

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

Regeneration Committee

Thursday 4 September 2008 at 3.00 pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Blair, Clocherty, Ferguson, Loughran, McCallum, McCabe, McKenzie, MacLeod, Osborne and White.

Chair: Councillor Clocherty presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources, Ms J Buchanan (for Chief Financial Officer), Head of Economic & Social Regeneration, Head of Legal & Administration, Head of Property Resources & Facilities Management, Community Services Manager, Physical Investment Services Manager and Mr H McNeilly (Legal Services Manager, Courts & Litigation).

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Councillor Blair expressed the view that a number of those items identified on the agenda as containing exempt information in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended should, in fact, be considered in public. Following discussion, it was agreed that the format of reports be considered by the Strategic Leadership Forum and following the recommendation of the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources a report on the future disposals programme and relative tendering be considered at the next meeting. It was agreed that, with regard to the reports on the agenda, the matter be considered further at the conclusion of public business.

With the exception of the decision marked "C", which is open for confirmation or otherwise, the following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

565 Revenue Budget Out-turn 2007/08 and Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 3 565

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on (1) the Revenue Budget 2007/08 out-turn and (2) the position of the Revenue Budget 2008/09 as at Period 3 (30 June 2008) which showed a projected overspend of £94,000.

Decided:

- (1) that the out-turn for 2007/08 and the current projected overspend of £94,000 as at 30 June 2008 be noted; and
- (2) that the virement requests totalling £176,600 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and appendix 4 of the report be approved and that the Policy & Resources Committee be requested to approve the virement in respect of Property Resources Security in the sum of £39,320 due to a budget transfer to Legal & Administration.

566 Building Services Trading Account Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 3 566

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on (1) the Building Services Trading Account 2007/08 out-turn and (2) the position of the Trading Account as at Period 3 (30 June 2008) which showed a projected surplus of £98,000.

Decided: that the out-turn for 2007/08 and the projected surplus of £98,000 as at 30 June 2008 be noted.

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

- 567 Capital Programme 2008/09 to 2010/11 - Progress 567**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources and the Chief Financial Officer on the position of the Capital Programme 2008/09 to 2010/11.
Decided: that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in the appendix to the report and approve the transfer of £180,000 from the Office Accommodation Allocation into the Arts Guild project to fund professional fees as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report.
- 568 Regeneration & Resources Directorate Performance Report 568**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the performance of Property Resources & Facilities Management and Economic & Social Regeneration in achieving their key objectives as set out in the Regeneration & Resources Directorate Plan and how they have contributed to the achievement of key corporate priorities.
Decided:
 (1) that the performance information contained in the report be noted;
 (2) that a report on the operation of the Business Gateway Service be submitted to the Committee; and
 (3) that a report on the proposals for Port Glasgow town centre be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.
 (Councillor Osborne left the meeting following consideration of this item of business).
- 569 Property Resources & Facilities Management 569**
Building Services Unit
2008-2011 Business Plan Update
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the updated Building Services Unit Business Plan for 2008-2011, a copy of which was appended to the report.
 (Councillor Osborne returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
Decided: that the Committee note and approve the Building Services Unit updated Business Plan for 2008 - 2011.
- 570 Crosshill Children's Home - Water Tank Renewal - Homologation of Emergency 570**
Action
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking homologation of action taken by officers to instruct a single contractor in respect of works at Crosshill Children's Home to safeguard property and avoid serious inconvenience to users of the building.
Decided: that the Committee homologate the action taken in the emergency situation.
- 571 Scottish External Funding Seminar 571**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for the hosting of a Scottish External Funding Seminar by the Scottish Local Authority External Funding Officers Group, of which Inverclyde Council is a member, on Friday 5 December 2008 within Boglestone Community Centre.

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to the hosting of the seminar, to be chaired by the Convener of the Regeneration Committee;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to ensure that the event is well organised, funded and promoted; and
- (3) that a report on the event be presented to the Committee at its meeting in January 2009.

572 City Growth Fund 2008-09**572**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources (1) advising of an allocation of £200,000 from the City Growth Fund 2008-09 for town centre regeneration and (2) seeking approval to accept the allocation and disperse the funds to appropriate projects.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the allocation of £200,000 City Growth Fund monies from Glasgow City Council in the financial year 2008-09 and remit it to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources, in consultation with the appropriate officers, to enter into a legal agreement with Glasgow City Council to accept the funding;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Head of Economic & Social Regeneration to disburse the funds to appropriate projects within the remit of the property development programme with awards of up to a maximum of £75,000, with allocations of £75,000 to be used in Port Glasgow, £85,000 to be used in Greenock and £40,000 to be used in Gourrock and that Members contact the Head of Economic & Social Regeneration at the earliest opportunity with any suggestions regarding appropriate projects; and
- (3) that a report on the use of the funding be submitted to the January 2009 meeting of the Committee.

573 Library Supplies Budget**573**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on proposals to spend the additional £100,000 allocated to the Library Supplies Budget in 2008-09.

(Councillor White left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the Committee note the proposals for distributing the funds as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report.

574 Museum Collecting Policy for Maritime Collections of the McLean Museum**574**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the McLean Museum and Art Gallery's acquisition and disposal policy under Museum Accreditation and its relevance to the collecting of marine artworks and other artefacts of relevance to Inverclyde's maritime heritage, as requested by the Committee at the meeting held on 17 January 2008.

(Councillor White returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the current funding pressures relating to the purchase of any new acquisition for the McLean Museum and Art Gallery be noted.

575 McLean Museum: Loan of Painting**575**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on a request from the Paisley Museum and Art Gallery, Renfrewshire Council, for the loan of

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

the painting "The Atlantic from Colonsay" by Alexander Goudie.

Decided: that approval be given to the loan of the painting "The Atlantic from Colonsay" to Paisley Museum and Art Gallery from September until December 2008, subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries Manager.

576 Sports Strategy Update

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the progress being made to implement the Inverclyde Sports Strategy.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress being made against the recommendations in the Sports Strategy;
- (2) that Councillors McKenzie and Ahlfeld, the Council's Sports Champions, be invited to attend future meetings of the Sports Strategy Group; and
- (3) that a report on the current position in respect of Rankin Park, Ravenscraig and Parklea Playing Fields sites be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

577 Pitches Action Plan Update

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the progress being made to implement the Inverclyde Council Pitches Action Plan.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress being made on the Inverclyde Council Pitches Action Plan; and
- (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to bring forward proposals as part of the budget setting process for 2009/10 onwards.

578 Under 16s Free Use of Pitches

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the progress of the implementation of the free use of Council pitches to under 16s sports teams.

Decided: that the Committee note the progress being made to implement the decision to give free use of Inverclyde Council pitches to under 16s sports teams.

579 Booking Conditions in Council Facilities

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for (1) reviewed and updated booking conditions and application for let form and (2) the adoption of the booking arrangements currently in place within the Council's portfolio of community centres, schools and public halls by other Council services with facilities suitable for public use.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the updated booking conditions and application for let form appended to the report; and
- (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to liaise with other Corporate Directors regarding the implementation of the booking conditions in other Council facilities as appropriate.

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

580 Scottish Government Consultation on Community Councils

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to homologate the response submitted on behalf of the Council to the Scottish Government's consultation on Community Councils.

Decided: that the Committee homologate the response to the Scottish Government on its consultation on Community Councils.

581 Rankin Park - Request from Councillor Blair

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on a request from Councillor Blair that a report be submitted to the Committee on the progress of the proposals for the Rankin Park site.

Decided: that, as agreed earlier in the meeting during consideration of the item on the Sports Strategy Update, the Rankin Park site be included within the report on the current position in respect of Rankin Park, Ravenscraig and Parklea Playing Fields sites to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

(Councillor Ferguson left the meeting following consideration of this item of business).

The Committee then resumed discussion as to whether those items identified on the agenda as containing exempt information in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended should be held in private. Councillor Blair expressed the view that a number of items should be held in public, in particular the report on the Gourock Transport Interchange. During the course of discussion, however, the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources indicated that as the Transport Interchange involved a number of partners he was uncomfortable with any discussion taking place in public without the general agreement of the partners. In addition, the Head of Legal & Administration explained the reasons why the report had been identified as containing exempt information. Following consideration, it was agreed that this item be considered following the exclusion of the public and press from the meeting. Councillor Blair requested that his dissent to the item being taken in private be recorded.

There then followed discussion on the report in respect of the proposed disposal of ground at Kempock Street, Gourock and it was agreed to discuss the general principles of disposal in public, with consideration of the details contained within the report following exclusion of the public and press.

582 Proposed Disposal of Ground: Kempock Street, Gourock

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking consent to declare a site at Kempock Street, Gourock surplus to requirements and recommending action in connection therewith.

The Committee discussed the general principles of disposal of the site.

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 items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item

Paragraph(s)

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

Proposed Disposal of Ground: Kempock Street, Gourock	2, 6 and 9
Gourock Transport Interchange	6
Non Operational Property Portfolio Information	2, 6 and 9
Scheme of Delegation Register	
Proposed Disposal of Ground: Dempster Street, Greenock	2, 6 and 9
Proposed Disposal of Ground: Overton, Greenock	2, 6 and 9
Proposed Waiver of Title Condition: Premises in Cathcart Street, Greenock	2, 6 and 9
Excambion: Ground in Greenock	2, 6 and 9

583 Proposed Disposal of Ground: Kempock Street, Gourock 583

The Committee resumed discussion on the report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources.

C After consideration, and following a vote, the Committee agreed to the action recommended. Those Members who had voted in favour of the motion then requested in terms of the relevant Standing Order that the matter be referred to The Inverclyde Council for decision in terms of the motion, all as detailed in the appendix. **C**
(Councillor McCabe left the meeting following consideration of this item of business).

584 Gourock Transport Interchange 584

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on partnership progress with the Gourock Transport Interchange.

(Councillor McCabe returned to the meeting and Councillors White and Osborne left during consideration of this item of business).

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the terms of the report and remit it to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to advise further on progress;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to arrange a meeting of the Central Gourock Redevelopment Working Group and a briefing for Members at the earliest opportunity once the report to Transport Scotland is available; and
- (3) that it be remitted to the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to take any necessary action to campaign for the Gourock Transport Interchange.

585 Non Operational Property Portfolio Information 585
Scheme of Delegation Register

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources providing information relative to non operational property for the period April to August 2008.

(Councillor Ahlfeld left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Noted

586 Proposed Disposal of Ground: Dempster Street, Greenock 586

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2008

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking consent to dispose of ground at Dempster Street, Greenock and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.
(Councillor Ahlfeld returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

587 Proposed Disposal of Ground: Overton, Greenock 587

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking consent to dispose of ground at Overton, Greenock and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.

588 Proposed Waiver of Title Condition: Premises in Cathcart Street, Greenock 588

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on a request for a waiver of title conditions in respect of premises in Cathcart Street, Greenock and the Committee agreed not to approve the request, all as detailed in the appendix.

589 Excambion: Ground in Greenock 589

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for a land swap in Greenock and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.