

Minute of Meeting Glasgow & the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority Joint Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 12 September 2016	11:15	Clydeplan Offices, Lower Ground Floor, 125 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 2SA

PRESENT

Councillor Dempsey (East Dunbartonshire Council); McCaskill (East Renfrewshire Council); B Brown (Renfrewshire Council); Dunsmuir (South Lanarkshire Council); and O'Neill (West Dunbartonshire Council)

Councillor O'Neill, Vice Convener, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

D McDonald, Assistant Strategic Development Plan Manager (Strategic Development Plan Core Team); J Nicol, Senior Planner (East Renfrewshire Council); A Laurence, Team Leader – Land Planning Policy (East Dunbartonshire Council); F Barron, Head of Planning & Building Control (Glasgow City Council); L Bowden, Business Manager (Strategic Planning) (North Lanarkshire Council); V Howie, Finance Business Partner, S Marklow, Assistant Manager – Policy, E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer and K Brown, Committee Services Officer (all Renfrewshire Council); G Cameron, Planning and Building Standards Manager HQ (South Lanarkshire Council); and A Williamson, Team Leader – Forward Planning (West Dunbartonshire Council).

APOLOGIES

Councillor Moir (East Dunbartonshire Council); Redmond and Scanlon (both Glasgow City Council); Wilson (Inverclyde Council); and Provost McAllister (West Dunbartonshire Council).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 MINUTES

There was submitted the Note of the inquorate meeting of the Joint Committee held on 13 June 2016.

There was also submitted the Minute of the reconvened meeting of the Joint Committee held on 20 June 2016. It was noted that Councillor O'Neill (West Dunbartonshire Council) should have been included in the apologies and that the minute should be amended accordingly.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Note of the inquorate meeting be noted; and

(b) That the Minute of the meeting held on 20 June 2016, as amended, be approved.

2 CLYDEPLAN UPDATE

There was submitted an update report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager relative to the status of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) Examination, the Review of Planning in Scotland, the 2015/16 Planning Performance Framework which had been submitted to the Scottish Government and the Improvement Service prior to the 29 July 2016 deadline and the lease of the Clydeplan premises.

The report intimated that the Scottish Ministers had appointed Mr David Liddell BA (Hons) MRTPI on 15 June 2016 to carry out the examination of the Proposed SDP. On 1 July 2016 the Reporter concluded his examination of conformity with the Clydeplan's Participation Statement with the examination formally commencing on 14 July 2016. However, on 15 July 2016 Clydeplan were advised that due to other casework the Reporter appointed to undertake the Examination anticipated that it would be late August before he was in a position to commence examination of the Plan. On 4 August 2016 the Directorate of Environmental and Planning Appeals (DEPA) advised that an additional Reporter Michael Cunliffe BSc (Hons) MSc MCIWEM had been appointed to assist with the examination. An estimate of costs for the examination was requested from the DEPA and the Reporter had indicated an initial estimate of 90 days Reporters work and five days admin work at 50% of Local Development Plan cost rates. This cost could be met from Clydeplan's current earmarked balances.

The report advised that the current lease of the Clydeplan premises expired on 16 October 2016 and the SDP Manager in conjunction with Renfrewshire Council's Property Services had been examining options. At this time there was no suitable alternative option which would be available in time for the current lease end, hence there was a need to continue with the current lease. In the context of the ongoing review of the planning system in Scotland, and to allow flexibility should Scottish Futures Trust or any other public body identify a future suitable public sector relocation option in Glasgow, a three year term on the existing terms with a tenant only break option was considered to be the most suitable arrangement. This allowed the proposed extended lease to be terminated without penalty one year after the date of the commencement of the lease extension period, rather than remaining under lease for the full three years.

In September 2015, an independent panel was appointed by Scottish Ministers to review the Scottish planning system and the report of the panel “Empowering Planning to Deliver Great Places” was published on 31 May 2016. The report detailed the main recommendations of the panel’s report and summarised the Scottish Government response which was published on 11 July 2016. The intention was that the Scottish Government would consult fully on a White Paper in Autumn/Winter 2016 to enable a Planning Bill to be brought forward in 2017. The four SDP Managers had made early contact with the Scottish Government with regard to working closely with them during consideration of the review recommendations and had attended a joint working session with the Scottish Government in attendance to consider in detail the potential implications and issues arising from the review recommendations. The SDP Manager had written to the Minister for Local Government and Housing in this context. The Vice-Chair proposed that the Local Authorities should also consider writing to the Scottish Government to support the position of the SDP Manager. This was agreed.

The report highlighted that Clydeplan had been invited to participate in workshops on Development Planning and Housing on the 12 and 13 of September 2016. It was proposed that following the workshops the Strategic Development Plan Manager issue a briefing to all Joint Committee members regarding the outcome of the meetings. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the update on the SDP Examination and the submission of the 2015/16 Planning Performance Framework be noted;

(b) That it be agreed that in the context of the review of the planning system and the recognition of the importance of city regions to the Scottish economy that the SDP Manager continue to make the case for the retention of the SDP in the Development Plan system in Scotland;

(c) That it be agreed to extend the lease of the Clydeplan offices for a period of three years with a break option at year one and to request that Renfrewshire Council finalise the lease negotiations;

(d) That it be agreed that Local Authorities should consider writing to the Scottish Government to support the position of the SDP Manager; and

(e) That it be agreed that the SDP Manager would issue a briefing to all Joint Committee meeting regarding the outcome of the Development Planning and Housing workshops.

3 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a joint report by the Treasurer and Strategic Development Plan Manager for the period 1 April to 19 August 2016.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

4 **CORPORATE PURCHASING CARD EXPENDITURE**

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on 20 June 2016, there was submitted a report detailing the list of expenses incurred through corporate procurement card payment by type and employee for the period 1 April to 19 August 2016.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

5 **AUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

There was submitted a joint report by the Treasurer and Strategic Development Plan Manager relative to the audited annual accounts 2015/16 for the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority Joint Committee and included the report by Audit Scotland.

The report intimated that the Audit Certificate provided an unqualified opinion that the abstract of the accounts presented a true and fair view of the financial position of the Joint Committee as at 31 March 2016, in accordance with the accounting policies detailed in the accounts. A report on the 2015/16 audit by Audit Scotland was also submitted. There were no matters arising from the audit which required specific reporting to the members.

The report highlighted that following the introduction of the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014 the audited accounts must be approved for signature by the Joint Committee no later than 30 September each year. Following approval the audited accounts would be submitted to the Strategic Development Plan Manager, the Convener and the Treasurer for signing.

DECIDED:

(a) That the audited accounts be approved for signature; and

(b) That the report by Audit Scotland be noted.

6 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

DECIDED: That it be noted that the next meeting of the Joint Committee would be held on 12 December 2016 at the offices of South Lanarkshire Council