

# PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

## Lifelong Learning Committee

31 January 2022

### SCHOOL NAMING CONSULTATION FOR THE NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT NORTH MUIRTON

**Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)**

(Report No. 22/23)

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This paper reports on the outcome of the consultation process held to develop a suitable name for the new primary school which will be built on the site of North Muirton Primary School. The new school building will replace Balhousie Primary School and North Muirton Primary School. The report makes a recommendation as to the name of the new primary school.

#### **1. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 An options appraisal was presented to Lifelong Learning Committee on 24 January 2018 ([Report No. 18/15 refers](#)) for Balhousie Primary School and North Muirton Primary School. The options appraisal report proposed to formally embark upon a statutory consultation to close Balhousie Primary School and build a new primary school on the site of North Muirton Primary School.
- 1.2 The statutory consultation report of 31 October 2018 ([Report No. 18/349 refers](#)) informed Lifelong Learning Committee of the outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of the formal proposal to close Balhousie Primary School. Lifelong Learning Committee approved that the delineated catchment area of North Muirton Primary School be permanently extended to subsume the whole delineated catchment area of Balhousie Primary School and that pupils from Balhousie Primary School catchment area permanently receive their education at the new school on the North Muirton Primary School site.
- 1.3 Education Scotland noted as part of the statutory consultation that the Council would be working with pupils, parents, staff and the wider communities to establish the identity, ethos and culture of the new school and that this would take account of the wide range of views to ensure that the identity of the new school was truly representative of both communities. The first step in this process is the creation of a name for the new primary school. The name of the school will be the basis for creating a school identity, including uniform and badge, as well as for the school's vision and values. This therefore required a consultation exercise with both communities with the aim of providing a name which reflects and connects with both communities.

## 2. PROCESS

- 2.1 The process for creating a name for Bertha Park High School was adopted again, with some adjustments, to reflect the different circumstances of replacing two primary schools with one new primary school. This process was endorsed by the North Perth Primary School Project Board on 21 July 2021.
- 2.2 The process comprised of four stages:
- The setting up of a Naming Reference Group (NRG) for the purpose of both agreeing the consultation process and choosing a shortlist of names;
  - The generation of suggestions through an online survey;
  - The selection of a shortlist of names by the NRG; and
  - Consultation of all contributors as to their preferred choice of name from the shortlist.
- 2.3 The first stage, the convening of the NRG, took place on 16 September 2021. Pupils from each school were equally represented on the NRG along with staff, parents/carers, community representatives, local elected members, and the Conveners of Lifelong Learning Committee. Council Officers supported the consultation process.
- 2.4 The naming process was agreed by the NRG at the inaugural meeting on 16 September 2021. The NRG also discussed the process for gathering name suggestions, contributed to the scope of the consultation in terms of approved groups of consultees and how best to engage local communities in the consultation.
- 2.5 The second stage, a survey for name suggestions, was open between 27 September 2021 and 15 October 2021. The survey gave a range of stakeholders, including pupils, parents, staff, from both schools and local community and local elected members from both communities the opportunity to submit their proposals for a name for the new primary school via an online survey.
- 2.6 Background information and guidance was provided in the initial survey to assist with making suggestions as follows:
- Names might reflect a local geographical or historical feature; (suggestions should not be generically Scottish, eg "Thistle Community School" nor reflect a topical famous person, either current or historical);
  - Names which avoid confusion with other schools in the Perth and Kinross area; and
  - Names that will be able to be used on signage, uniform and branding, taking account of length and spelling.
- 2.7 Discussions and other activities regarding the naming process were held with primary classes from both schools. It was considered important to ensure the full cohort of young people who may attend the new school should have a significant role to play in the naming of their new school.

2.8 All suggestions received through the survey were acknowledged and collated centrally. There were 269 responses. Most responses were from pupils (199) followed by parents/carers (45), community (19) and staff (6).

Each suggestion was checked against the naming criteria with suggestions discounted at this stage if they did not meet with the agreed naming criteria.

2.9 In the third stage, the NRG met on 26 October 2021 to discuss in detail the responses and to reach a decision on a shortlist of names for the new primary school. Each member of the group was allowed to put forward three suggested names for the shortlist.

2.10 The group unanimously agreed on a shortlist of four possible names:

- Argyll Road Primary School;
- Balmuir Primary School;
- Balmuirton Primary School; and
- Riverside Primary School.

2.11 Consultation on the shortlist of four proposed names, the fourth stage, took place via online survey between 28 October and 5 November 2021. The consultees were the individuals who originally contributed a suggested name for the new school.

2.12 The results of the survey were as follows:

<b>Proposed Name</b>	<b>No. of votes</b>	<b>% of the vote</b>
Argyll Road Primary School	42	17%
Balmuir Primary School	18	7%
Balmuirton Primary School	44	17%
Riverside Primary School	150	59%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254</b>	

### **3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 A consultation process has taken place, involving pupils, parents, staff, the community, local elected members and the Conveners of Lifelong Learning Committee, which has proposed a preferred name that will support the establishment of the new primary school and its identity moving forward.

3.2 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Approves the proposal to name the new primary school Riverside Primary School.

**Author**

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**Approved**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date</b>
Sheena Devlin	<b>Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)</b>	<b>20 December 2021</b>

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes/None</b>
Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement	<b>Yes</b>
Corporate Plan	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	<b>Yes</b>
Workforce	<b>Yes</b>
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	<b>No</b>
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<b>No</b>
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	<b>No</b>
Legal and Governance	<b>No</b>
Risk	<b>No</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	<b>Yes</b>
External	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	<b>Yes</b>

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement

1.1 This section sets out how the proposals relate to the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement in terms of the following priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to all of these objectives.

#### Corporate Plan

1.2 This section sets out how the proposals relate to the achievement of the Council's Corporate Plan Objectives.

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to all of these objectives.

1.3 The report also links to the Education & Children's Services Vision, Values and Priorities in respect of the following key Priority area:

- Learning and Achievement

## 2. Resource Implications

### Financial

2.1 There are financial implications related to the new name of the school, however, these costs will be addressed through the project budget.

### Workforce

2.2 There are no workforce implications.

### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3 There are no asset management implications.

## 3. Assessments

### Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

This section reflects that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.2 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

3.2.1 However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report. This is because the Committee are requested to note the contents of the report only and the Committee are not being requested to approve, adopt or agree to an action or to set the framework for future decisions.

### Sustainability

3.3 N/A.

### Legal and Governance

3.4 The Head of Legal and Governance Services has been consulted in the preparation of this report. Any consultation would require to be carried out in accordance with the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010.

3.5 N/A.

#### Risk

3.6 N/A.

### **4. Consultation**

#### Internal

4.1 Education & Children's Services Senior Management Team has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

#### External

4.2 The consultation is detailed in the main body of the report. Each school was equally represented in terms of consultation; pupils from each school, along with staff, parents/carers, community representatives, local elected members and the Conveners of Lifelong Learning Committee, supported the consultation process.

### **5. Communication**

5.1 A communication plan was prepared which supported effective communication and engagement with stakeholders. A range of methods were used to consult with internal and external stakeholders as identified in the scope, such as phone calls, virtual meetings, briefings and focus groups.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

2.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

## **3. APPENDICES**

3.1 N/A.