

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting of the Communities Committee

Tuesday, 02 April 2019

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

PRESENT

Ms Jane Bartecki, Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor Gordon Cowie, Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor Ryan Edwards, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Louise Laing, Mrs May McGarrie, Councillor Aaron McLean, Councillor Ray McLean, Councillor Ron Shepherd

APOLOGIES

Ms Anna Bamforth, Councillor Lorna Creswell, Councillor Maria McLean, Councillor Derek Ross, Councillor Sonya Warren

IN ATTENDANCE

The Acting Head of Housing and Property; the Acting Housing Strategy and Development Manager; the Asset Manager; the Building Services Manager; the Business Manager; the Transformation Officer; Emma Armit, Senior Housing Officer (Policy) and Daska Murray, Senior Housing Officer (Information).

1 Chair of Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Laing.

2 Staffing Changes

The Chair advised that Mr Richard Anderson is currently on secondment on the Property Asset Management Assessment and welcomed Mr Graeme Davidson who has taken on the role of Acting Head of Housing and Property. She is of the opinion he will be more than capable of carrying out the role.

The Chair further advised that Ms Fiona Geddes had been appointed to the role of Acting Housing Strategy and Development Manager to cover the role vacated by Mr Davidson.

The Committee joined the Chair in welcoming both to their new roles.

3 Moray Citizens Advice Bureau Update

The Chair advised that on 1 April 2019 the Moray Citizens Advice Bureau introduced a new service to help people make a claim for Universal Credit. She advised the service offers advice and support for claimants completing their initial application through to receiving their first payment.

4 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests *

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, 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 declaration of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

5 Resolution

The meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business appearing at the relevant paragraphs of this minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Paragraph Number of Minute	Paragraph Number of Schedule 7A and reason
15	6 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person(s)
15, 16 and 17	9 Information on terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the Authority.

6 Minute of Meeting of 5 February 2019

The minute of the meeting of the Communities Committee dated 5 February 2019 was submitted and approved.

7 Written Questions **

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

8 Local Housing Strategy 2019-24

Under reference to paragraph 12 of the Minute of the meeting dated 5 February 2019 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) provided Committee with the results of the public consultation on the Consultative Draft Local Housing Strategy 2019-2024.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i. note the results of the public consultation carried out from 6 February to 15 March 2019; and
- ii. approve the Local Housing Strategy 2019 - 2024 for publication and implementation.

9 Tenant Participation Strategy 2017-20

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting dated 7 March 2017 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) informed the Committee of the main findings of the 2018 Tenant Survey.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note:

- i. to note the progress made on the Tenant Participation Strategy Action Plan during 2018/19; and
- ii. that a further report on the progress will be presented to Committee next year.

10 Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 Part 2 - Consultation Outcome Report

Under reference to paragraphs 7 and 11 of the minute of the meeting dated 20 November 2018 and paragraph 11 of the draft minute of the meeting dated 5 February 2019 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) provided Committee with the results of the consultation on proposed changes to the Neighbour Nuisance and Antisocial Behaviour Policy, the Short Scottish Secure Tenancy (SSST) Policy and the Evictions Policy and presented the three revised policies for approval.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- i. to note the results of the public consultation on the Neighbour Nuisance and Antisocial Behaviour Policy, the SSST Policy and the Evictions Policy as set out in section 4 and appendix I of the report;
- ii. to approve the revised Neighbour Nuisance and Antisocial Behaviour Policy as set out in appendix II of the report;
- iii. to approve the revised SST Policy as set out in appendix III of the report;
- iv. to approve the revised Evictions Policy as set out in appendix IV of the report; and
- v. that the implementation date for all three policies will be 1 May 2019.

11 Council New Build Housing Progress

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting dated 25 September 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) provided Committee with an update on progress with the Council's new build housing programme.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- i. to note progress on the Council's new build housing programme;
- ii. note progress on the Bilbohall masterplan proposals;

- iii. that officers can progress the procurement of technical consultants to advance the delivery of the Bilbohall masterplan proposals, with details of any proposed appointment being presented to this Committee for approval; and
- iv. that further reports on programme progress will be presented to this Committee.

12 Tenant Survey 2018

Under reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the meeting dated 14 February 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) informed Committee of the main findings of the 2018 Tenant Survey.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note:

- i. the main findings of the Tenant Survey 2018; and
- ii. that an improvement action plan in response to the Tenant Survey 2018 will be presented to this Committee on 27 August 2019.

13 Housing and Property Services Budget Monitoring - 31 January 2019

Under reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the meeting dated 14 February 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) presented the budget monitoring for the Housing Revenue Account and General Services Other Housing Budget for the period to 31 January 2019 and following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

14 Housing Investment 2018-19

A report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) informed Committee of the budget position to 31 January 2019 for the Housing Investment Programme for 2018/19 and following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

15 Proposed Housing Investment Budget 2019-20

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting dated 30 March 2005 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) presented the proposed Housing Investment Plan for 2019/20.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the proposed Housing Investment Plan for 2019/20 as contained in appendix I of the report.

16 Question Time ***

The Committee noted that no questions were raised.

17 Common Housing Register Update

The Acting Head of Housing and Property provide Committee with a verbal update on the Common Housing Register and advised a detailed report would be provided at a future meeting.

18 Council New Build Phase 7 - Report on Contract Price [Paras 6 & 9]

Under reference to paragraph 15 of the Minute of the meeting dated 26 June 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) presented an evaluation of the tender received for the Council New Build Programme Phase 7 project at Elgin South Glassgreen.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- i. to accept the tender received from Springfield Properties plc for Elgin South Glassgreen; and
- ii. that progress on the delivery of the Council's new build programme will be presented at future Committees.

19 Building Services Trading Operation Budget 2018/19 - Budget Monitoring [Para 9]

Under reference to paragraph 18 of the Minute of the meeting dated 26 June 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) presented the budget monitoring information for the period to 31 January 2019 for the Building Services Trading Operation.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the:

- i. financial information for the period to 31 January 2019, as detailed in appendix I of the report;
- ii. revised year end forecasts to 31 March 2019 as detailed in appendix I of the report; and
- iii. Building Services operating performance and the Business Plan 2017-2020 update as set out in sections 6 and 7 of the report.

20 Building Services Trading Operation Budget 2019/20 [Para 9]

Under reference to paragraph 18 of the Minute of the meeting dated 26 June 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) presented the Building Services Trading Operation Budget for 2019/20 for approval.

Following consideration the Committee agreed the:

- i. proposed Building Services Trading Operation Budget for 2019/20, as detailed in appendix I of the report;

- ii. services development proposals at a cost of £24k as detailed at paragraph 6.1 of the report; and
- iii. 2019/20 Business Plan priorities highlighted in appendix II of the report.