeholders and communities regarding the vision and future of the secondary learning estate in Perth City.
- (iv) It be noted that a review is underway relating to the timing of a new primary school at Bertha Park.

9. AFFORDABLE HOUSING MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUP

Resolved:

The agenda note in relation to the continuation of the Affordable Housing Member/Officer Working Group be agreed.

10. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/OUTSIDE BODIES

Resolved:

- (i) Depute Provost Andrew Parrott be replaced by Councillor Jack Welch on CoSLA Environment and Economy Board.
- (ii) Councillor Eric Drysdale be replaced by Councillor Michelle Frampton on Scrutiny and Performance Committee.
- (iii) Councillor Crawford Reid be replaced by Councillor John Duff on the Learning and Families Committee.
- (iv) Bailie C Ahern be replaced by Councillor Crawford Reid on the Employees Joint Consultative Committee.

11. ELECTED MEMBERS BRIEFING NOTES

Resolved:

The Elected Members Briefing Notes, issued since the previous Council meeting and as set out on the agenda, be noted.