

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL - 14 FEBRUARY 2008**

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**The Inverclyde Council**

**Thursday 14 February 2008 at 4.00 pm**

**Present:** Provost McCormick, Councillors Ahlfeld, Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Dorrian, Ferguson, Fyfe, Grieve, Loughran, MacLeod, McCabe, McCallum, McIlwee, McKenzie, Moran, Osborne, Rebecchi, White and Wilson.

**Chair:** Provost McCormick presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education and Social Care, Corporate Director Environment and Community Protection, Corporate Director Improvement and Performance, Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources, Chief Financial Officer, Head of ICT and Business Transformation, Head of Legal and Administration, Head of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs and Mr H McNeilly, Legal Services Manager (Courts and Litigation).

**115 General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Budget 2008/09**

**115**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing information to allow the Council to set a balanced General Fund Revenue Budget for 2008/09, requesting the Council to approve the Capital Programme for 2008/09 and thereafter confirm the level of Council Tax for the period 1 April 2008 - 31 March 2009.

Councillors Ahlfeld, MacLeod, McKenzie, White and Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this matter as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process. After discussion, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McKenzie moved:-

- (1) that the 2008/09 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Administration Proposal (appendix 1 to the minute);
- (2) that the Council agree the Capital Programme for the year 2008/09 as set out in appendix 4 to the report and that the Council note the position in respect of 2009/10 and 2010/11;
- (3) that the Council note the situation in respect of the Fairer Scotland Fund as set out in paragraph 6.3 of the report;
- (4) that the Council approve the Reserves Strategy contained in appendix 3 to the report;
- (5) that the Council approve the virement of £1.25M of Loans Charge savings arising from Stock Transfer Debt Restructuring towards the School Estate Funding Model and note that full information in respect of the School Estate Management Plan will be presented to Members in April 2008;
- (6) that the Inverclyde Leisure Business Plan be approved in principle with the level of Council funding of Inverclyde Leisure for 2008/09 being amended on the basis of the proposals in the Administration Proposal and that consideration of the Business Plan be remitted to the Regeneration Committee;
- (7) that the 2008/09 Common Good Budget as set out in appendix 6 to the report be approved;
- (8) that the charges contained in the Charging Booklet appended to the report be approved it being noted that any other amendments to charges agreed as part of the budget process will be reflected in the finalised budget; and
- (9) that there be no increase in the Council Tax for 2008/09.

As an amendment, Councillor Blair seconded by Councillor Fyfe moved:-

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL - 14 FEBRUARY 2008**

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- (1) that the 2008/09 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Liberal Democrat Budget Proposal (appendix 2 to the minute);
- (2) that the Council agree the Capital Programme for the year 2008/09 as set out in appendix 4 to the report and that the Council note the position in respect of 2009/10 and 2010/11;
- (3) that the Council note the situation in respect of the Fairer Scotland Fund as set out in paragraph 6.3 of the report;
- (4) that the Council approve the Reserves Strategy contained in appendix 3 to the report;
- (5) that the Council approve the virement of £1.25M of Loans Charge savings arising from Stock Transfer Debt Restructuring towards the School Estate Funding Model and note that full information in respect of the School Estate Management Plan will be presented to Members in April 2008;
- (6) that the Inverclyde Leisure Business Plan be approved in principle with the level of Council funding of Inverclyde Leisure for 2008/09 being amended on the basis of the proposals in the Liberal Democrat Budget Proposal and that consideration of the Business Plan be remitted to the Regeneration Committee;
- (7) that the 2008/09 Common Good Budget as set out in appendix 6 to the report to be approved;
- (8) that the charges contained in the Charging Booklet appended to the report be approved it being noted that any other amendments to charges agreed as part of the budget process will be reflected in the finalised budget; and
- (9) that the "Band D" Council Tax be fixed at £1,168.00, a reduction of 2.5%.

On a vote, 4 Members voted for the amendment and 16 for the motion which was declared carried.

With regard to those Members who had declared a non-financial interest in the matter, Councillors Ahlfeld, MacLeod, McKenzie and Wilson voted in favour of the motion and Councillor White voted in favour of the amendment.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the 2008/09 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Administration Proposal (appendix 1 to the minute);
- (2) that the Council agree the Capital Programme for the year 2008/09 as set out in appendix 4 to the report and that the Council note the position in respect of 2009/10 and 2010/11;
- (3) that the Council note the situation in respect of the Fairer Scotland Fund as set out in paragraph 6.3 of the report;
- (4) that the Council approve the Reserves Strategy contained in appendix 3 to the report;
- (5) that the Council approve the virement of £1.25M of Loans Charge savings arising from Stock Transfer Debt Restructuring towards the School Estate Funding Model and note that full information in respect of the School Estate Management Plan will be presented to Members in April 2008;
- (6) that the Inverclyde Leisure Business Plan be approved in principle with the level of Council funding of Inverclyde Leisure for 2008/09 being amended on the basis of the proposals in the Administration Proposal and that consideration of the Business Plan be remitted to the Regeneration Committee;
- (7) that the 2008/09 Common Good Budget as set out in appendix 6 to the report to be approved;
- (8) that the charges contained in the Charging Booklet appended to the report be approved it being noted that any other amendments to charges agreed as part of the budget process will be reflected in the finalised budget; and
- (9) that there be no increase in the Council Tax for 2008/09.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL - 14 FEBRUARY 2008

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**116 Resolution: Council Tax 2008/09****116**

Arising from the foregoing paragraph, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McKenzie moved that the Council resolve to fix the "Band D" Council Tax for 2008/09 at £1,198.00.

**Decided:** that the "Band D" Council Tax for 2008/09 be fixed at £1,198.00.

**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 the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

**117 Appendix 5 relative to Agenda Item 1****117**

There was submitted appendix 5 relative to agenda item 1 (General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Budget 2008/09) comprising Inverclyde Leisure Business Plan.

**Noted**