

REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 7 MAY 2009

Regeneration Committee

Thursday 7 May 2009 at 3.00 pm

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

Chair: Councillor Clocherty presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources, Mr M Thomson (for Chief Financial Officer), Head of Economic & Social Regeneration, Mr H McNeilly (for Head of Legal & Administration), Head of Property Resources & Facilities Management, Mr M Bingham (for Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs), Libraries Manager and Physical Investment Services Manager.

Apologies: Councillor Osborne.

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

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| 304 | Capital Programme 2008/09 - 2010/11 - Progress | 304 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources and Chief Financial Officer on the position of the Capital Programme 2008/09 to 2010/11. (Councillor Loughran entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).</p> <p>Noted</p> | |
| 305 | Regeneration and Resources Directorate Performance Report | 305 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the performance of Property Resources and Facilities Management and Economic and Social Regeneration in achieving their key objectives as set out in the Regeneration and Resources Directorate Plan and how they have contributed to the achievement of key corporate priorities. (Councillor Blair entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).</p> <p>Noted</p> | |
| 306 | Regeneration and Resources Directorate Plan 2009-11 | 306 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources appending the Regeneration and Resources Directorate Plan for 2009-11.</p> <p>Decided: that the Committee approve and adopt the Regeneration and Resources Directorate Plan for 2009-11 as appended to the report.</p> | |
| 307 | Economic Development Service Plan 2009/10 | 307 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking endorsement of the Economic Development Service Plan 2009/10.</p> <p>Decided:</p> <p>(1) that the Economic Development Service Plan 2009/10 appended to the report be endorsed;</p> | |

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(2) that a report be submitted to the Committee providing an overview of the impact of the economic recession on Inverclyde, the report to include any proposals for preparing for the economic recovery; and

(3) that a briefing be arranged for all Members prior to submission of the report on the future of the Spango Valley site.

308 Inverclyde's Tourism Strategy 2009-2016 308

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of Inverclyde's Tourism Strategy 2009-2016.

Decided:

(1) that approval be given to Inverclyde's Tourism Strategy 2009-2016 as appended to the report and that it be remitted to the Head of Economic & Social Regeneration to develop an action plan for submission to the Committee shortly after the summer recess; and

(2) that arrangements be made for Elected Member input into the preparation of the action plan through the establishment of a short term working group.

309 Summer Playschemes 2009 309

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources informing the Committee of the programme of activities proposed for this year's summer playschemes.

Decided: that approval be given to the programme of activities being organised for this year's summer playschemes within the Regeneration & Resources Service.

310 Free Use of Swimming for Under 16s and Over 60s 310

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the uptake during 2008/09 of the free swimming initiative for under 16s and over 60s.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the uptake of the free swimming initiative in 2008/09; and

(2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to monitor regularly Inverclyde Leisure's performance with regard to the scheme and to submit a further update report at the end of the 2009/10 financial year.

311 Under 16s Free Use of Sports Pitches for Under 16s 311

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of the uptake during 2008/09 of the scheme to provide free use of pitches for under 16s within the Inverclyde area.

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

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the positive uptake of the scheme during the 2008/09 financial year and remit it to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to submit a further update report at the end of the 2009/10 financial year; and

(2) that the Committee note the possible future shortfall in the budget and remit it to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to monitor the position closely during the 2009/10 financial year.

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- 312 Birkmyre Park - Update 312**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources advising of the consultation which has taken place in respect of the pitch use at Birkmyre Park.
(Councillor Blair returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the consultation on the redesignation of the pitches at Birkmyre Park;
 - (2) that a report be submitted to The Inverclyde Council, as the Trustees of the Birkmyre Park, proposing redesignation of the pitch at Knockbuckle Road into a dual use pitch; and
 - (3) that subject to approval by The Inverclyde Council, a report be submitted to the Committee at the end of the forthcoming season on the dual use of the pitch.
- 313 The Potential of Sport - Maximising Sport's Contribution to National and Local Outcomes 313**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources highlighting and summarising a report recently produced by SportsScotland entitled "The Potential of Sport" which sets out how sport can contribute to national and local outcomes.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the contents of the report "The Potential of Sport" produced by SportsScotland be noted; and
 - (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources, through the Sport Strategy Group, to incorporate the report's findings into the various strategic frameworks within the Council and the Inverclyde Alliance.
- 314 Scottish Community Empowerment Action Plan 314**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources (1) advising the Committee of the implications for Inverclyde of the new national policy on community empowerment and (2) seeking approval of action in this regard.
(Councillor McCabe left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
- Decided:** that it be remitted to the Head of Economic & Social Regeneration to submit a report to the Policy & Resources Committee in respect of the actions detailed and to report within six months with an update on progress.
- 315 Community Council Review Update 315**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the ongoing review of Community Councils at a national level and within Inverclyde.
(Councillor McCabe returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the review of Community Councils at a national and local level;
 - (2) that it be agreed that the Convener of the Regeneration Committee chair the local Community Council Working Group;
 - (3) that it be remitted to the Community Council Working Group to report to the

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Committee as soon as is practicable on the outcome of the consultation process on the local and national reviews; and

(4) that an update report on progress made be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

316 Area Renewal Fund

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources (1) advising of progress made in relation to the Area Renewal Fund and (2) seeking approval for the establishment of implementation groups and early funding proposals.

Decided:

(1) that the progress in relation to the Area Renewal Fund be noted; and
 (2) that approval be given to the proposals for the establishment of implementation groups and early funding as set in paragraph 5 of the report.

317 Fairer Scotland Fund - Update

317

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources apprising the Committee, as part of the regular reporting regime, of the performance of the Fairer Scotland Fund 2008-2010.

The Head of Economic & Social Regeneration reported orally to the Committee on the updated position.

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

Decided: that the Committee note the Fairer Scotland Fund position statement as detailed in the report including the oral update provided by the Head of Economic & Social Regeneration.

318 Special Economic Interventions

318

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to utilise the allocation of £76,000 for special economic interventions allocated from underspend monies from Scottish Enterprise.

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

Decided:

(1) that agreement be given to support the following initiatives utilising the £76,000 for special economic interventions allocated from underspend monies from Scottish Enterprise thus assisting the Council's broad social and economic objectives:

(a) Marketing Grant - £18,000 to assist company growth/survival/retention;
 (b) Third Sector Support - £15,000 to provide training and capacity building for third sector organisations;

(c) Property Assistance - £21,000 for town centres regeneration, in addition to the property assistance budget, with a view to attracting additional match funding from Riverside Inverclyde;

(d) Support for Employers/Apprentices - £75 per week per trainee as a wage subsidy to employers in the construction industry to retain apprentices for up to six months which, based on 11 trainees, equates to approximately £22,000; and

(2) that a report be submitted to the Policy & Resources Committee requesting authority to vire part of the existing Earmarked Reserves expenditure to Capital to offset this expenditure.

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319 Inverclyde Construction Plus

319

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the current position relative to the development of Inverclyde Construction Plus. (Councillors Blair and McCallum returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided:

- (1) that the Policy & Resources Committee be requested to approve participation in Inverclyde Construction Plus and adherence to the Partnership Agreement as detailed in Appendix 1;
- (2) that the Policy & Resources Committee be requested to adopt a Community Benefits policy for the future letting of appropriate contracts by Inverclyde Council; and
- (3) that approval be given to a formal launch of Inverclyde Construction Plus within existing financial resources, with the support of the Council's Corporate Communications and Public Affairs Team.

320 Covered Walkway - Port Glasgow Town Centre

320

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources providing further information on the feasibility study carried out on a potential covered walkway linking the Tesco site with the existing Port Glasgow town centre.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee endorse the contents of the feasibility study and delegate authority to the Head of Economic & Social Regeneration to provide formal feedback to the Port Glasgow Traders' Association; and
- (2) that a further briefing be arranged for all Members of the Council on the proposals for the comprehensive development of Port Glasgow town centre.

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)
Gourock Central Development	6
Riverside Inverclyde - Operating Plan 2009-12	6
Proposed Demolition - Cemetery Lodge, Kilmacolm	2, 6 and 9
Land at Drumfrochar Road, Greenock: Proposed Disposal Negotiations with Single Party	2, 6 and 9
Tendering Processes: Kelburn, Port Glasgow and Gourock Park, Gourock	6 and 9
Bus Stances at Kilblain Street, Greenock	2, 6 and 9

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- 321 Gourock Central Development 321**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources (1) providing an update on progress with development options at the Gourock Central area and (2) recommending proposals for implementing the development which were agreed, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 322 Riverside Inverclyde - Operating Plan 2009-12 322**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources (1) providing an update on the activities of Riverside Inverclyde and (2) seeking endorsement of the Operating Plan 2009-12.
(Councillor McKenzie left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
Decided: that the Riverside Inverclyde Operating Plan 2009-12 detailed in Appendix A to the report be endorsed.
- 323 Proposed Demolition - Cemetery Lodge, Kilmacolm 323**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources confirming the rationale for demolishing the Cemetery Lodge, Kilmacolm following the decision of the Council at its meeting on 16 April 2009 to request a report on the suitability of the property for private residential use.
Decided:
(1) that it be confirmed that the Cemetery Lodge, Kilmacolm be declared surplus to requirements; and
(2) that approval be given to the demolition of the Cemetery Lodge, Kilmacolm and the buildings at the Cemetery entrance, that the solum be re-graded and landscaped to enhance the entrance area and that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to act accordingly.
- 324 Land at Drumfrochar Road, Greenock - Proposed Disposal Negotiations with Single Party 324**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to consider the proposed disposal of land at Drumfrochar Road, Greenock and to grant permission for negotiations with a single party, which was agreed, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 325 Tendering Process: Kelburn, Port Glasgow and Gourock Park, Gourock 325**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the responses to the competitive tendering advertisement processes at Kelburn, Port Glasgow and the Gourock Park, Gourock sites and the Committee agreed to the recommendations contained in the report, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 326 Bus Stances at Kilblain Street, Greenock 326**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for the transfer of the bus station area at Kilblain Street, Greenock in order to secure a major funding commitment and facilitate improvements in the area which was agreed, all as detailed in the appendix.

