

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL - 10 FEBRUARY 2011**

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**The Inverclyde Council**

**Thursday 10 February 2011 at 4 pm**

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

**Chair:** Provost McCormick presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Community Health & Care Partnership, Corporate Director Education & Communities, Corporate Director Regeneration & Environment, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Legal Services Manager (Courts & Litigation) and Corporate Communications Manager.

**112 Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

**112**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Grieve and Moran.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**The Provost being of the opinion that the undernoted item was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the Council to consider its position at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.**

**113 Greenock Coastguard Centre**

**113**

The Provost referred to a request from Councillor Rebecchi that the Council consider its support for the retention of Greenock Coastguard Centre.

During the course of discussion, it was noted that the PCS Union had been asked to submit a resolution for consideration by the Council at the meeting to be held on 24 February 2011.

**Decided:** that consideration of the matter be continued to the meeting of the Council to be held on 24 February 2011.

**114 Revenue Budget 2011/13 and Capital Programme 2011/14**

**114**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) confirming the information provided to Members to date, (2) setting out the decisions required by the Council in respect of the Budget and (3) requesting the Council to agree the 2011/13 Revenue Budget, 2011/14 Capital Programme and the 2011/13 Common Good Budget. After discussion, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McKenzie moved:-

- (1) that the 2011/13 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Coalition Administration's submission (appendix 1 to the minute);
- (2) that the 2011/14 Capital Programme be agreed in terms of the Coalition Administration's submission (appendix 1 to the minute);
- (3) that the Common Good Fund be agreed in terms of the Coalition Administration's submission (appendix 1 to the minute);
- (4) that agreement be given to the proposals in respect of the General Fund Reserve

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on the basis of the Coalition Administration's submission taking into account the Chief Financial Officer's recommendation that the General Reserve Balance should not fall below £4.2m;

(5) that agreement be given to the Work Streams and associated targets as recommended by the Corporate Management Team as shown in appendix 3 to the report;

(6) that the Council agree to sign up to the Scottish Government's Conditions attached to the 2011/12 Grant Settlement and ask the Council Leader to advise the Scottish Government of the Council's agreement to these Conditions by the deadline of 28 February 2011;

(7) that the Risk Register set out in appendix 7 to the report be noted; and

(8) that the Council agree the impact on Council Tax levels of the approved proposals in 2011/12 and 2012/13 and note that the formal resolution in respect of the Council Tax level 2011/12 will be approved as part of this meeting.

As an amendment, Councillor Nelson seconded by Councillor Brooks moved:-

(1) that the 2011/13 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Scottish National Group's submission (appendix 2 to the minute);

(2) that the 2011/14 Capital Programme be agreed in terms of the Scottish National Group's submission (appendix 2 to the minute);

(3) that the Common Good Fund be agreed in terms of the Scottish National Group's submission (appendix 2 to the minute);

(4) that agreement be given to the proposals in respect of the General Fund Reserve on the basis of the Scottish National Group's submission taking into account the Chief Financial Officer's recommendation that the General Reserve Balance should not fall below £4.2m;

(5) that agreement be given to the Work Streams and associated targets as recommended by the Corporate Management Team as shown in appendix 3 to the report;

(6) that the Council agree to sign up to the Scottish Government's Conditions attached to the 2011/12 Grant Settlement and ask the Council Leader to advise the Scottish Government of the Council's agreement to these Conditions by the deadline of 28 February 2011;

(7) that the Risk Register set out in appendix 7 to the report be noted; and

(8) that the Council agree the impact on Council Tax levels of the approved proposals in 2011/12 and 2012/13 and note that the formal resolution in respect of the Council Tax level 2011/12 will be approved as part of this meeting.

As a further amendment, Councillor Blair seconded by Councillor Rebecchi moved:-

(1) that the 2011/13 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Liberal Democrat Group's submission (appendix 3 to the minute);

(2) that the 2011/14 Capital Programme be agreed in terms of the Liberal Democrat Group's submission (appendix 3 to the minute);

(3) that the Common Good Fund be agreed in terms of the Liberal Democrat Group's submission (appendix 3 to the minute);

(4) that agreement be given to the proposals in respect of the General Fund Reserve on the basis of the Liberal Democrat Group's submission taking into account the Chief Financial Officer's recommendation that the General Reserve Balance should not fall below £4.2m;

(5) that agreement be given to the Work Streams and associated targets as recommended by the Corporate Management Team as shown in appendix 3 to the report;

(6) that the Council agree to sign up to the Scottish Government's Conditions attached to the 2011/12 Grant Settlement and ask the Council Leader to advise the

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Scottish Government of the Council's agreement to these Conditions by the deadline of 28 February 2011;

(7) that the Risk Register set out in appendix 7 to the report be noted; and

(8) that the Council agree the impact on Council Tax levels of the approved proposals in 2011/12 and 2012/13 and note that the formal resolution in respect of the Council Tax level 2011/12 will be approved as part of this meeting.

On a vote between the two amendments, 3 Members voted for the amendment by Councillor Blair and 4 for the amendment by Councillor Nelson. The amendment by Councillor Blair then fell. On a vote between the amendment by Councillor Nelson and the motion, 7 Members voted for the amendment and 11 for the motion which was declared carried.

**Decided:**

(1) that the 2011/13 General Fund Revenue Budget be agreed in terms of the Coalition Administration's submission (appendix 1 to the minute);

(2) that the 2011/14 Capital Programme be agreed in terms of the Coalition Administration's submission (appendix 1 to the minute);

(3) that the Common Good Fund be agreed in terms of the Coalition Administration's submission (appendix 1 to the minute);

(4) that agreement be given to the proposals in respect of the General Fund Reserve on the basis of the Coalition Administration's submission taking into account the Chief Financial Officer's recommendation that the General Reserve Balance should not fall below £4.2m;

(5) that agreement be given to the Work Streams and associated targets as recommended by the Corporate Management Team as shown in appendix 3 to the report;

(6) that the Council agree to sign up to the Scottish Government's Conditions attached to the 2011/12 Grant Settlement and ask the Council Leader to advise the Scottish Government of the Council's agreement to these Conditions by the deadline of 28 February 2011;

(7) that the Risk Register set out in appendix 7 to the report be noted; and

(8) that the Council agree the impact on Council Tax levels of the approved proposals in 2011/12 and 2012/13 and note that the formal resolution in respect of the Council Tax level 2011/12 will be approved as part of this meeting.

**115 Resolution: Council Tax 2011/12**

**115**

Arising from the foregoing paragraph, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McKenzie moved that there be no increase in the Council Tax for financial year 2011/12 and, accordingly, resolved to set the "Band D" Council Tax at £1,198.

**Decided:** that the "Band D" Council Tax for 2011/12 be set at £1,198.