

**Shetland Islands Council
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Wednesday 19 August 2015 at 2.00 pm**

Present:

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

Apologies

D Sandison	A Westlake
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In Attendance (Officers):

C Ferguson, Director of Corporate Services
J Riise, Executive Manager – Governance and Law
R Sinclair, Executive Manager – Capital Programme
H Tait, Team Leader - Accountancy
B Kerr, Communications Officer
L Gair, Committee Officer

Chair:

Mr M Bell, Convener of the Council, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

None

48/15 Shetland Islands Council Overall Management Accounts 2015/16: Projected Outturn at Quarter 1

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Finance (F-034-F), which enabled the monitoring of all Council services to ensure that Members were aware of the forecast income and expenditure and the impact that this will have with regard to delivering the approved budget.

The Team Leader – Finance introduced the report and in responding to a question, relating to the projected outturn draw on reserves of £11.290m, she explained that the figure included approved carry forwards but reassured Members that the expected draw from reserves would be less than the £10m limit previously agreed. A Member requested that future reporting of the outturn position be set out more clearly.

Decision:

The Council **RESOLVED** to review the Management Accounts showing the projected outturn position at Quarter 1.

49/15

Progress Report – Asset Investment Plan

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Capital Programme (CPS-15-15-F), which advised of progress on the projects contained within the AIP.

The Executive Manager – Capital Programme introduced the report and in response to a query regarding the budget figure provided for the Town Hall Project he confirmed that the Council's decision was to focus on the Town Hall repairs first and a budget figure of £1.68m was agreed. He went on to explain that the figure of £2.028m provided included carryforward amounts separately agreed. Following some discussion and requests for further clarification on this budget, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme said that he would provide an explanation by email to Members.

The Executive Manager – Capital Programme also confirmed that work continued on identifying external funding and a change of listing for the building was still being sought.

A Member referred to discussions at a seminar on this matter and the suggestions of a potential public appeal. He said that if such an appeal were pursued it may encourage external funders to contribute where community commitment is demonstrated. The Convener advised that a meeting of the Town Hall Consultative Committee was scheduled for Monday 24 August where these matters would be discussed further.

In response to further questions, Members were advised that the Primary School Refurbishments and Ferry Terminal works were on target in line with the budget and programme.

A Member expressed disappointment that there was no reference to bridges and in particular in Cullivoe where someone almost lost their life. The Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that this did not feature in the plan but if brought forward such a project would be prioritised through the gateway process.

In response to a concern raised on the increase in budget for the Leaside conversion, the Executive Manager – Capital Programme advised that there was an increase in projected budget due to changes made by Housing Service. He advised that this budget would be presented through the gateway process in October and which point Members could approve or reject the project. A Member said that it was important that all construction projects are priced by a building professional.

Decision:

The Council noted the progress on the projects within the AIP.

50/15

Council Business Programme 2015/16

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Governance and Law (GL-35-15-F), which informed of the planned business to be presented to Council

for the financial year to 31 March 2016 and sought discussion with Officers regarding any changes or additions required to that Programme.

The Executive Manager – Governance and Law introduced the report and explained the timescale for submitting a final response on the Boundary Commission Review. He stated that he would identify a date for a Special Meeting of the Council close to the end of the 12 week consultation period so that any comments submitted by other respondents could be taken into account by the Council in the course of making its own response. He added that the Association for Shetland Community Councils would ensure that Community Councils are engaged in this process.

The Executive Manager – Governance and Law explained how he would progress the review of appointments to external organisations stating that he could meet with Members individually, if they wished an appointment, which would be arranged this week with his Personal Assistant. That should then enable the business to be presented to the next ordinary meeting of the Council and the business programme would be updated.

On the motion of Mr Cooper seconded by Mr C Smith the Council approved the recommendation contained in the report.

Decision:

The Council considered its planned business for the financial year to 31 March 2016 and **RESOLVED** to approve any changes or additions to the Business Programme.

The meeting concluded at 2.25pm.

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Convener