

Minute of Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 30 June 2022	09:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Adam, Councillor Fiona Airlie-Nicolson, Councillor Alison Ann-Dowling, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Graeme Clark, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Chris Gilmour, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Gillian Graham, Councillor Neill Graham, Councillor John Gray, Councillor Anne Hannigan, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes, Councillor Robert Innes, Councillor Alec Leishman, Councillor Bruce MacFarlane, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Janis McDonald, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor David McGonigle, Councillor Jamie McGuire, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor Iain McMillan, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Sam Mullin, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Ben Smith, Councillor Andy Steel

In Attendance

A Russell, Chief Executive; S Quinn, Director of Children's Services; M Crearie, Director of Communities & Housing Services; G McNeil, Director of Environment & Infrastructure; A MacArthur, Director of Finance & Resources; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning, L Mahon, Head of Marketing & Communications, A Morrison, Head of Economy & Development Services, B Walker, Programme Director – City Deal and Infrastructure and C Orr, Senior Communications Officer (all Chief Executive's); J Trainer, Head of Childcare & Criminal Justice (Children's Services); C Dalrymple, Communities & Regulatory Manager (Communities & Housing Services); M Conaghan, Head of Corporate Governance, Christine McCourt, Head of Finance, P Murray, Head of Digital, Transformation and Customer Services, D Low, Democratic Services Manager, E Gray and C MacDonald, both Senior Committee Services Officers, J Barron, Assistant Committee Services Officer, G Dickie, Partnering & Commissioning Manager and D Head and J Whitehead, both End User Technicians (all Finance & Resources); F Naylor, Head of Finance & Corporate Services (Renfrewshire Leisure Limited); C Lavery, Chief Officer (Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership); and M Ferris, Audit Manager (Audit Scotland).

Chair

Provost Cameron, Convener, presided.

Webcasting of Council Meeting

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Provost Cameron intimated that this meeting would be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site.

Declarations of Interest

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

Transparency Statements

Councillor Clark indicated that he had a connection to item 16 - Notice of Motion 10 by Councillors MacFarlane and Innes - by reason of a family connection to Create Paisley, a group which had received funds from Celebrating Renfrewshire. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Mullin indicated that he had a connection to item 9 - Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan - by reason of being a member of the management committee for Bargarran Community Centre and the Old Farm House. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor McMillan indicated that he had a connection to item 9 - Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan - by reason of being a member of the Hall Committee for Thorn Athletic Sports Academy. However, he indicated that he had applied the objective test and did not consider he had an interest to declare and intimated that it was his intention to remain in the meeting and to take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

1 Minutes of Meetings of Council, Boards and Panels (attached separately)

There were submitted the Minutes of the following meetings of the Council, Boards and Panels on the dates specified:

Communities and Housing Policy Board, 7 June 2022
Placing Requests and Exclusions Appeals Panel, 8 June 2022
Regulatory Functions Board, 8 June 2022
Planning and Climate Change Policy Board, 8 June 2022
Education and Children's Services Policy Board, 9 June 2022
Placing Requests and Exclusions Appeals Panel, 9 June 2022
Audit, Risk and Scrutiny Board, 13 June 2022
Economy and Regeneration Policy Board, 14 June 2022
Planning and Climate Change Policy Board, 14 June 2022
Infrastructure Land and Environment Policy Board, 15 June 2022
Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, 15 June 2022
Leadership Board, 22 June 2022
Appointments Board, 23 June 2022
Local Review Body, 28 June 2022

DECIDED: That the Minutes be approved.

2 **Provost's Update**

The Provost provided a verbal update relative the the duties she had undertaken since her appointment at the Statutory Council meeting on 19 May 2022.

This provided details on meetings with the Operational Events Manager to discuss future events which will be hosted by the Council; promoting the activities of local charities and the Provost's charitable endeavours; and work with the Communications team around how to promote the civic role and the role of the Council via social media.

Information was provided on the recent events attended by the Provost and Depute Provost including a discussion around the climate emergency and the Council's position on this; the John Burns "A Big Adventure" exhibition; the lighting of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee beacon at Paisley Abbey; the Armed Forces Day flag raising event and service at Paisley Abbey and Hawkhead Cemetery where a wreath was laid; visits to Mossvale Community Church to discuss their Clothed in Love project, East Fulton PS to celebrate two retiring members of staff, one after 47 years of teaching at the school and Station 7 in Johnstone to view the renovation work carried out by Active Communities; and a number of Civic Hospitality Events.

DECIDED: That the updated be noted.

3 **Financial Sustainability and General Fund Financial Outlook**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Council's financial outlook.

The report outlined that the Council's financial outlook was subject to increasing risk over the short and medium term as the Council continued to support both community and organisational recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; however the financial position in the current financial year remained stable.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the update provided in the report with regards the Scottish Government's Resource Spending Review, including measures related to public service reform be noted;
- (b) That the update to the Council's medium term financial strategy, the financial gap the Council was facing over the medium term and the increasingly heightened financial risk environment the Council was facing in the shorter term be noted;
- (c) That the range of financial sustainability workstreams as set out in the report be approved;
- (d) That a report be submitted to a meeting of the Council or relevant Policy Board following the summer recess outlining the savings potential from the workstreams set out in the report and implementation options; and
- (e) That the capital programme update be noted; and the the revisions to the capital plan as outlined in section 7 be agreed.

4 Treasury Management Annual Report 2021/22

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the treasury management activity which was required, by way of the Local Government Investments (Scotland) Regulations 2010, to be presented to Council at the end of each financial year.

The report intimated that during 2021/22 all aspects of the Treasury Policy Statement were complied with and provided an overview of Treasury activities, including the Treasury Portfolio Position as at 31 March 2022, reviews of borrowing and investment outturn, the borrowing strategy and new borrowing. Details of debt rescheduling and compliance with Treasury limits were also provided.

DECIDED: That the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2021/22 be approved.

5 Unaudited Annual Accounts 2021/22

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the Council's Accounts and Group Accounts for 2021/22 which were submitted for audit by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2022.

The unaudited accounts and associated working papers would, subject to approval, be passed to the external auditor (Audit Scotland) for review. Their report on the accounts would be submitted to a future meeting of the Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board for consideration prior to the audited accounts being presented to Council for approval.

The Annual Governance Statement had been incorporated into the annual accounts document and this also required specific approval by Council.

In compliance with charity accounting requirements, the Council's accounts did not incorporate statements relating to Common Good Funds and the Charitable Trust Funds which the Council controlled. Separate accounts had been prepared to meet these requirements.

DECIDED:

- (a) That, subject to audit, the Renfrewshire Council Annual Accounts for 2021/22 be approved;
- (b) That the Director of Finance & Resources be authorised to submit the accounts to external audit within the relevant timescales;
- (c) That the annual governance statement for 2021/22 be approved;
- (d) That the revenue outturn position for the Council be noted and the sums earmarked within the General Fund reserves and HRA reserves, as outlined in section 3.5 and Appendix 1 of the report, be approved;
- (e) That the transfer of resources outlined in Table 1 and Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- (f) That, subject to audit, the annual accounts for the Renfrew, Paisley and Johnstone Common Good Funds and the Coats Observatory Trust Fund, which under accounting regulations required to be separately prepared and audited from the Council's accounts, be approved.

6 Governance Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to the governance arrangements for the Council.

At the Statutory Council meeting held on 19 May 2022 member appointments to boards were approved, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report. The report outlined a number of vacancies which required to be filled along with a summary of the nominations which had been received. A list of the members appointed to outside bodies was set out at Appendix 2 to the report and a timetable of board meetings to December 2022 was attached at Appendix 3. It was also agreed at the Statutory Council meeting that a sub-committee of the Leadership Board be established. The proposed membership of the Fairer Renfrewshire Sub-committee was detailed in the report and the proposed remit set out at Appendix 4. Elected member remuneration for Senior Councillors had also been agreed at the statutory meeting. The report advised that the administration subsequently proposed a revised structure of payments reducing the number of Senior Councillors by one, and revising amounts paid to Senior Councillors accordingly. The revised proposal was set out at Appendix 5. The report also provided an update on arrangements for Board and Council meetings going forward considering the current position on public health measures and guidance in place to combat Covid-19 and amendments to the Scheme of Delegated Functions.

Provost Cameron, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, moved that the composition of the Provost's Community Awards – Judging Panel be increased to seven members and that Councillors Doig, Hannigan and McEwan be appointed. This was agreed unanimously.

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Ann Dowling, moved the following member appointments:

- (i) Joint Consultative Board Non Teaching - Councillors Mullin and Gilmour
- (ii) Cultural Recovery and Renewal Panel - Councillor Ann-Dowling
- (iii) The Fairer Renfrewshire Sub-Committee of the Leadership Board - Councillor Clark
- (iv) Investment Review Board - Councillor Ann-Dowling to replace Councillor Clark

This was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the membership of the Boards as approved at the meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2022 and the appointment of the other members as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be noted;
- (b) That the appointment of members of the Boards and other bodies set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report be agreed;
- (c) That the appointment of Councillor Nicolson and Councillor Jacqueline Cameron as member and substitute member to the Glasgow City Region Cabinet be approved;
- (d) That the appointment of Councillor Montgomery as the Depute Convener of the Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board be noted;
- (e) That the appointments to Joint Boards and other bodies as approved at the meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2022 and the other members as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report be noted;
- (f) That the updated timetable of meetings from August to December 2022 attached as Appendix 3 to the report be agreed and that it be further agreed that a timetable of meetings to December 2024 be submitted to the meeting of Council to be held on 29 September 2022;
- (g) That the composition of the Provost's Community Awards – Judging Panel be increased to seven members and that Councillors Doig, Hannigan and McEwan be appointed; and
- (h) That (i) Councillors Mullin and Gilmour be appointed to the Joint Consultative Board Non Teaching; (ii) Councillor Ann-Dowling be appointed to the Cultural Recovery and Renewal Panel; (iii) Councillor Clark be appointed to the Fairer Renfrewshire Sub-Committee of the Leadership Board; and (iv) that Councillor Ann-Dowling be appointed to the Investment Review board to replace Councillor Clark.

7 **Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors Ann-Dowling and G Graham**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Ann-Dowling and G Graham in the following terms:

"Threat to Renfrewshire Public Services

Renfrewshire is facing a real-time threat to its public services. In light of the Scottish Government Spending Review revealing a £3.5bn hole in the SNP's spending plans, it's clear that the people of Renfrewshire have been let down and could be facing years of SNP-led austerity.

After more than a decade of real terms cuts, increasing pressure on core council services and the workforce who deliver the services, the SNP/Green Government has put our quality of life at risk with the potential of substantial job losses of vital workers and an eight percent cash cut across local government.

Council notes that the Resource Spending Review covers the years 2023-24 to 2026-27. It is not a Budget and final spending plans will be presented to the Scottish Parliament in respective annual Budgets.

Therefore, Council agrees to write to Kate Forbes, the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy to demand that non-essential Scottish government spending included in the Resource Spending Review forecast be re-allocated and made available to the council grant settlement fund. Examples include the £20m indyref2, and £370m recently allocated for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture portfolio."

Councillor Ann-Dowling, seconded by Councillor G Graham, then moved the motion.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, moved as an amendment that the motion be deleted and replaced with the following:

"Council is fully aware of the financial pressures facing local government and the potential programme of work required to ensure Renfrewshire Council remains a well-run and financially stable organisation as highlighted in the Financial Sustainability and General Fund Financial Outlook report. Council recognises the ongoing work of CoSLA to continue to press the case for increased financial resources and flexibility for local government to continue to meet the needs of our communities.

This Council is elected on the principles of democracy and hard-won universal suffrage, which includes many people who gave their lives for the right to vote. This Council deplores the clear intent of the movers of the motion to suppress and undermine a democratic plebiscite by attacking resources required for the people of Scotland to express its will. By winning the Scottish election pro Independence parties obtained a clear mandate to deliver on a manifesto commitment to hold an Independence Referendum. Council agrees that democracy must be protected and defended from those forces from whatever quarters that want to weaken and limit its operation for narrow political purposes."

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Burns, J Cameron, Provost Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughton, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Ann-Dowling, Clark, Davidson, Devine, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, N Graham, Gray, Hood, Leishman, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McDonald, McGonigle, McGuire, McMillan, Montgomery, Mullin and Smith.

The following member abstained: Councillor Hannigan.

22 members having voted for the amendment, 20 members having voted for the motion and one member having abstained, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED:

That Council is fully aware of the financial pressures facing local government and the potential programme of work required to ensure Renfrewshire Council remains a well-run and financially stable organisation as highlighted in the Financial Sustainability and General Fund Financial Outlook report. Council recognises the ongoing work of CoSLA to continue to press the case for increased financial resources and flexibility for local government to continue to meet the needs of our communities.

That this Council is elected on the principles of democracy and hard-won universal suffrage, which includes many people who gave their lives for the right to vote. This Council deplores the clear intent of the movers of the motion to suppress and undermine a democratic plebiscite by attacking resources required for the people of Scotland to express its will. By winning the Scottish election pro Independence parties obtained a clear mandate to deliver on a manifesto commitment to hold an Independence Referendum. Council agrees that democracy must be protected and defended from those forces from whatever quarters that want to weaken and limit its operation for narrow political purposes.

8 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors G Graham and Smith

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors G Graham and Smith in the following terms:

"Cuts to Renfrewshire Attainment Challenge Funding

This Council is appalled by the Scottish Government's planned cuts to the Council's allocation of Scottish Attainment funding.

The Scottish Attainment fund is a targeted fund which aims to support educational services to address the poverty-related attainment gap. As one of 9 targeted authorities for Scottish Attainment funding, Renfrewshire has made steady progress in improving the outcomes for learners and narrowing the gap, despite the exceptional circumstances of the last 2 years.

In 21/22 Renfrewshire was allocated £4.5 million. However, the Scottish Government has decided to cut the funding by 71%. This means Renfrewshire will lose out on £3.2 million over the next four years.

These SNP cuts are entirely unacceptable and will damage the learning outcomes for many of our school pupils, which our hard-working teachers and educational staff work so hard to improve.

In its report of December 2021 Scottish Government published data on literacy and numeracy levels which confirmed that the attainment gap between primary pupils from the most and least deprived areas of Scotland has widened. While national Attainment figures have reduced overall, those pupils from the poorest areas of Scotland have seen the biggest decrease. The timing of these cuts is therefore astonishing, as the Council's Educational Services strives to recover from the impact of covid. It is clear from performance statistics that more, not less, funding is required to sustain progress in narrowing the poverty related attainment gap.

The SNP Government states that tackling inequity in order that every child can succeed in school and gain life skills is at the heart of its agenda. These cuts to Renfrewshire's Attainment funding fly in the face of this.

Given the above, this Council rejects the proposed Scottish Attainment fund cuts and calls upon the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition to sign a joint letter to the Scottish Government to this affect, requesting a meeting with the relevant ministers to discuss the impact this reduction in funding will have on educational services in Renfrewshire."

Councillor G Graham, seconded by Councillor Smith, then moved the motion.

Councillor Rodden, seconded by Councillor Paterson, moved as an amendment that the motion be deleted and replaced with the following:

"Council recognises the cumulative progress made both nationally and here in Renfrewshire, to tackle the attainment gap for our nursery and school pupils. We offer our sincere thanks to the teachers, support staff and officers for their phenomenal efforts and innovative methods which have supported our children to achieve their full potential, no matter their background or family's financial situation. We acknowledge that this has been particularly challenging within the landscape of a global pandemic and remote learning over the last two years.

Council's Chief Officers were fully aware that the additional funding provided to Challenge authorities, was of a temporary nature and so ensured that all approaches and interventions were sustainable and built capacity into the system so that programmes would not always require similar levels of funding. Renfrewshire Council now has a wealth of knowledge and experience in utilising attainment challenge funding, the benefits of which cannot be overstated.

Council finally commends our amazing young people, who have worked so hard in difficult circumstances and are reaching positive destinations at a higher rate than ever before, upon completion of their education in Renfrewshire."

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Audrey Doig, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughton, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Ann-Dowling, Clark, Davidson, Devine, Andy Doig, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, N Graham, Gray, Hannigan, Hood, Leishman, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McDonald, McGonigle, McGuire, McMillan, Montgomery, Mullin and Smith.

21 members having voted for the amendment and 22 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED:

That this Council is appalled by the Scottish Government's planned cuts to the Council's allocation of Scottish Attainment funding.

The Scottish Attainment fund is a targeted fund which aims to support educational services to address the poverty-related attainment gap. As one of 9 targeted authorities for Scottish Attainment funding, Renfrewshire has made steady progress in improving the outcomes for learners and narrowing the gap, despite the exceptional circumstances of the last 2 years.

In 21/22 Renfrewshire was allocated £4.5 million. However, the Scottish Government has decided to cut the funding by 71%. This means Renfrewshire will lose out on £3.2 million over the next four years.

These SNP cuts are entirely unacceptable and will damage the learning outcomes for many of our school pupils, which our hard-working teachers and educational staff work so hard to improve.

In its report of December 2021 Scottish Government published data on literacy and numeracy levels which confirmed that the attainment gap between primary pupils from the most and least deprived areas of Scotland has widened. While national Attainment figures have reduced overall, those pupils from the poorest areas of Scotland have seen the biggest decrease. The timing of these cuts is therefore astonishing, as the Council's Educational Services strives to recover from the impact of covid. It is clear from performance statistics that more, not less, funding is required to sustain progress in narrowing the poverty related attainment gap.

The SNP Government states that tackling inequity in order that every child can succeed in school and gain life skills is at the heart of its agenda. These cuts to Renfrewshire's Attainment funding fly in the face of this.

Given the above, this Council rejects the proposed Scottish Attainment fund cuts and calls upon the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition to sign a joint letter to the Scottish Government to this affect, requesting a meeting with the relevant ministers to discuss the impact this reduction in funding will have on educational services in Renfrewshire.

9 **Notice of Motion 3 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan in the following terms:

"Cyber connectivity for Renfrewshire's Villages and Community Halls

Council appreciates the importance of cyber connectivity for all of Renfrewshire's towns, villages, and housing schemes, both from a social inclusion, leisure, and business perspective. Thus allowing equal access to a wide range of social, leisure, and employment opportunities for our residents.

Council accordingly advocates the installation of Wi-Fi for all Renfrewshire Council owned village and community halls, to be undertaken on a agreed rolling programme over a specified budgetary period".

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Hannigan, then moved the motion.

Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Airlie-Nicolson, moved as an amendment that paragraph two of the motion be replaced with:

"Council notes the work already underway to put in place a new Wifi framework allowing site surveys to be commissioned which would determine the costs and projected timelines of the intended provision of Wifi across the Council owned Community Hall estate."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept the amendment to the motion, and the motion, as amended, was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

That Council appreciates the importance of cyber connectivity for all of Renfrewshire's towns, villages, and housing schemes, both from a social inclusion, leisure, and business perspective. Thus allowing equal access to a wide range of social, leisure, and employment opportunities for our residents.

Council notes the work already underway to put in place a new Wifi framework allowing site surveys to be commissioned which would determine the costs and projected timelines of the intended provision of Wifi across the Council owned Community Hall estate.

10 **Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan in the following terms:

"Lead Piping in Public and Private Housing in Renfrewshire

Council notes with concern the presence of lead piping in the fresh water supply to some council and private housing in the Braehead area of Lochwinnoch. Council resolves, given the known public health risks this poses to public health, to initiate an investigation into the risk of lead piping across Renfrewshire and to refer the matter to the Audit, Risk, and Scrutiny Board. Such an investigation to have a wide-ranging remit to consult public health authorities, all relevant utilities, and other interested parties, with a view to eradicating this risk to public health”.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Hannigan, then moved the motion.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor J Cameron, moved as an amendment:

“Council notes with concern the presence of lead piping in the fresh water supply to some council and private housing an example being the Braehead area of Lochwinnoch. Council resolves, given the known risks this poses to public health that the issue of lead piping in domestic water supplies be referred to the Audit and Scrutiny board for review and consideration and report back to the council on its findings.”

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept the amendment and the motion, as amended, was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED:

Council notes with concern the presence of lead piping in the fresh water supply to some council and private housing an example being the Braehead area of Lochwinnoch. Council resolves, given the known risks this poses to public health that the issue of lead piping in domestic water supplies be referred to the Audit and Scrutiny board for review and consideration and report back to the council on its findings.

11 Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan in the following terms:

"Kilbarchan Pipe Band

Council sends its heartfelt congratulations to Kilbarchan Pipe Band for winning the Grade 4B Category in the recent UK Pipe Band Championships, their first major championship win since the Band reformed just over twenty years ago. Council further wishes them every success at the World Pipe Band Championships later this year.

Council recognises the local renaissance in recent years in traditional Scottish music, culture, and the arts, across Renfrewshire, and looks forward to this trend developing following the return of the National Mod to Paisley in 2023”.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Hannigan, then moved the motion.

Councillor G Graham, seconded by Councillor Gilmour, moved as an amendment that "and European" be added following "UK".

Councillor Shaw, seconded by Councillor Airlie-Nicolson, moved as a second amendment that "British" be added following "recent".

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Andy Doig and Hannigan, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept both amendments as additions to the motion, and the motion, as amended, was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council sends its heartfelt congratulations to Kilbarchan Pipe Band for winning the Grade 4B Category in the recent British, UK and European Pipe Band Championships, their first major championship wins since the Band reformed just over twenty years ago. Council further wishes them every success at the World Pipe Band Championships later this year.

Council recognises the local renaissance in recent years in traditional Scottish music, culture, and the arts, across Renfrewshire, and looks forward to this trend developing following the return of the National Mod to Paisley in 2023.

12 **Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors Innes and Steel**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Innes and Steel in the following terms:

“Active Travel For Linwood Community Between Linwood and Phoenix Retail Park

Council notes that there is a lack of connectivity, active travel routes and accessibility for pedestrians walking or wheeling between Linwood and the Phoenix Retail Park.

Further that council will explore options to implement safer access for people travelling between Linwood and the Phoenix Retail park.”

Councillor Innes, seconded by Councillor Steel, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council notes that there is a lack of connectivity, active travel routes and accessibility for pedestrians walking or wheeling between Linwood and the Phoenix Retail Park.

Further that Council will explore options to implement safer access for people travelling between Linwood and the Phoenix Retail park.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11.25 a.m. and reconvened at 11.40 a.m.

13 **Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors Innes and Campbell**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Innes and Campbell in the following terms:

“Scottish Independence

Council recognises the results of the 2022 local government election delivered a majority of pro Scottish independence councillors in Renfrewshire.

Further, that council welcomes a referendum on Scotland's independence in the first half of the Scottish Parliament term 2021 - 2026.”

Councillor Innes, seconded by Councillor Campbell, then moved the motion.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor Steel, moved the following addition to the motion as an amendment:

"Council recognises that support for either independence, or the union, is not co-terminous with supporting any one political party, and believes that the strength of the independence movement at the next independence referendum will be in its diversity, as was the case in 2014."

Councillor McMillan, seconded by Councillor Davidson, moved as a second amendment that:

"Council notes that in the recent council elections more people voted for parties that support the union than for parties that don't.

Also that council agrees that a future divisive referendum is not the priority of the people of Renfrewshire. Furthermore council agrees that Councillors in Renfrewshire should be getting on with the job of protecting and improving services here in Renfrewshire."

Councillor N Graham, seconded by Councillor Leishman, moved as a third amendment that:

"Council recognises constitutional affairs are fully within the remit of the UK Government and calls upon all councillors regardless of party to work together in the common interests of our constituents on matters relevant to local government."

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors Innes and Campbell, being the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to accept the first amendment as an addition to the motion and the motion, as amended, became the substantive motion.

In terms of Standing Order 27, Councillors McMillan and Davidson, being the mover and seconder of the second amendment agreed to accept the third amendment as an addition to the second amendment which became the amendment.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Ann-Dowling, Clark, Davidson, Devine, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, N Graham, Gray, Hood, Leishman, J MacLaren, McDonald, McGonigle, McGuire, McMillan, Montgomery, Mullin and Smith.

The following members voted for the substantive motion: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughton, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

The following members abstained: Councillors Hannigan and McCulloch.

19 members having voted for the amendment as amended, 22 members having voted for the substantive motion and two members having abstained, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Council recognises the results of the 2022 local government election delivered a majority of pro Scottish independence councillors in Renfrewshire.

Further, that council welcomes a referendum on Scotland's independence in the first half of the Scottish Parliament term 2021 – 2026.

Council recognises that support for either independence, or the union, is not co-terminous with supporting any one political party, and believes that the strength of the independence movement at the next independence referendum will be in its diversity, as was the case in 2014.

Sederunt

Councillor McCulloch left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

14 Notice of Motion 8 by Councillors Ann-Dowling and Audrey Doig

There was submitted a motion by Councillors Ann-Dowling and Audrey Doig in the following terms:

“Renfrewshire Water Safety

In memory of all those who have lost their lives in Renfrewshire waterways, Council commends the work of the Renfrewshire Water Safety Working Group in developing a comprehensive water safety strategy for Renfrewshire waterways. The Renfrewshire Water Safety Working Group was formed in response to the tragic loss of Linwood High School pupil William McNally. William passed away on June 5 last year after getting into trouble in the water at the Clay Pits, part of the River Gryffe, while swimming with friends.

Water safety measures include new GPS signs at potentially dangerous areas along the River Gryffe, that make it easier for people to tell emergency services exactly where they are so they can respond as quickly as possible. The GPS signage also includes a life buoy, a throw-line rope and a reminder that people shouldn't swim in the river.

An educational safety video to raise awareness of the dangers of open water swimming has also been produced. Council pays tribute and sincere thanks to the family of William McNally for their participation in the safety video.”

Councillor Ann-Dowling, seconded by Councillor Audrey Doig, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: That in memory of all those who have lost their lives in Renfrewshire waterways, Council commends the work of the Renfrewshire Water Safety Working Group in developing a comprehensive water safety strategy for Renfrewshire waterways. The Renfrewshire Water Safety Working Group was formed in response to the tragic loss of Linwood High School pupil William McNally. William passed away on June 5 last year after getting into trouble in the water at the Clay Pits, part of the River Gryffe, while swimming with friends.

Water safety measures include new GPS signs at potentially dangerous areas along the River Gryffe, that make it easier for people to tell emergency services exactly where they are so they can respond as quickly as possible. The GPS signage also includes a life buoy, a throw-line rope and a reminder that people shouldn't swim in the river.

An educational safety video to raise awareness of the dangers of open water swimming has also been produced. Council pays tribute and sincere thanks to the family of William McNally for their participation in the safety video.

15 **Notice of Motion 9 by Councillors N Graham and Leishman**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors N Graham and Leishman in the following terms:

"Congratulations Motion

That this Council congratulates Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee; expresses its gratitude for Her Majesty's exceptional public service and dedication to duty over 70 years; affirms the deep respect that is held for Her Majesty in Scotland, and sends good wishes for her continued service."

Councillor N Graham, seconded by Councillor Leishman, then moved the motion.

Councillor Paterson, seconded by Councillor MacFarlane, then moved as an amendment that:

"That this Council congratulates Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee; expresses its gratitude for Her Majesty's exceptional public service and dedication to duty over 70 years; affirms the deep respect that is held for Her Majesty in Scotland, and sends good wishes for her continued service.

Recognises that having an unelected Head of State makes the United Kingdom an outlier amongst modern democracies and agrees that a referendum should be held on having an elected Head of State at the end of the current monarch's reign."

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam, Airlie-Nicolson, Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Hughes, Innes, MacFarlane, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughton, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Ann-Dowling, Clark, Davidson, Devine, Gilmour, Grady, G Graham, N Graham, Gray, Hannigan, Hood, Leishman, J MacLaren, McCulloch, McDonald, McGonigle, McGuire, McMillan, Mullin and Smith.

22 members having voted for the amendment and 20 members having voted for the motion, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Council congratulates Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee; expresses its gratitude for Her Majesty's exceptional public service and dedication to duty over 70 years; affirms the deep respect that is held for Her Majesty in Scotland, and sends good wishes for her continued service.

Council recognises that having an unelected Head of State makes the United Kingdom an outlier amongst modern democracies and agrees that a referendum should be held on having an elected Head of State at the end of the current monarch's reign.

16 **Notice of Motion 10 by Councillors MacFarlane and Innes**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors MacFarlane and Innes in the following terms:

"Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund:

Council recognises the effort and success in Renfrewshire in facilitating participatory budgeting for young people through the Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund.

That council will continue to work with young people going forward to remove barriers to all of Renfrewshire's young people participating in local initiatives and actively encourage and explore options for more youth engagement and collaboration with Renfrewshire Council and the democratic and decision making process."

Councillor MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Innes, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council recognises the effort and success in Renfrewshire in facilitating participatory budgeting for young people through the Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund.

That council will continue to work with young people going forward to remove barriers to all of Renfrewshire's young people participating in local initiatives and actively encourage and explore options for more youth engagement and collaboration with Renfrewshire Council and the democratic and decision making process.