

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held virtually on Wednesday 26 May 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors C Shiers, J Duff, C Ahern (substituting for Councillor Reid), K Baird, L Barrett, A Forbes, I Massie, X McDade, B Pover, C Purves, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar and L Simpson; Mr J Bell, Mr A Charlton, Mr A Ferguson, Mrs P Giles, Professor T Moran, and Mrs C Weston.

In attendance: S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); J Pepper, G Boland, S Johnston, K Robertson, B Scott and C Taylor (all Education and Children's Services); S Nicoll, S Rodger, C Flynn, L Brown, A Brown and M Pasternak (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for absence: Councillor Reid, Mrs A McAuley, Mr D McBride, and Mr M Gowrie.

Councillor C Shiers, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. REQUEST FOR DEPUTATION TO BE HEARD

In terms of Standing Order 72 the Convener reported a request for a deputation to be heard had been received from Mr G McGoldrick, Chair of Abernyte Parent Council, in relation to Abernyte Primary School – Options Appraisal – Report 21/64.

The Committee agreed to hear the deputation and to vary the order of business to hear the deputation immediately before consideration of Report 21/64.

4. MINUTES

(i) Lifelong Learning Committee

The minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 20 January 2021 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff

The minute of meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 8 December 2020 was submitted and noted.

5. COMMUNITY PLANNING

(i) Perth and Kinross Children, Young People and Families Partnership

The minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Children, Young People and Families Partnership of 4 December 2020 was submitted and noted.

6. ABERNYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL OPTIONS APPRAISAL

There was submitted a report and options appraisal for Abernyte Primary School by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/64) setting out whether a catchment review and/or the introduction of a nursery would create a sustainable school roll for the school and seeking approval of the recommendations from the options appraisal to (1) maintain a school capacity of 44 pupils at Abernyte Primary School, (2) retain the existing catchment area and, (3) not to include nursery provision within Abernyte Primary School.

In terms of Standing Order 72, Mr G McGoldrick, Abernyte Parent Council Chair addressed the Committee on Report 21/64 and answered Members questions. Thereafter, Mr McGoldrick withdrew from the virtual meeting.

Councillor Shiers, seconded by Councillor Duff suggested an amendment to recommendation 6.6 (ii) of Report 21/64 as follows:

- (ii) Approve the recommendations of the options appraisal to maintain a school capacity of 44 pupils at Abernyte Primary School and undertake a statutory consultation on a proposal to amend the catchment area for Abernyte Primary School to include the area currently within the Inchtore Primary School catchment area north of the A90 within the catchment of Abernyte Primary School.

The Committee unanimously supported the amendment to recommendation 6.6(ii) of Report 21/64.

Resolved:

- (i) It be noted that the school roll has risen recently and the projected school roll is due to rise again for session 2021/2022 at Abernyte Primary School. The school roll will be the highest it has been since 2010.
- (ii) The recommendations of the options appraisal to maintain a school capacity of 44 pupils at Abernyte Primary School and undertake a statutory consultation on a proposal to amend the catchment area for Abernyte Primary School to include the area currently within the Inchtore Primary School catchment area north of the A90 within the catchment of Abernyte Primary School, be approved.
- (iii) It be noted that the introduction of nursery provision is not required at Abernyte Primary School at this time.