

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 21 January 2014 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Loughran, McCabe, McColgan, McEleny, McIlwee and Shepherd, Rev F Donaldson and Father M McMahon, Church Representatives and Mr T Tracey, Teacher Representative.

Chair: Councillor Loughran presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Mr I Cameron (for Head of Finance), Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Community Safety & Wellbeing Service Manager, Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager, Lead Officer, Community Learning & Development, Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications), Head of Education, Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management, Service Manager, School Estate, Corporate Policy & Partnership Manager, Ms E Hamilton and Mr D Smith (Education Services).

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

52 **Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

52

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev MacLean and Mr Thomson.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 10 (Review of Procedures for Grants to Voluntary Organisations) - Councillor Campbell-Sturgess.

Agenda Item 14 (Progress Report on Proposals for a Joint Social Enterprise/Community Facility in Broomhill) - Councillor McIlwee.

Agenda Item 23 (Beacon Arts Centre) - Councillor Brennan.

Agenda Item 25 (Progress Report on the Transfer of Outdoor Sports Facilities to Inverclyde Leisure) - Councillors Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Loughran and McColgan.

53 **Communities 2013/14 Revenue Budget Report - Period 7 to 31 October 2013 and Capital Report 2013/16 - Progress**

53

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) the 2013/14 Revenue Budget position as at Period 7 to 31 October 2013 and (2) the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2013/16 and the overall financial position.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £7,000 for the 2013/14 Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2013;

(2) that the Committee note the progress of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2013/16;

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

(3) that approval be given to the virement of £120,000 to the Environment & Regeneration Committee as detailed in paragraphs 6.1 and appendix 4 to the report; and

(4) that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee providing a detailed breakdown in respect of bad debts and the policy adopted in relation to debt recovery.

54 Clune Park Regeneration Plan - Progress Report

54

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities on the progress of the proposed regeneration of the Clune Park area of Port Glasgow.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the current progress and agree that further progress updates on the Clune Park Regeneration Plan be submitted to future meetings of the Committee;

(2) that the Committee authorise the acquisition, for nil consideration, of those properties listed in appendix 1 of the report, subject to any terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development in consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance; and

(3) that the Committee note the home loss and disturbance payments available to eligible owner-occupiers and tenants in terms of the Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1973 as detailed in paragraph 6.4 of the report.

55 Improving the Effectiveness of Community Councils in Inverclyde

55

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Committee of national and local developments which result in an increased expectation of engagement with communities generally and with Community Councils in particular, (2) providing an update on progress in the implementation of Inverclyde Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils (the Scheme) as approved in 2011 and (3) making proposals to enhance Inverclyde Council's engagement with and support of Community Councils.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note developments at a national and local level which highlight a need for enhancing engagement with and support for Community Councils in Inverclyde;

(2) that the progress made in the implementation of the Scheme be noted;

(3) that approval be given to proposals for enhancing Inverclyde Council's engagement with and support for Community Councils, specifically in respect of:

(a) areas with no Community Council;

(b) Community Councils with an imbalance of co-opted members;

(c) action should any areas remain without a Community Council;

(d) supporting services to engage;

(e) supporting Alliance Partners to engage;

(f) appointment of an Elected Member Champion;

(g) working with other representative organisations;

(h) a Forum of Community Councils;

(i) training and support for Community Councils;

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

- (j) training and support for Elected Members; and
- (4) that it be remitted to the Inverclyde Council to appoint an Elected Member Champion.

56 Strategy and Implementation Plan for Community Learning & Development in Inverclyde 2014 - 2017 56

There was submitted a report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for the Strategy and Implementation Plan for Community Learning & Development (CLD) in Inverclyde 2014-2017.

Decided: that the Committee approve the Strategy and Implementation Plan for Community Learning and Development in Inverclyde 2014-2017 appended to the report.

57 Proposed Management Rules (Libraries): Public Consultation Response 57

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Committee of the outcome of a statutory public consultation on the proposed management rules for libraries following the decision of the Committee at its meeting on 10 September 2013, (2) seeking approval of the rules and (3) seeking authority to report to the Inverclyde Council recommending that the rules be formally approved and that Officers be authorised to make rules in accordance with the statutory procedure.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note that no objections were received during the statutory public consultation on the proposed management rules for libraries as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) that the Committee approve the rules following the consultation exercise for the purposes of referral to the Inverclyde Council as set out below; and
- (3) that the matter be referred to the Inverclyde Council to approve the rules and to authorise Officers formally to make rules in those terms in accordance with the statutory procedure.

58 Proposed Management Rules (Museums): Public Consultation Response 58

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Committee of the outcome of a statutory public consultation on the proposed management rules for museums following the decision of the Committee at its meeting on 10 September 2013, (2) seeking approval of the rules and (3) seeking authority to report to the Inverclyde Council recommending that the rules be formally approved and that Officers be authorised to make rules in accordance with the statutory procedure.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note that no objections were received during the statutory public consultation on the proposed management rules for museums as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) that the Committee approve the rules following the consultation exercise for the purposes of referral to the Inverclyde Council as set out below; and

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

(3) that the matter be referred to the Inverclyde Council to approve the said rules and to authorise Officers formally to make rules in those terms in accordance with the statutory procedure.

59 Request for Loan of Painting from McLean Museum and Art Gallery 59

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising of a request for the loan of a painting from the McLean Museum & Art Gallery.

Decided: that approval be given to the request for the loan of the painting "Fand and Manannan" by John Duncan to the Talbot Rice Gallery from March 2014 until May 2014 subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager.

60 Request for Loan of Painting from McLean Museum and Art Gallery 60

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising of a request for the loan of four paintings from the McLean Museum & Art Gallery.

Decided: that approval be given to the request for the loan of four paintings, "The Tail of the Bank", "Dock Scene, Sharpness", "Galleons Off Dover" and "Off Dover, Barque Invermay" by Frank H Mason to Hartlepool Borough Council from March to June 2015 subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager.

61 Review of Procedures for Grants to Voluntary Organisations 61

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Committee of the initial findings of a review of processes associated with the disbursement of Grants to Voluntary Organisations (GTVO) funding and (2) seeking approval for proposals to improve the effectiveness and impact of resources associated with Grants to Voluntary Organisations.

Councillor Campbell-Sturgess declared a non-financial interest in this matter as Chairman of 49F Greenock Air Training Corps. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process.

Decided: that delegated authority be granted to the Convener, Vice-Convener (Communities) and a representative of the Minority Groups to decide on the matter following receipt of a report providing further clarity on the registration process, the budget position and any organisations which receive more than one source of funding.

62 Progress Report on New Community Facilities 62

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the current progress of the proposed new community facilities at Woodhall, Port Glasgow, Gibshill, Greenock and Inverkip.

Decided: that the progress made in the development of new community facilities in Inverclyde be noted.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

63 Review of Letting Policy for Community and Sporting Facilities 63

It was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

64 Update on Access Agreement for Junior Football Teams 64

It was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

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 the heading to each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Progress Report on Proposals for a Joint Social Enterprise/Community Facility in Broomhill	6 and 9
Beacon Arts Centre	4 and 6
Closing Order - Kilmory Terrace, Port Glasgow	6 and 13
Progress Report on the Transfer of Outdoor Sports Facilities to Inverclyde Leisure	6

65 Progress Report on Proposals for a Joint Social Enterprise/Community Facility in Broomhill 65

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) on the current position with regard to the proposal for a joint social enterprise/community facility at the site of the former Mearns Centre, Broomhill, Greenock and (2) requesting the Committee to confirm its commitment in principle, to providing funding for this project, subject to a number of conditions. The Committee agreed to the recommendations contained in the report, all as detailed in the appendix.

Councillor McIlwee declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of Inverclyde Association for Mental Health. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process.

66 Beacon Arts Centre 66

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an update on the Beacon's financial situation in the first six months of operation, (2) informing Members of a change to the Chair of the Board and (3) informing Members of a letter received from the Interim Chair of the Board. The Committee agreed to the recommendations contained in the report, all as detailed in the appendix.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

Councillor Brennan declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of the Board of the Beacon Arts Centre. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process.

67 Closing Order - 2 Kilmory Terrace, Port Glasgow 67

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities (1) identifying the tenement flat at 2/1, 2 Kilmory Terrace, Port Glasgow PA14 5PF as failing to meet the tolerable standard and (2) seeking the approval of the Committee to take the necessary steps to prohibit its use for human habitation.

Decided: that the Council make a Closing Order in terms of Section 114 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987, as amended, prohibiting the use of the house known as 2/1, 2 Kilmory Terrace, Port Glasgow, PA14 5PF for human habitation.

68 Progress Report on the Transfer of Outdoor Sports Facilities to Inverclyde Leisure 68

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the progress made with regard to the transfer of outdoor sports facilities to Inverclyde Leisure.

Councillors Clocherty, Campbell-Sturgess, Loughran and McColgan each declared a non-financial interest in this item 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.

Decided: that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development in consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance and subject to an appropriate business plan being in place, to transfer the management of the outdoor sports facilities as listed in paragraph 4.3 of the report to Inverclyde Leisure on 1 July 2014.

The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.25pm with Rev Donaldson, Father McMahon and Mr Tracey joining the meeting.

69 Education 2013/14 Revenue Budget - Period 7 to 31 October 2013 69

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the Education Revenue Budget 2013/14 as at Period 7 to 31 October 2013 which projected an underspend of £35,000.

Decided: that the projected underspend of £35,000 for the Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2013 be noted.

70 Education Capital Programme 2013 - 2015/16 - Progress 70

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Head of Finance (1) on the status of the projects forming the Education Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) that the Committee note and approve the change to the scope of the work to the St John's Primary School refurbishment project as noted in paragraph 7.2 of the report.

71 Education Scotland Report on Wellpark Children's Centre**71**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the findings of the Education Scotland report on Wellpark Children's Centre. The report advised that of the Indicators of Quality, three were evaluated as "good" and two as "satisfactory".

Ms Liz Lucchesi, Head of Centre, was present and addressed the Committee relative to the external evaluation report.

The Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advised the Committee that Education Scotland had now disengaged from the inspection process and had remitted it to the staff of the Centre to deal with the action points identified.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee endorse the comments made following the Education Scotland external evaluation of Wellpark Children's Centre; and
- (2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all staff for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

72 Update on Progress with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence**72**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information on progress being made with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.

Decided: that the Committee note the ongoing progress being made with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence in Inverclyde.

73 SOLACE Indicators - Improving Local Government Benchmarking**73**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an overview of the relevant SOLACE (Society of Local Authority Chief Executives) Indicators which benchmarked specific data for the financial years 2010/11 and 2011/12 and (2) highlighting Inverclyde Council's position for those indicators which are of relevance to the Education & Communities Committee and also any proposed action.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the report and approve the proposals on the action for each of the indicators;
- (2) that the ongoing work nationally around the Family Group benchmarking pilots which is being led by the Improvement Service, be noted; and
- (3) that it be noted that once the 2012/13 data is available, a report on how Inverclyde Council has performed and any proposed improvement actions will be submitted to the Committee and will be reported annually thereafter.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 21 JANUARY 2014

74 St John's Primary School - Decant Options 74

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of options for the decant of St John's Primary School in connection with the proposed refurbishment project which is programmed to commence in 2014.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee agree the recommendation of progressing with the former St Stephen's High School option for the decant of St John's Primary School; and
- (2) that approval be given for Highlander's Academy to be declared surplus to requirements and that disposal of the site be remitted to the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

75 Referendum - Supporting Young People in Schools 75

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing Members with information about the proposed plan to raise awareness of the Independence Referendum in schools for pupils who will be 16 or older at the time of the Referendum in September 2014.

Decided: that agreement be given to the proposals contained in the report to raise awareness of the Independence Referendum in schools in order to support young people who will be eligible to vote at the time of the Referendum.

Councillors McCabe and McIlwee left the meeting at this juncture.

76 School Leaver Destination Results 2012-13 76

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information on the annual release of school leaver destination results which were made available to the Authority on 2 December 2013.

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

Decided: that the report be noted.