

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee

Wednesday, 02 October 2019

Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

PRESENT

Councillor George Alexander, Councillor Frank Brown, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Tim Eagle, Councillor Ryan Edwards, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Louise Laing, Councillor Graham Leadbitter, Councillor Aaron McLean, Councillor Shona Morrison

APOLOGIES

Councillor John Cowe, Councillor Lorna Creswell, Councillor Sonya Warren

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive; the Chief Financial Officer; the Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance; Mrs F Garrow, Joint Acting Head of HR and ICT; Mr P McDonald, Joint Acting Head of HR and ICT; the Asset Management Coordinator and Mrs C Howie, Committee Services Officer as clerk to the meeting.

1 Chair of Meeting

The meeting was Chaired by Councillor Aaron McLean.

2 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests *

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor Alexander declared an interest in Item 4 'Community Asset Transfer Request (2015 Act) Forres Town Hall'. Thereafter the meeting noted there were no declarations from Group Leaders or Spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any other declarations of Member's Interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

3 Order of Business

The Chair undertook to take Item 4 'Community Asset Transfer Request (2015 Act) Forres Town Hall' prior to Item 3 'Corporate Services Service Plans 2019-20' due to the meeting starting later than scheduled and several members of the public being in attendance to hear the item.

4 Community Asset Transfer Request (2015 Act) Forres Town Hall

Having declared an interest in this item Councillor Alexander left the meeting at this juncture taking no part in the discussion or decision.

Under reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 11 April 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) invited the Committee to consider a community asset transfer request made under Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for the transfer of ownership of Forres Town Hall.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i. approve the request to transfer ownership of Forres Town Hall to Forres Area Community Trust subject to the terms and conditions set out in section 5 of the report;
- ii. authorise the Legal Services Manager to apply to Elgin Sheriff Court for consent to sell the property to Forres Area Community Trust; and
- iii. note that, if the request is approved and unless otherwise agreed with the trust, it will have 6 months from the date of the decision notice to submit a formal offer to purchase the property from the Council, failing which the agreement will have no further effect and the asset transfer process will come to an end.

Councillor Alexander re-joined the meeting at this juncture.

5 Corporate Services Service Plans 2019-20

A report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) invited the Committee to consider the Corporate Services Department Service Plans for 2019-20.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the Service Plans within the Corporate Services department.