

PETITIONS COMMITTEE – 17 MAY 2018

Petitions Committee

Thursday 17 May 2018 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Robertson (for Curley), Jackson, McVey and Murphy.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance: Mr P MacDonald (for Head of Legal & Property Services) and Ms D Sweeney (Legal & Property Services).

In attendance also: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

323 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 323

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Curley.

Councillor MacLeod, having expressed support for the matter being considered at item 3, was present only in his capacity as a Ward 2 Councillor, and not as a Member of the Petitions Committee.

In these circumstances the Committee unanimously appointed Councillor McVey to preside.

324 Petitions Update Report 324

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services updating the Committee on the position relative to petitions previously reported on and new petitions received since the last meeting.

Decided: that the position relative to petitions previously reported on and new petitions received since the last meeting of the Committee be noted.

325 Petition for Consideration 325
Council Support to bring Inchgreen Dry Dock into Public or Community Ownership

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services providing details of a petition seeking Council support for the principle of bringing Inchgreen Dry Dock into public or community ownership. The report advised that the petition met the petitions criteria and had received the level of public support required in terms of the approved petitions procedures. The Committee heard Mr W Dunlop on behalf of the petitioner in support of the petition, Councillor MacLeod and Councillor McKenzie as Ward Councillors, and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources.

In discussion, reference was made to a further written submission made by the petitioner which had been circulated amongst Members prior to the meeting. This submission expressed the petitioner's willingness to accept a remit to officers to submit a further report on Peel Ports' ownership at Inchgreen and elsewhere in Inverclyde and exploring options in current and future Scottish legislation for Public/Community ownership.

Decided: that the Committee, having considered the petition and having taken into

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account the comments of the petitioner and the Council's officers, remitted it to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to submit a report to the Environment & Regeneration Committee (a) on Peel Ports' ownership of the Inchgreen area and any other areas at Inverclyde Waterfront and (b) exploring any opportunities in current and future Scottish legislation relative to options for public or community ownership of the Inchgreen site, taking into account the information and observations provided by the campaign to save Inchgreen Dry Dock and by Peel Ports.