

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting of the Communities Committee

Tuesday, 05 February 2019

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

PRESENT

Ms Anna Bamforth, Ms Jane Bartecki, Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor Gordon Cowie, Councillor Lorna Creswell, Councillor Ryan Edwards, Councillor Louise Laing, Councillor Aaron McLean, Councillor Ray McLean, Councillor Derek Ross, Councillor Ron Shepherd, Councillor Sonya Warren

APOLOGIES

Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor Donald Gatt, Mrs May McGarrie, Councillor Maria McLean

IN ATTENDANCE

The Head of Housing and Property; the Housing Strategy and Development Manager; the Asset Manager; the Building Services Manager; Fiona Geddes, Senior Housing Officer Strategy; Emma Armit, Senior Housing Officer Policy and Mrs Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

1 Chair of Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Laing.

2 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 declarations of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

3 Exempt Information

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 No. of Minute **Paragraph No. of Schedule 7A**

4 Minute of Meeting of 20 November 2018

The minute of the meeting of the Communities Committee dated 20 November 2018 was submitted and approved.

5 Written Questions **

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

6 Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2019-24

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting dated 17 October 2017 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) sought approval of the Council's draft Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2019-24.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- i. to note that the draft SHIP was submitted to the Scottish Government in October 2018, in accordance with SHIP Guidance; and
- ii. that further progress reports on the SHIP would be presented to the Committee as required.

7 Housing Investment 2018-19

A report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) informed Committee of the budget position to 30 November 2018 for the Housing Investment Programme for 2018/19 and following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

8 Housing and Property Services Budget Monitoring - 30 November 2018

Under reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the Council 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 30 November 2018 and following consideration the Committee agreed to note the report.

9 Allocations Policy Review 2019

Under reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting dated 20 November 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) provided Committee with the results of the Allocations Policy review consultation and presented a revised Allocations Policy for approval.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- i. to note the results of the public consultation on the Allocations Policy as set out in Section 4 and Appendix A of the report;
- ii. approve the revised Allocations Policy as set out in Appendix B of the report; and
- iii. that the revised Allocations Policy will be implemented on 1 May 2019.

Councillor Aaron McLean joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

10 Housing and Property Services - Service Improvement Plan 2018-19

A report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) provided the Committee with a progress report on the Housing and Property Service Improvement Plan 2018/19 to 31 December 2018.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the progress that has been achieved in relation to the Housing and Property Service Improvement Plan for 2108/19, as set out in Appendix I of the report.

11 Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 Part 2 - Progress Report

Under reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting dated 20 November 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) provided the Committee with an update on the commencement of the outstanding provisions of Part 2 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 and identified the legislative changes required to the Council's Neighbour Nuisance and Antisocial Behaviour Policy, short Scottish Secure Tenancy (SSST) Policy and Eviction Policy prior to public consultation.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i. approve the revisions made to the Neighbour Nuisance and Antisocial Behaviour Policy, SSST Policy and Evictions Policy which reflect the legislative changes required by Part 2 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014;
- ii. the Service consulting with service users, tenants and other key stakeholders as set out in Section 7 of the report; and
- iii. note that a progress report on the consultation feedback with final draft policies will be presented to the next Committee on 2 April 2019 for approval.

12 Consultative Draft Local Housing Strategy 2019-24

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting dated 1 May 2018 a report by the Corporate Director (Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure) advised the Committee on the progress made in the development of the Council's next Local Housing Strategy (LHS) covering the period 2019-24.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i. a period of public consultation on the full consultative draft LHS from 6 February to 15 March 2019; and
- ii. note that the final LHS will be presented to the Committee on 2 April 2019, for agreement, prior to publication.

13 Question Time ***

In response to a question from Councillor Ross the Head of Housing and Property advised an article would be placed in the Tenants Voice to raise awareness of litter. He further advised he did not have the remit to make decisions in regard to litter and undertook to discuss the issue with both the Head of Direct Services and the Head of Development Services.

14 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 30 November 2018 for the Building Services Trading Operation.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the:

- i. financial information for the period to 30 November 2018, as detailed in Appendix I of the report;
- ii. revised year end forecast 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 & 7 of the report.