

MINUTE

B - PUBLIC

**Shetland Islands Council
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Wednesday 18 February 2015 at 10.00am**

Present:

M Bell	M Burgess
P Campbell	G Cleaver
S Coutts	A Duncan
B Fox	R Henderson
A Manson	D Ratter
G Robinson	D Sandison
C Smith	G Smith
T Smith	M Stout
A Westlake	J Wills
A Wishart	V Wishart

Apologies

A Cooper	F Robertson
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In Attendance (Officers):

M Boden, Chief Executive
C Ferguson, Director of Corporate Services
J Belford, Executive Manager - Finance
S Bokor-Ingram, Director of Community Health and Social Care
H Budge, Director of Children's Services
A Edwards, Executive Manager – Quality Improvement
J Riise, Executive Manager – Governance and Law
R Sinclair, Executive Manager – Capital Programme
S Thompson, Executive Manager – Schools
S Brunton, Team Leader – Legal
A Cogle, Team Leader - Administration
M Holmes, Coastal Zone Manager
C Anderson, Senior Communications Officer
L Adamson, Committee Officer

Also in Attendance

S Taylor, Director of Public Health, NHS

Chair:

M Bell, Convener of the Council, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Sandison advised of an interest in Item 10 "Councillor Appointments to External Organisations", as a Trustee of the NAFC, and that he may leave the Chamber during the discussion.

Ms Westlake declared an interest in Item 11, "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust.

Mr Burgess declared a non financial interest in Item 10 "Councillor Appointments to External Organisations", as a Trustee of the NAFC.

Ms Manson declared an interest in Item 11 "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust.

Mr Ratter declared an interest in Item 11 "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust, and confirmed he would leave the Chamber during the discussion.

Dr Wills declared an interest in Item 1, "Chair's Report – Development Committee – 16 December 2014: Dissolution of the Shetland Development Trust – Authorised Signatory" as he has a business loan from the SDT. He will take no part in the discussion or vote, and will leave the Chamber during that item. Dr Wills declared a non financial interest in Item 11, "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust, and will leave the Chamber during that discussion.

Mr Duncan declared an interest in Item 11 "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust, and will leave the Chamber for that item.

Mr T Smith declared an interest in Item 1, "Chair's Report – Development Committee – 16 December 2014: Dissolution of the Shetland Development Trust – Authorised Signatory", and will leave the Chamber during that item.

Mr Henderson declared an interest in Item 11 "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust.

Mr Bell declared an interest in Item 6, "Chair's report – Policy and Resources Committee – 9 February 2015: Health and Social Care Integration – Update Report", as a non-executive Director of NHS Shetland, where he advised that having taken legal advice, he will stay in the Chamber and take part in the discussion. Mr Bell declared an interest in Item 11 "Acquisition of Property", as a Trustee of Shetland Charitable Trust, and having taken legal advice, would leave the Chamber.

Minutes

The Council approved the minutes of the Council meeting held on 5 November 2014 on the motion of Mr C Smith, seconded by Mr Cleaver. The minutes of the meeting on 3 December 2014 were confirmed on the motion of Ms Westlake, seconded by Ms Manson. The minutes of the meeting on 17 December 2014 were approved on the motion of Mr C Smith, seconded by Mr Robinson.

Members noted that the minutes of the meeting on 21 January 2015 related to the adjourned meeting, and therefore would be held over to the reconvened meeting.

(Mr T Smith and Dr Wills left the meeting).

02/15 Chair's Report – Development Committee – 16 December 2014 Dissolution of the Shetland Development Trust – Authorised Signatory

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Development Committee (SIC-0218-DV49-F) which advised of the action taken following a recommendation from Development Committee, in relation to the requirement for a further Director to be appointed to Camvo 88 Ltd., to substitute in the absence of Cllr A Cooper, to authorise documentation during the winding up of the Shetland Development Trust (SDT).

In the absence of the Chair of Development Committee, Mr Robinson introduced the report. He advised on the appointment of Mr T Smith as substitute Director to authorise the necessary documentation during the winding up of the SDT, and moved the recommendation in the report. Mr Fox seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the recommendation from Development Committee in relation to a substitute Director to be appointed to authorise documentation during the winding up of the Shetland Development Trust; and, and the subsequent action taken by the Chief Executive to implement that recommendation.

(Mr T Smith and Dr Wills returned to the meeting).

03/15

Chair's Report – Development Committee – 14 January 2015
Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan – Supplementary Guidance

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Development Committee (SIC-0218-DV06-F) which presented the Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) for adoption as Supplementary Guidance (SG) to the Local Development Plan (LDP).

Mr T Smith introduced the report, and moved that the Council approve the recommendation. Mr Fox seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the SIMSP as Supplementary Guidance and notify Scottish Government of its intention.

04/15

Chair's Report – Education and Families Committee – 20 January 2015
Strategy for Secondary Education in Shetland – Amendment to Statutory Consultation Timeline

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Education and Families Committee (SIC-0218-CS04-F) which sought agreement to a number of recommendations relating to ceasing statutory consultations on proposed school closures, a revised timeline for planned statutory consultations, and the waiving of Hall of Residence fees and associated transport costs. (An updated report had been circulated to Members, as part of the Addendum).

In presenting the report, Ms Wishart advised that the decision of the Committee had been unanimous, and she moved the recommendation to the Council. Mr G Smith seconded.

Dr J Wills advised that he would be presenting an amendment to the motion, but he first had a number of questions he wished to raise. During the discussion, the Director of Children's Services, the Executive Manager – Quality Improvement and the Executive Manager – Schools responded to questions from Members, and the Council noted the following:

- The budget for 2014/15 for statutory consultation work is £87,000.

- The estimated cost to restart consultations on the closure of secondary departments after 2017 would be £113,000 per year.
- Should it be agreed not to proceed with school closures, the effect on the Anderson High School (AHS) and other schools in terms of resources would be an overall reduction in operating costs of £70,000 split across all primary and secondary schools. Looking beyond 2015/16 a further reduction of approximately £40,000 p.a. would be required.
- By closing Baltasound Junior High, Aith Junior High and Sandwick Junior High, a net annual savings of £2m would be achieved.
- Since work commenced on the Blueprint for Education a total of £666,000 has been spent on the consultations.
- There are no inequalities across the secondary departments, however not all subjects are taught in all schools.
- The reduction in operating costs across the schools Directorate for 2016/17, being a proportion of the savings in the Medium Term Financial Plan, is £727,000, and work has commenced to look at the impact across all school provision.
- Any additional costs resulting from the proposal to waive the transport fees from June 2015 for pupils from Secondary 3 will be found from within the Schools Service budget.
- Other Local Authorities in Scotland have given consideration to proposals to reduce the school week in order to achieve salary savings. However Highland Council has been the only Local Authority to proceed to reduce the school week for P1 to P3 pupils. This proposal and others will be explored in order to make savings locally, and progress will be reported to Members.
- To date, approximately £6m has been spent on proposals to build the new Anderson High School.
- The reduction of subject choices in secondary schools, as one of the alternatives to school closures, is being looked at as part of the Shetland Learning Partnership project. The conclusions on the project will be reported in June.
- At Brae High school, the current S5 roll is 24, the S6 roll is 15, and cost per pupil across the whole secondary department is £9,288 per year.
- All service areas across Children's Services have been asked to find a 2% reduction in their budgets, and discussions have commenced on the implications across all service areas.
- For the Schools Quality Improvement Service, the savings to be achieved in 2016/17 is £727,000. By 2020 the total savings to be achieved within the Service is £2.5m.
- In regard to allocating the reduction in operating costs across the Schools Service, it was advised that this will be undertaken per nursery, primary and

secondary pupil. Factors such as the cost of exams, hire of hall costs, travel costs and licence fees will be taken into account, resulting in a proposed reduction in budget per school. It was advised that both smaller and larger schools will be impacted, and that discussions are still to take place with Head Teachers.

- At Baltasound Junior High School, there are currently 22 pupils in secondary education, and the cost per pupil is £26,016 per year.

The Convener thanked the Head of Children's Services and her team for their responses to the questions, and for the work they have done over the years.

Dr Wills outlined his amendment to the motion, as follow:

"2.1 That the council RESOLVES:

1. To cease the current statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Mid Yell Junior High School Secondary Department and the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only at Mid Yell Junior High School Secondary Department, and not to publish a consultation report;
2. To cease the current statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Whalsay School Secondary Department and the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only at Whalsay School Secondary Department, and not to publish a consultation report;
3. To commence statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Baltasound Junior High School Secondary Department or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, in August 2015;
4. To commence statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Aith Junior High School Secondary Department or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, in October 2015;
5. To commence statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Sandwick Junior High School Secondary Department or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, in October 2015.

2.2 That the council AGREES that the Hall of Residence fees and transport fees should be waived from June 2015 for pupils from S3, in order to maintain the integrity of the Strategy for Secondary Education and to facilitate the Shetland Learning Partnership."

The Team Leader – Legal advised that Dr Wills' proposal to cease consultation in respect of Mid Yell Junior High and Whalsay School would be a major change to the Blueprint for Education.

The Convener adjourned the meeting at 10.35am in order to take further advice.

The meeting reconvened at 10.50am.

The Convener advised that the amendment as proposed was competent.

Mr Ratter seconded the amendment.

In speaking in support of the motion, Ms Wishart made reference to the discussion at the recent Policy Forum, and at Education and Families Committee, where the advice from officers is to call a halt to the consultations for changes to the

secondary school estate in Shetland. She said that it is also important that Members have more time to digest the changes and implications of how education is to be delivered. She added that with the uncertainty on the 2016 settlement, there could be a need to restart the consultations sooner than 2017. She advised again on the majority view at Committee that the consultations should cease for the time being, and asked for Members support for her motion.

In speaking in support of the amendment, Dr Wills said that no one wants to close schools unless it is necessary, however he stated that it is necessary, and in some cases inevitable to close schools. He said that in Shetland there are seven secondary schools for a population of 22000, which could ordinarily be taught at two secondary schools, rather than seven. He stated that Shetland is not ordinary, as Shetland's geography would make it difficult to have the pupils in two schools, however there is surely no need for the seven schools, and that two thirds of secondary pupils in Shetland are taught at the Anderson High School. He said that the Council is here to take decisions in the interest of the whole of Shetland, and that he has taken Mid Yell Junior High and Symbister Junior High right out of the mix. Dr Wills said that the Council has a balanced book this year, but it will be harder moving forward with cuts in funding in the future. During this address, Dr Wills advised on the need to provide the best education with equal opportunities at the best value possible, and that in the interest of all pupils in Shetland, if we put it off again, we will subject pupils, staff and parents to indecision and community strife. He said that closing Mid Yell and Whalsay Secondaries would make no sense whatsoever until there are tunnels in place, but these schools could be reduced to 3 year secondaries in the future. He said that the consultations should proceed at Baltasound Junior High, Aith Junior High and Sandwick Junior High, where closures may provide educational and financial benefits. Mr Ratter said that he supported the proposal to proceed with the consultations and try to rationalise the school estate.

In speaking in support of the motion, Mr G Smith said that the last two years of consultations have been overwhelmingly opposed by communities, pupils and staff, and that the constant message back is that the Council has not made any educational case for change but that it is all about saving money. During his address, Mr G Smith said that the development of the Shetland Learning Partnership is a positive, and that external funding is being sought to support the SLP. He said that the new AHS is the most exciting and important project in the history of education in Shetland. He advised on the sustainable position in 2015/16 but that efficiency savings of 2% have to be achieved from 2016/17, which is entirely consistent with the Medium Term Financial Plan. In concluding, Mr G Smith said that he has confidence that an agreeable way forward can be achieved, through supporting the motion as presented in the report.

After summing up, voting took place by a show of hands, and the result was as follows:

Amendment (Dr J Wills)	3
Motion (Ms V Wishart)	16
Abstention (Mr A Wishart)	1

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED:-**

- To cease the current statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Mid Yell Junior High School Secondary Department, or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, does not proceed to publish a consultation report, and that this consultation is carried out in full again at a future date to be agreed;
- To cease the current statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Whalsay School Secondary Department, or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, does not proceed to publish a consultation report, and that this consultation is carried out in full again at a future date to be agreed;
- Not to commence statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Baltasound Junior High School Secondary Department or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, in August 2015, and that this consultation is postponed and starts at a future date to be agreed;
- Not to commence statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Aith Junior High School Secondary Department or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, in October 2015, and that this consultation is postponed and starts at a future date to be agreed;
- Not to commence statutory consultation on the options of the proposed closure of Sandwick Junior High School Secondary Department or the discontinuation of Secondary 4 education only, in October 2015, and that this consultation is postponed and starts at a future date to be agreed.
- To agree that the Director of Children's Services come forward in 2017 or later with a revised timeline for these planned statutory consultations.
- Agree that the Hall of Residence fees and transport fees should be waived from June 2015 for pupils from S3, in order to maintain the integrity of the Strategy for Secondary Education and to facilitate the Shetland Learning Partnership.

05/15

Chair's Report – Education and Families Committee – 20 January 2015
Secondary School Comparison Project

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Education and Families Committee (SIC-0218-CS01-F) which presented the findings and recommendations of the School Comparison Project and sought approval to explore further each of the recommendations.

The Council adopted the recommendations from the Committee on the motion of Ms Wishart, seconded by Mr G Smith.

Mr Sandison commented that he had found the report as presented to Committee to be extremely informative in regard to comparisons with other Local Authorities and on the areas for further work.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to:-

- Note the content of the Secondary School Comparison Project Report.
- Agree that the five recommendations detailed below are further explored.

Recommendation 1: Set out clear priorities and actions at local authority level for improving further on Shetland's very strong overall attainment record in line with Audit Scotland's 2014 '*School education*' recommendations.

Recommendation 2: Carry out a review of promoted posts and management structures in Shetland's school estate.

Recommendation 3: Carry out a further review of secondary teaching posts with a view to identifying further opportunities to share teaching staff.

Recommendation 4: Review other aspects of secondary provision to make secondary education more efficient and sustainable, including:

- Examining the scale of subjects to choose from in all our schools as part of personalisation and choice in Secondary 3 and for qualifications from Secondary 4 to Secondary 6;
- The organisation of classes, including possible composites in Secondary 1 and 2 in junior high settings where pupil numbers allow, clarity on viable class-sizes in general and consider the delivery of Higher and Advanced Higher courses in the same class in Brae High School;
- The use of ICT to support online and distance learning where appropriate;
- The opportunity for young people to move to other schools to access subjects as part of their learning programmes by looking at removing transport costs and hostel fees for pupils from Secondary 3;
- Examine further the cost per pupil and pupil/teacher ratios in all of Shetland's secondary schools / departments.

Recommendation 5: Review the local authority's approaches to quality assurance in schools as part of a wider review of Children's Services, Schools and Quality Improvement Staffing.

- Agree that the Director of Children's Services will appoint a Lead Officer to take forward each of the five recommendations.
- Agree that further reports on each of the recommendations will be presented to Education and Families Committee by September 2015.

06/15

Chair's Report – Education and Families Committee – 20 January 2015
Integrated Children's Services Plan 2014-2017

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Education and Families Committee (SIC-0218-CS05-F) which presented Shetland's Integrated Children's Services Plan, developed by the Integrated Children and Young People's Strategic Planning Group (ICYPSPG) and supported by extensive engagement through the Children's Forum, who will take forward delivery and service improvement.

Ms Wishart introduced the report, and moved that the Council adopt the recommendation from Committee. Mr G Smith seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Integrated Children's Services Plan 2014-2017, including the priorities and action plan to be monitored and managed by the Education and Families Committee.

07/15

Chair's Report – Policy and Resources Committee – 9 February 2015
Health and Social Care Integration – Update Report

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Policy and Resources Committee (SIC-0218-CRP02-F) which presented information regarding the development of the Integration Scheme and Strategic (Commissioning) Plan 2015-2018 as part of the Health and Social Care Integration Transition Programme established to implement the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 in Shetland.

Mr Robinson introduced the report, and moved that the Council adopt the recommendations from Committee. Mr C Smith seconded.

Mr Robinson invited Mr C Smith to provide the Council with an update from the recent meeting of the Health Board. Mr C Smith reported that the Integration Scheme had been approved by the Health Board with a further suggested change to the wording regarding the AHP (Allied Health Profession) services included in the Integration Scheme. Mr C Smith added that there had also been some discussion among colleagues in the Health Board in regard to the proposal that the term of duty for the Chair and Vice-Chair would be for a period of 3 years, where it was considered that a period of 2 years may be of more benefit to the Board. In that regard, he advised that a request has been received from the Chair of the Health Board that the Council consider a change to the Integration Scheme whereby the Chair and Vice-Chair roles would rotate every 2 years.

Following a brief discussion, the Council agreed to support the recommendation that the Chair and Vice-Chair rotate every 3 years and agreed that the revised wording with regard to AHP services be included in the Integration Scheme.

Mr C Smith went on to advise that the decision taken today allows the Integration Scheme to be submitted to the Scottish Government within the timescale required. On behalf of the Council, Mr Smith commended the hard work and dedication to this project by the Council's Director of Corporate Services and the Director of Public Health, NHS. Members concurred.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee, namely to adopt the Integration Scheme and Strategic Plan, and in line with the recommendation of Policy and Resources Committee in regard to the further consultation responses received, that the Council further **RESOLVED** to adopt the following additions and changes to the Integration Scheme:

- That one staff representative of the Council and one staff representative of the Health Board are added to the list of co-opted non-voting members on the Integrated Joint Board (IJB).

- That the first Chair of the IJB will be from the Council and the Vice-Chair will be from the Health Board; that the initial term of office for the Chair and Vice-Chair will be from the establishment of the IJB up to 31 March 2017; and, that the Chair and Vice-Chair roles will rotate every 3 years thereafter.
- That the detail including job titles is removed from the section on Support for Strategic Planning and Corporate Services Support and that the detail is included in the Supplementary Documentation to the Integration Scheme.
- That the revised wording agreed by the NHS Clinical Governance Committee with regard to Clinical and Care Governance should be included in the Integration Scheme and that the detail of these arrangements will be in the Supplementary Documentation.
- That subject to any subsequent change to the budget allocation from Scottish Government, the budget allocation for the IJB will be agreed by the Parties by the end of the calendar year prior to each new financial year due to start the following April; and
- That the entry regarding Allied Health Professionals should be changed to include the list of services specified by the Executive Manager – Occupational Therapy with the additional wording agreed by the NHS Board.

08/15

Chair's Report – Policy and Resources Committee – 9 February 2015
Shetland Islands Health and Social Care Partnership 2015: Chief Financial Officer

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Policy and Resources Committee (SIC-0218-CRP-01-F) which presented proposals to include the role of Chief Financial Officer of the body corporate in an existing post within the Health Board.

Mr Robinson introduced the report, and moved that the Council support the recommendation from Committee. Mr Fox seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee, namely to support the proposals in the report.

09/15

Chair's Report – Policy and Resources Committee – 9 February 2015
SDS Implementation Update

The Council considered a report by the Chair of Policy and Resources Committee (SIC-0218-CC02-F) which provided information in relation to progress since implementation of the Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, and sought approval for a Self-Directed Support Policy.

Mr Robinson introduced the report, and moved that the Council support the recommendation from Committee. Mr Fox seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee, namely to approve the Self-Directed Support Policy.

Shetland Health and Social Care Partnership (SH&SCP) 2015**Integration Joint Board (IJB) Membership, Roles and Responsibilities**

The Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate Services (CRP-04-15-F) which set out the current position with regard to the decisions already taken by Shetland Islands Council (the Council), Shetland NHS Board (the Health Board) and their proper committees; the Council's Social Services Committee and the Community Health Partnership (CHP) Committee, with regard to the IJB and the further decisions that are required to:

- 1) Complete the Integration Scheme for Shetland's Health and Social Care Partnership body corporate model of integration for formal submission by the Parties (the Council and the Health Board) to the Scottish Government for approval; and
- 2) Appoint a Member of the Council from among those already nominated to be the Council's members of the IJB with voting rights to be the Chair/Vice-Chair of the IJB when it is established.

The Director of Corporate Services introduced the report.

Mr Robinson moved that the Council approve recommendations 2.1 and 2.2. In regard to recommendation 2.3, Mr Robinson nominated Mr C Smith for Chair of the Integration Joint Board; where he went on to advise on the tremendous amount of work and commitment that Mr C Smith has put into the project to date. Mr Campbell seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to:-

- APPROVE the proposal that the first chair of the IJB will be from the Council;
- AGREE that the first term of office for the chair will be from the establishment of the IJB through to 31 March 2017 and that at that time the role of Chair will pass to the NHS. Thereafter the rotation of Chair and Vice-Chair will be in accordance with the terms set out in the final approved Integration Scheme for the SH&SCP; and
- APPOINT Mr C Smith to be the Chair/Vice-Chair of the IJB when it is established.

(Dr Wills left the meeting).

In order to avoid the disclosure of exempt information, Mr Bell moved, Mr C Smith seconded, and the Council RESOLVED to exclude the public in terms of the relevant legislation during consideration of the following items of business.

(Mr Burgess left the Chamber)

Councillor Appointments to External Organisations

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Governance and Law which informed of the process officers intend to follow in a review of Councillor appointments to external organisations. In addition, a particular issue concerning

appointments to the Shetland Fisheries Training Centre Trust (NAFC Marine Centre) would be considered.

The Executive Manager – Governance and Law summarised the main terms of the report. Members noted the proposed date for reporting from the review of Councillor appointments to external organisations to Council on 13 May 2015.

In response to a suggestion from Mr Stout, it was confirmed that the Shetland Partnership Board would be included as a consultee during the Review of external organisations.

During the discussion, and in response to comments, the Executive Manager – Governance and Law confirmed that the Review will include information from other Local Authorities on their approach towards Councillor appointments to external organisations.

Mr Robinson moved that the Council approve recommendation 2.1.1 as it stands. In regard to recommendation, 2.1.2, he moved that the Council instruct the Chief Executive to respond to the Shetland Fisheries Training Centre Trust that Councillors are not appointed to the remaining vacancies until the review commissioned by this report has been completed, and appointments for Councillors to attend meetings as observers are not made at this time. Mr C Smith seconded.

Decision:

The Council:-

- **NOTED** the planned method and timescale for a review of all Council appointments to external organisations; and
- Considered the request from the Shetland Fisheries Training Centre Trust, and **RESOLVED** to instruct the Chief Executive to respond in accordance with the decision of the Council that Councillors are not appointed to the remaining vacancies until the review commissioned by this report has been completed, and that appointments for Councillors to attend meetings as observers are not made at this time.

(Mr T Smith left the meeting).

(Mr Burgess returned to the meeting).

(Mr Bell, Ms Manson, Mr Ratter, Mr Henderson, Ms Westlake and Mr Duncan left the meeting. Mr C Smith took the Chair).

12/15

Acquisition of Property

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Capital Programme.

(Mr T Smith returned to the meeting).

The Executive Manager – Capital Programme summarised the main terms of the report.

During the discussion, the Executive Managers – Governance and Law, Capital Programme and Finance, and the Chief Executive, responded to questions and

comments from Members. It was confirmed that the full business case will be completed by August 2015, and reported to Council prior to the budget setting exercise.

Following discussion, Mr Robinson moved that the Council approve the recommendations in the report. Ms Westlake seconded.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to instruct the Executive Manager – Capital Programme:-

- To explore heads of terms with the body concerned, with a view to carrying out an options appraisal of the matters described in section 3.0 of this report;
- To carry out due diligence and information sharing between both parties as required; and
- To bring a further report detailing the business case for the various options and a recommendation to the Council for final approval.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve a budget to enable appropriate specialist and/or professional advice to be sought in relation to the options appraisal process.

The meeting closed at 12.40pm

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Convener