

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 1 DECEMBER 2022**

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**The Inverclyde Council**

**Thursday 1 December 2022 at 4pm**

**Present:** Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson.

**Chair:** Provost McKenzie presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance, Interim Director Environment & Regeneration, Chief Officer for Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Health & Community Care for Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Ms D Sweeney, Ms L Carrick and Ms K MacVey (Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, and Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan, Crowther, Law, McCormick and Nelson attending by video-conference.

**553 Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

**553**

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

Prior of the commencement of business the Provost acknowledged and congratulated Councillor McCabe on being presented with the Scottish Local Politician of the Year award.

At the commencement of proceedings the Provost ruled, under Standing Order 18 of the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration, that an additional report (Appointment to the Executive Oversight Committee of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network) was relevant, competent and could be considered by the Council as a matter of urgency, given that the timetable for election to the Executive Oversight Committee of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network meant that it had not been possible for the report to be submitted sooner, and that a decision was required in advance of the next scheduled meeting of the Council. The Council unanimously agreed with the Provost's ruling.

**Minutes of Meetings of  
The Inverclyde Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards**

**554 Policy & Resources Committee (Special) – 20 September 2022**

**554**

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe.

**555 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel (Special) – 21 September 2022**

**555**

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor Wilson.

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556	<b>General Purposes Board (Special) – 21 September 2022</b>	556
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
557	<b>Inverclyde Council – 22 September 2022</b>	557
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	
558	<b>General Purposes Board (Special) – 28 September 2022</b>	558
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
559	<b>Grants Sub-Committee – 28 September 2022</b>	559
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brooks.	
560	<b>Planning Board – 5 October 2022</b>	560
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Curley.	
561	<b>General Purposes Board – 12 October 2022</b>	561
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
562	<b>Audit Committee – 18 October 2022</b>	562
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
563	<b>Social Work &amp; Social Care Scrutiny Panel – 20 October 2022</b>	563
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Jackson.	
564	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee – 27 October 2022</b>	564
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
565	<b>Education &amp; Communities Committee – 1 November 2022</b>	565
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
566	<b>Planning Board – 2 November 2022</b>	566
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.	
567	<b>General Purposes Board – 9 November 2022</b>	567
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
568	<b>Petitions Committee – 10 November 2022</b>	568
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	

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- 569 Inverclyde Council (Special) – 10 November 2022 569**
- Approved** on the motion of Provost McKenzie.
- 570 Policy & Resources Committee – 15 November 2022 570**
- Approved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe.
- 571 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel – 17 November 2022 571**
- Approved** on the motion of Councillor Wilson.
- 572 Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2021/22 572**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Health & Community Care, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, appending the Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2021/22 for noting and comment.
- Decided:** that the content of the Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2021/22 be noted.
- 573 2022/32 Financial Strategy - Update 573**
- There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance seeking approval for the updated Financial Strategy 2022/32.
- Decided:**
- (1) that (a) the latest update to the Council's Financial Strategy be approved, and (b) the continued significant impact of the global and UK economic position be acknowledged;
  - (2) that the mid-range estimated 2023/26 funding gap of £20.6million, as detailed in table 4a of the Financial Strategy 2022/23-2031/32 document at appendix 1 to the report, be noted;
  - (3) that it be agreed that the following be built into the 2023/25 Budget:
    - (a) that the £1million contribution to the 2022/25 Capital Programme from the Capital Fund be deferred until 2023/24;
    - (b) that £500,000 from the Insurance Fund be used to reduce service Insurance Fund contributions by £100,000/year between 2023/24 and 2027/28;
    - (c) that the recurring City Deal Funding Model contribution be reduced by £100,000/year from 2023/24;
    - (d) that a one-off sum of £1.2million be earmarked to be added to the Loans Charge Funding Model in 2023/24 to keep the underlying position of the Funding Model in surplus; and
    - (e) that, in relation to decision (d) above, (i) the Internal Resources Income budget be increased by £300,000 from 2023/24 due to the medium term continued increase in interest rates, and (ii) the projected time limited surplus Internal Resources Interest over 2023/26 totalling £4.6million is factored in to the consideration of the use of Reserves as part of the current Budget exercise.
- 574 Management Structure 574**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive seeking Council approval for a new management structure to be implemented from April 2023.

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**Decided:**

- (1) that Phase 1 of the management structure which focuses on the Corporate Management Team be approved, all as detailed in paragraphs 4.2 to 4.7 of the report;
- (2) that it be agreed to commence the recruitment of the Director of Environment & Regeneration post on a permanent basis, as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report;
- (3) that it be agreed that the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services will report directly to the Chief Executive from 1 April 2023;
- (4) that the reduction of the statutory allowances for the Chief Financial Officer from 1 April 2023, and the Chief Social Work Officer be agreed, as detailed at paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 of the report;
- (5) that it be noted that further reports with recommendations for the implementations of Phases 2 and 3 of the management restructure will be brought to future meetings of the Council over the next 18 months, which will take into account the impact of the 2023/25 Budget setting, the review of the Council's shared services arrangements with West Dunbartonshire Council and the proposed National Care Service; and
- (6) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services, in consultation with other relevant officers, to update the Scheme of Delegation (Officers), Financial Regulations and the Standing Orders relating to Contracts to reflect the decisions of the Council in respect of this report.

**575 Council Timetable Changes****575**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services seeking agreement to (1) move the scheduled meeting of the Planning Board from 3pm on Wednesday 4 January 2023 to 1pm on Monday 9 January 2023, and (2) set a time and date for a special meeting of the Inverclyde Council in December in order to consider proposals relating to the 2023/25 Budget.

**Decided:**

- (1) that it be agreed to reschedule the January meeting of the Planning Board to Monday 9 January 2023 at 1pm; and
- (2) that it be agreed to hold a special meeting of the Inverclyde Council on Thursday 15 December 2022 at 4pm and that officers will liaise with the Provost to finalise arrangements.

**576 Inverclyde Academy Young Enterprise Company 'Wicked Wicks' – Request by Councillor Cassidy****576**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services advising of a request received from Councillor Cassidy in the following terms:

"Inverclyde Academy Young Enterprise company 'Wicked Wicks' wins Renfrewshire Young Enterprise Company of the Year 2022

The Council is requested to:

- (1) Welcome the news that Inverclyde Academy's Young Enterprise Company 'Wicked Wicks' has been named winner of the Renfrewshire Young Enterprise Company of the Year 2022.
- (2) Note the group of 7 S6 Inverclyde Academy pupils formed the company as part of the Young Enterprise Company Programme.
- (3) Understand that the company Wicked Wicks made their own range of candles and wax melts which they sold locally and at the Young Enterprise Fair at Braehead. That the company chose to go down the sustainable packaging route, where they repurposed salsa jars for candles instead of buying new ones; used broken crayons

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from the art department in school as colouring for their candles instead of them being thrown out; used paper bag packaging for their wax melts and cardboard to package their candles.

(4) Further note that one member of the team won the Banter Award at the Young Enterprise Trade Fair for their excellent sales skills while competing against schools and pupil from across Renfrewshire. That another one of the team members was also Runner Up for the UK-wide YE Journey Award which recognised the value of their growth and personal development.

(5) Further understand that the team benefited enormously in terms of personal growth, built up knowledge of customer care, communications, teamwork and developed production and management skills, which they take on into future studies and careers. And that they all gained a level 6 qualification for their efforts with Glasgow Kelvin College which recognised their business and enterprise skills.”

**Decided:** that the Council agrees Councillor Cassidy’s request.

**577 Inverclyde Task Force**

**577**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive providing an update in respect of the Inverclyde Task Force.

The Interim Director Environment & Regeneration advised of an error in the report, and accordingly the reference at paragraph 1.3 which advises that ‘a report updating on the progress of the Inverclyde Task Force would be presented to the December meeting of the Council, and six-monthly thereafter’ should read ‘...four-monthly thereafter’.

During discussion of this item Councillor Brooks advised that Councillor Wilson will replace him as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist representative on the Inverclyde Task Force.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Council notes the activity of the Inverclyde Task Force and continues to support its purpose, subject to the verbal correction that update reports will be provided to the Council on a four monthly basis; and

(2) that it be noted that Councillor Wilson will replace Councillor Brooks as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist representative on the Inverclyde Task Force.

**578 Treasury Management – Mid-Year Report 2022/23 – Remit from Policy & Resources Committee**

**578**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on a remit from the Policy & Resources Committee of 15 November 2022 relative to the operation of the treasury function and its activities for the first 6 months of 2022/23 as required under the terms of the Treasury Management Practice 6 (TMP6) on ‘Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements’.

**Decided:** that the Mid-Year Report on Treasury Management for 2022/23 as required under the terms of the Treasury Management Practice 6 (TMP6) on ‘Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements’ be approved.

**579 Gourock Burgh Coat of Arms Proposals – Remit from the Education & Communities Committee**

**579**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services requesting the Council as Trustees of the Watt Institution to agree the decision made by the Education & Communities Committee on 1 November 2022 relative to the removal of

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the Dardanelles Memorial Window from the Watt Institution.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Council as Trustees of the Watt Institution agree the decision of the Education & Communities Committee on 1 November 2022 relative to the removal of the Dardanelles Memorial Window from the Watt Institution, namely to approve the same subject to all necessary consents being obtained; and
- (2) that it be noted that Inverclyde Council will meet the costs associated with the removal of the Dardanelles Memorial Window.

**580 Trust Fund Annual Accounts 2021/22 580**

There was submitted a report by the Honorary Treasurer requesting the Council as sole trustee to adopt the examined Annual Accounts of the Birkmyre Trust and the Watt Institution Trust Fund for 2021/22.

**Decided:** that the Council as sole trustee -

- (1) approve the Annual Accounts for the Birkmyre Trust and the Watt Institution Trust Fund for the year ended 31 March 2022; and
- (2) welcome the donation to the Watt Institution Trust Fund from the Temianka Foundation received during the 2022/23 Accounting period.

**581 Appointment to the Executive Oversight Committee of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network 581**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services seeking approval for the appointment of Councillor Cassidy to the Executive Oversight Committee of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network, this appointment being subject to the approval of the Chair of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the appointment of Councillor Cassidy to the Executive Oversight Committee of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network, this appointment being subject to the approval of the Chair of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network.

**It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that it contained exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of schedule 7(A) of the Act as detailed in the relevant minute.**

**Appendices to Minutes**

**582 Policy & Resources Committee (Special) – 20 September 2022 582**

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor McCabe.

**583 General Purposes Board (Special) – 21 September 2022 583**

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor Moran.

**584 General Purposes Board – 12 October 2022 584**

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor Moran.

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| 585 | <b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee – 27 October 2022</b> | 585 |
|     | <b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor McCormick.            |     |
| 586 | <b>General Purposes Board – 9 November 2022</b>                   | 586 |
|     | <b>Approved</b> on the motion of Councillor Moran.                |     |