

Minute of Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 28 April 2016	09:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

PRESENT

Councillors Bibby, B Brown, M Brown, Caldwell, E Devine, M Devine, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Gilmour, Glen, Grady, Provost Hall, Councillors Harte, Henry, Holmes, Kelly, Lawson, Mack, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Macmillan, McCartin, McEwan, McGee, McGurk, I McMillan, McQuade, Mullin, Murrin, Mylet, Nicolson, Noon, Perrie, J Sharkey, M Sharkey and Williams.

CHAIR

Provost Hall presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

S Black, Chief Executive; P Macleod, Director of Children's Services; S MacDougall, Director of Community Resources; M Crearie, Director of Development & Housing Services; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; D Leese, Chief Officer (Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); D Gillies, Head of Facilities Management (Community Resources), F Carlin, Head of Planning & Housing Services (Development & Housing Services); and K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, J Lynch, Head of Property Services, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager and D Low, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

APOLOGIES

Councillors Cameron, Clark, Hood and J MacLaren.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Provost Hall extended the best wishes of all members to Councillor Cameron and her family following her grandson's serious accident.

1 MINUTES OF COUNCIL, BOARDS AND PANELS

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

Houston, Crosslee, Riverside & Erskine Local Area Committee, 24 February 2016
Council, 25 February 2016
Council, 3 March 2016
Social Work, Health and Well-being Policy Board, 8 March 2016
Regulatory Functions Board, 9 March 2016
Education & Children Policy Board, 10 March 2016
Housing & Community Safety Board, 15 March 2016
Planning & Property Policy Board, 15 March 2016
Environment Policy Board, 16 March 2016
Finance & Resources Policy Board, 16 March 2016
Audit, Scrutiny & Petitions Board, 21 March 2016
Economy & Jobs Policy Board, 23 March 2016
Leadership Board, 29 March 2016
Regulatory Functions Board, 30 March 2016
Audit, Scrutiny & Petitions Board, 25 April 2016

DECIDED: That the Minutes be approved.

2 COUNCIL MEETING ON 23 JUNE 2016

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to a proposal to change the date of the next Council meeting from 23 June to 22 June 2016 to avoid any disruption to the administration of the European Union Referendum which was also taking place on 23 June 2016.

DECIDED: That it be agreed that the date of the Council meeting set for 23 June 2016 be changed to Wednesday 22 June 2016 at 9.30am in the Council Chamber.

3 REMUNERATION OF ELECTED MEMBERS

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to remuneration arrangements for elected members.

The report advised that remuneration of elected members was in accordance with prevailing Scottish Government regulations, and that the current arrangements were approved by the Council on 17 May 2012.

The report intimated that amendments to the regulations were laid before the Scottish Parliament on 16 January 2016 and came into force on 1 April 2016. As a result of the amended regulation, an increase of 1% in councillors' remuneration had been implemented from 1 April 2016.

DECIDED:

(a) That the 1% increase in remuneration levels mandated by the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration and Severance Payments) Amendment Regulations for the Leader of the Council and elected members other than the Leader, the Provost and Senior Councillors be noted; and

(b) That the decision to apply a 1% increase from 1 April 2016 for the Provost and Senior Councillors i.e. Policy Board Conveners, the Council representative nominated as, on rotation, the Chair or Depute Chair or the senior Council spokesperson of Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership's Integration Joint Board (to be remunerated the equivalent of a Policy Board Convener), the Council representative nominated as the chair of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited's Board of Directors (to be remunerated the equivalent of a Policy Board Convener), Regulatory Board Conveners and the Leader of the Opposition, be homologated.

4 ANNUAL OVERVIEW REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PROTECTION CHIEF OFFICERS GROUP

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the Annual Overview Report of the Community Protection Chief Officers Group which outlined the key issues and achievements in 2015/16 as they related to child and adult protection, offender management, problem alcohol and drug use, gender-based violence and public protection. A copy of the Annual Overview Report formed the appendix to the report.

The report intimated that key future issues would be the implementation of the new Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, which would come into effect in August 2016, and the embedding of the extension of the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) to include other offenders who presented a serious risk of harm.

The Chief Officers Group had a critical role in ensuring links were made across community and public protection activity at operational, tactical and strategic levels. In 2015 a review had been undertaken of the strategic oversight arrangements for public protection and it had been agreed that the Chief Officers Group would report annually to parent bodies in respect of the position regarding public protection.

DECIDED:

(a) That the contents of the Annual Overview Report of the Community Protection Chief Officers Group 2015/16 be noted;

(b) That it be noted that a strategic review of the governance arrangements for public protection had been undertaken and recommendations were being implemented, subject to scrutiny by the Chief Officers Group; and

(c) That the identified issues and actions in 2016/17, as outlined in the Annual Overview Report of the Community Protection Chief Officers Group 2015/16, be noted.

5 CLYDE VALLEY RESIDUAL WASTE PROJECT - APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO POST-CONTRACT IAA AND FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO THE PROJECT AGREEMENT

Under reference to item 20 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 24 September 2015 there was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the Clyde Valley Residual Waste Project and seeking approval to enter into the Project Agreement, and other ancillary documents, by North Lanarkshire Council with Viridor Clyde Valley Limited for the treatment of residual waste for a 25-year period following a competitive dialogue procurement process and to enter into the post-contract inter-authority agreement with the other partner councils.

DECIDED:

(a) That the Chief Executive enter into the post-contract inter-authority agreement for the joint provision of residual water treatment and disposal services;

(b) That it be agreed that North Lanarkshire Council as the Lead Authority should agree such amendments to the draft project agreement and the draft parent company Guarantee as it considered necessary to achieve financial close, including any adjustments to the draft payment mechanism for foreign exchange as agreed in the financial close protocol and any adjustments required to reflect the change in TUPE costs in the first employee list;

(c) That authority be delegated to the Director of Community Resources to agree such minor amendments to the post-contract inter-authority agreement as may be required;

(d) That it be agreed that North Lanarkshire Council as the Lead Authority enter into the finalised versions of the project agreement with Viridor Clyde Valley Limited; the parent company guarantee from viridor limited; the post-contract inter-authority agreement; a certificate pursuant to the Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997 in respect of the project agreement; and any other ancillary documentation reasonably required in relation to the project; and

(e) That the final business case be approved.

6 REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FORMER ARNOTTS SITE, PAISLEY

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the redevelopment of the former Arnotts site in Paisley, a key element of the ongoing successful regeneration of Paisley town centre and the wider Renfrewshire economy.

The report sought agreement to support a buy-back clause incorporated into the sale agreement between Park Lane Developments (Renfrewshire) LLP and Link Housing Group for a portion of the undeveloped site running parallel to Smithhill Street for which plans were being progressed for the development of a further phase of mixed-tenure housing.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the significant positive progress made in the redevelopment of the former Arnotts building in Paisley town centre be noted;
- (b) That the conclusion of a sale agreement between Park Lane Developments (Renfrewshire) LLP and Link Housing Group, as part of a further planned phase of mixed-tenure housing development on a portion of the site adjacent to Smithhill Street be noted;
- (c) That it be agreed to provide the necessary support to the buy-back clause as part of the sale agreement between the LLP and Link Housing Group as outlined in paragraphs 4.5 and 4.6 of the report;
- (d) That the plans of the LLP to deliver an environmental green-space improvement project to the internal parking and courtyard area as part of completing the residential phases of the site redevelopment be noted;
- (e) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance to conclude necessary legal changes to the structure of the LLP as outlined in paragraph 5.3 of the report; and
- (f) That it be noted that reports would be provided at appropriate points in the future as master planning options were sufficiently developed for the remaining undeveloped portions of the site.

7 ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS FOR RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL OF A UK EXIT FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

Under reference to item 11 of the Minute of the meeting of the Council held on 25 February 2016, there was submitted a report by the Chief Executive relative to the financial implications for Renfrewshire Council and, where possible, the wider Renfrewshire economy of a UK exit from the European Union (EU).

The report intimated that the review, undertaken by the Improvement Service and appended to the report, had concluded that while there could be no ultimate certainty, the available evidence and analysis suggested that the balance of probability was that a UK vote to leave the EU would be economically damaging for the UK. If realised, this reduction in economic growth would reduce Government fiscal receipts and put additional pressure on public spending.

DECIDED: That the content of the report and the review paper appended to the report be noted.

8 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to appointments to outside bodies.

The report intimated that the Council was represented on a number of outside bodies and appointed members and/or officers to these. In most cases the appointments were made to named posts rather than the individual officers holding the posts. In light of the changes to the Council's decision-making and senior management structures and the re-designations of some senior officers' posts to reflect changes in responsibilities, a number of these appointments now required to be reviewed or new appointments made and these were detailed in paragraph 1.2 of the report.

DECIDED:

(a) That the changes in the designation of the officers representing the Council on the bodies referred to in paragraph 1.2 of the report be noted as follows:

Bishopton Community Development Trust (formerly Head of Planning & Development) – now Head of Planning & Housing;

Glasgow & the Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership (formerly Head of Planning & Development) – now Head of Planning & Housing;

Park Lane Arnotts Site LLP (formerly the Heads of Corporate Finance and Planning & Development) – now the Director of Finance and Resources and the Head of Planning & Housing);

Renfrewshire Leisure Limited (formerly the Head of Corporate Finance) – now Head of Finance.

Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) (formerly the Director of Education & Leisure) – SLIC has suggested that the Council withdraws representation and passes to RLL which has responsibility for the library service; and

(b) That the new appointments to the Houston Old School Trust, the McKillop Trust and the Strathclyde Pension Fund Representative Forum be approved as follows:

Houston Old School Trust (formerly the Director of Education & Leisure) – appoint the Director of Children's Services.

McKillop Trust (formerly three elected members including the Depute Convener of the Sport, Leisure & Culture Policy Board as well as the Head of Planning & Community Services) – appoint Head of Property Services and retain two elected members.

Strathclyde Pension Fund Representative Forum – designated alternate (formally Head of HR & Organisational Development) – appoint Head of Finance.

9 NOTICE OF MOTION 1

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Lawson and Mylet in the following terms:

"Council agrees to

(a) suspend standing order 28 in order to reconsider the decision of the Leadership Board of the 2nd of December 2015 in relation to the opening hours of Ralston Community Sports Centre.

(b) restore the opening hours to their previous level.

(c) delegate to the Director of Finance & Resources to make appropriate financial adjustments to enable this change to take place using existing balances if required."

MOTION TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS

Councillor Lawson, seconded by Councillor Mylet, moved in terms of Standing Order 44, that Standing Order 28 (Rescinding of Decisions) be suspended to allow the Council to consider the notice of motion by Councillors Lawson and Mylet.

On the roll being called the following members voted for the motion to suspend Standing Orders: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McCartin, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

The following members voted against the motion to suspend Standing Orders: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

16 members having voted for the motion to suspend Standing Orders and 20 members having voted against the motion to suspend Standing Orders, the necessary two-thirds of those members present and voting at the meeting was not achieved as required for the suspension of Standing Orders and accordingly the motion to suspend Standing Orders was defeated.

10 NOTICE OF MOTION 2

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors McEwan and Perrie in the following terms:

"Council agrees to,

(A) Suspend standing order 28 in order to reconsider the decision of the Leadership Board of the 2nd December, 2015, in relation to agreeing that the four recycling centres based in Renfrew, Linwood, Erskine and Johnstone be converted into self-service "bring sites", and to be supported by a small mobile staffing resource, operating during opening times.

(B) Thereafter to agree to ensure recycling sites in Renfrew, Linwood, Erskine and Johnstone are fully staffed during opening times, and at any other times required to allow for a smooth operation of all recycling centres.

(C) Delegate to the Director of Finance & Resources to make appropriate financial adjustments to enable this change to take place using existing balances if required. "

MOTION TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS

Councillor McEwan, seconded by Councillor Perrie, moved in terms of Standing Order 44, that Standing Order 28 (Rescinding of Decisions) be suspended to allow the Council to consider the notice of motion by Councillors McEwan and Perrie.

On the roll being called the following members voted for the motion to suspend Standing Orders: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McCartin, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

The following members voted against the motion to suspend Standing Orders: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

16 members having voted for the motion to suspend Standing Orders and 20 members having voted against the motion to suspend Standing Orders, the necessary two-thirds of those members present and voting at the meeting was not achieved as required for the suspension of Standing Orders and accordingly the motion to suspend Standing Orders was defeated.

11 NOTICE OF MOTION 3

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors I McMillan and Williams in the following terms:

“Renfrewshire Council supports the repealing of the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act.”

Councillor I McMillan, seconded by Councillor Williams, then moved the motion.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Lawson, moved as an amendment that Council supports the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act as ground breaking legislation from the SNP Government. Council notes that the Act was independently reviewed in June 2015 and could be the subject of further review following the Scottish Parliament elections.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Mack, Henry, M Macmillan, McCartin, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

22 members having voted for the motion and 14 members having voted for the amendment, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Renfrewshire Council supports the repealing of the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act.

12 NOTICE OF MOTION 4

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors McCartin and Mack in the following terms:

"Council agrees to suspend standing orders in order to amend the decision taken at the Council meeting of the 25th February 2016, item 14, which the Council supported with the amendment of:

"Council agrees that those income taxpayers who earn less than £20,000 should receive a rebate of £100."

"This amendment was moved by the Labour Group and, as this is no longer Labour party policy, the Labour group needs to be given the opportunity to change their support to the original motion, which had been moved by the Liberal Democrat and Independent councillors."

MOTION TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS

Councillor McCartin, seconded by Councillor Mack, moved in terms of Standing Order 44, that Standing Order 28 (Rescinding of Decisions) be suspended to allow the Council to consider the notice of motion by Councillors McCartin and Mack.

On the roll being called the following members voted for the motion to suspend Standing Orders: Councillors Mack and McCartin.

The following members voted against the motion to suspend Standing Orders: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members abstained: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

2 members having voted for the motion to suspend Standing Orders, 20 members having voted against the motion to suspend Standing Orders and 14 members having abstained, the necessary two-thirds of those members present and voting at the meeting was not achieved as required for the suspension of Standing Orders and accordingly the motion to suspend Standing Orders was defeated.

13 NOTICE OF MOTION 5

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors M Macmillan and Holmes in the following terms:

"Council notes that the £1 billion 2016-24 Clyde and Hebrides ferry services (CHFS) contract will be awarded at the end of May and that the two bidders are public sector operator CalMac and private multinational Serco.

Council welcomes the Scottish Government's increases in public investment in ferry infrastructure and services, including six new vessels for the CHFS network by 2025.

Council notes ferry expert Jeanette Findlay of Glasgow University's report for the RMT union, "Economic benefits of public sector provision on lifeline Clyde and Hebrides ferry services" which found that CalMac is an efficient operator that spreads benefits across the Scottish economy whilst Serco's profit-seeking model restricts performance to contractual minimums and would increase risk to workers, communities, passengers and the taxpayer.

The Council will write to the First Minister and the Transport Minister of the Scottish Government in support of awarding the next CHFS contract to CalMac and retaining the public sector operation of lifeline ferry services, to the benefit of the Scottish economy and society."

Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor J Sharkey, then moved the motion.

Councillor K MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Lawson, moved as an amendment that Council notes that the £1 billion 2016-24 Clyde and Hebrides ferry services (CHFS) contract will be awarded at the end of May.

Council welcomes the Scottish Government's increases in public investment in ferry infrastructure and services, including six new vessels for the CHFS network by 2025.

Council notes that the current Scottish Government inherited this situation from the previous Scottish Executive and recognises its legal obligation to meet European law on the procurement process.

The Council will write to the First Minister and Transport Minister of the Scottish Government in support of retaining the public sector operation of lifeline ferry services, to the benefit of the Scottish economy and society.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Mack, Henry, M Macmillan, McCartin, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

22 members having voted for the motion and 14 members having voted for the amendment, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Council notes that the £1 billion 2016-24 Clyde and Hebrides ferry services (CHFS) contract will be awarded at the end of May and that the two bidders are public sector operator CalMac and private multinational Serco.

Council welcomes the Scottish Government's increases in public investment in ferry infrastructure and services, including six new vessels for the CHFS network by 2025.

Council notes ferry expert Jeanette Findlay of Glasgow University's report for the RMT union, "Economic benefits of public sector provision on lifeline Clyde and Hebrides ferry services" which found that CalMac is an efficient operator that spreads benefits across the Scottish economy whilst Serco's profit-seeking model restricts performance to contractual minimums and would increase risk to workers, communities, passengers and the taxpayer.

The Council will write to the First Minister and the Transport Minister of the Scottish Government in support of awarding the next CHFS contract to CalMac and retaining the public sector operation of lifeline ferry services, to the benefit of the Scottish economy and society.

14 **NOTICE OF MOTION 6**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors M Macmillan and Holmes in the following terms:

“Renfrewshire Council recognises that the UK Government’s referendum on European Union membership could have a significant impact on the economic environment in which local government operates. As a Council, we firmly believe that the interests of people in this area, Scotland and the UK as a whole are best served by voting to Remain in the European Union”.

Councillor M MacMillan, seconded by Councillor Holmes, then moved the motion.

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor M Brown, moved as an amendment that this Council is generally supportive, but not uncritical of how the European Union currently operates, and recognises the substantial and positive case for the reform of the European Union.

In terms of Standing Order 27, the amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder of the motion and was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Renfrewshire Council recognises that the UK Government’s referendum on European Union membership could have a significant impact on the economic environment in which local government operates. As a Council, we firmly believe that the interests of people in this area, Scotland and the UK as a whole are best served by voting to Remain in the European Union.

This Council is generally supportive, but not uncritical of how the European Union currently operates, and recognises the substantial and positive case for the reform of the European Union.

15 **NOTICE OF MOTION 7**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors McCartin and Mack in the following terms:

"Council agrees to write to NHS Greater Glasgow to stress the need for mental health services to be put at the very top of the health agenda over the next five years. In particular this should focus on child and young people's mental health services, where the standards throughout all NHS areas are very varied. Council further agrees that one way of achieving better mental health services is to provide 24/7 mental health cover in 30 A&E departments across Scotland, including the RAH. It also recognises that the Scottish government needs to provide full time mental health cover in every police division in Scotland, allowing these new staff the ability to offer a rapid reaction force that would help ensure that people suffering a mental ill health crisis to get the support they need."

Councillor McCartin, seconded by Councillor Mack, then moved the motion.

Councillor McEwan, seconded by Councillor M MacLaren, moved as an amendment that Council recognises the ambition of the SNP Government's Mental Health Strategy for Scotland which increased mental health funding to over £1 billion by 2020.

Council welcomes the fact that this additional investment will improve access to psychological therapies for all ages including children and adolescents mental health services at health board level across Scotland.

In terms of Standing Order 27, the amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder of the motion and was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council agrees to write to NHS Greater Glasgow to stress the need for mental health services to be put at the very top of the health agenda over the next five years. In particular this should focus on child and young people's mental health services, where the standards throughout all NHS areas are very varied. Council further agrees that one way of achieving better mental health services is to provide 24/7 mental health cover in 30 A&E departments across Scotland, including the RAH. It also recognises that the Scottish government needs to provide full time mental health cover in every police division in Scotland, allowing these new staff the ability to offer a rapid reaction force that would help ensure that people suffering a mental ill health crisis to get the support they need.

That Council recognises the ambition of the SNP Government's Mental Health strategy for Scotland which increased mental health funding to over £1 billion by 2020.

Council welcomes the fact that this additional investment will improve access to psychological therapies for all ages including children and adolescents mental health services at health board level across Scotland.

16 NOTICE OF MOTION 8

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors McCartin and Mack which was withdrawn in terms of Standing Order 27.

DECIDED: That it be noted that the notice of motion had been withdrawn.

17 NOTICE OF MOTION 9

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors K MacLaren and M MacLaren in the following terms:

"Renfrewshire Council Customer Contact Centre

Council notes with concern the problems faced by Renfrewshire residents when attempting to use the council's customer contact centre. This includes a failure to meet the target time for answering telephone calls, long waiting lists at the contact centre and delays in the council replying to residents. This council will therefore carry out a full evaluation of the customer contact centre to assess the problems within the contact centre and develop an action plan to ensure that all residents can contact the council in a timely manner."

Councillor K MacLaren, seconded by Councillor M MacLaren, then moved the motion.

Councillor Holmes, seconded by Councillor Grady, moved as an amendment that Council recognises the increased pressure and workload on local authority services has not been serviced by a corresponding increase in grant from the Scottish Government. Council notes in the current financial year alone this grant has been cut by a further 3.4%. Council notes the resolve of this administration to protect services and jobs and to provide alternative channels for residents to access council services. Council resolves to make representation to the Scottish Government for further funding to increase the number of staff in the Customer Contact Centre and to bring forward the integration of new channels into our current systems.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McCartin, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

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

DECIDED: That Council recognises the increased pressure and workload on local authority services has not been serviced by a corresponding increase in grant from the Scottish Government. Council notes in the current financial year alone this grant has been cut by a further 3.4%. Council notes the resolve of this administration to protect services and jobs and to provide alternative channels for residents to access council services. Council resolves to make representation to the Scottish Government for further funding to increase the number of staff in the Customer Contact Centre and to bring forward the integration of new channels into our current systems.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 am and reconvened at 1.00 pm.

18 NOTICE OF MOTION 10

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors K MacLaren and Cameron, in the following terms:

"PFI Schools in Edinburgh

Council notes the safety problems regarding schools in Edinburgh funded and built via the Private Finance Initiative which was promoted by the then Labour and Lib Dem Scottish Executive and agreed by a Labour council administration; council notes that concerns have been raised regarding the safety of all public sector buildings that have been financed through this funding mechanism and calls for a thorough review of all PFI schools in Renfrewshire. Council also notes that the exorbitant Renfrewshire PFI scheme signed off by Labour will cost Renfrewshire residents £17.765 million this year alone and that the overall cost of this scheme will be £538 million for schools which were estimated to cost around £100 million."

Councillor K MacLaren, seconded by Councillor Lawson, in Councillor Cameron's absence, then moved the motion.

Councillor Henry, seconded by Councillor M Macmillan, moved as an amendment that Council notes the safety problems of schools in Edinburgh are problems of construction not funding model.

Council notes the precautionary action taken by this authority in relation to council PPP and non-PPP property, as outlined, in the recent briefing to all elected members from the Head of Property Services.

Council further notes that the current Scottish Government funding model for public infrastructure such as schools and hospitals, the Scottish Futures Trust, is itself a profit making private finance initiative model and regrets the hypocrisy of the SNP in relation to this matter.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, McCartin, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

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

DECIDED: That Council notes the safety problems of schools in Edinburgh are problems of construction not funding model.

Council notes the precautionary action taken by this authority in relation to council PPP and non-PPP property, as outlined, in the recent briefing to all elected members from the Head of Property Services.

Council further notes that the current Scottish Government funding model for public infrastructure such as schools and hospitals, the Scottish Futures Trust, is itself a profit making private finance initiative model and regrets the hypocrisy of the SNP in relation to this matter.

19 NOTICE OF MOTION 11

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

"Clyde Muirshiel Country Park and Commercial Grouseshooting

This Council recognises the recreational, tourism, and social benefits of Clyde Muirshiel Country Park to all the people of Renfrewshire, particularly as we approach Paisley's bid for City of Culture in 2021.

Council further recognises the necessity for the Park Authority to examine proposals for the development and diversification of the Park, in full consultation with the people of Renfrewshire, but opposes any move to promote commercial grouseshooting at Clyde Muirshiel."

Councillor Andy Doig, seconded by Councillor K MacLaren, then moved the motion.

Councillor Gilmour, seconded by Councillor Caldwell, moved as an amendment that Renfrewshire Council along with our partner authorities in North Ayrshire and Inverclyde are committed to maximising the environmental, educational and recreational value of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and would note that despite having to manage and operate the Park without any support from the Scottish Government, the Park continues to play a vital role in making Renfrewshire an attractive place for visitors and residents alike.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

The following member abstained: Councillor McCartin.

15 members having voted for the motion, 20 members having voted for the amendment and 1 member having abstained, the amendment was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: That Renfrewshire Council along with our partner authorities in North Ayrshire and Inverclyde are committed to maximising the environmental, educational and recreational value of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and would note that despite having to manage and operate the Park without any support from the Scottish Government, the Park continues to play a vital role in making Renfrewshire an attractive place for visitors and residents alike.

20 NOTICE OF MOTION 12

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

"Employability Funding and Jobs Boost to Renfrewshire

This Council recognizes the central role of Skills Development Scotland in creating sustainable and substantial jobs opportunities across Renfrewshire, condemns cuts of 87% from the Tory Government to employability funding in the year it is being devolved to Holyrood, and praises the SNP Government for pledging £20 million to treble employability funding from 2018 based on principles of fairness, dignity and respect."

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

Councillor Glen, seconded by Councillor M Macmillan, moved as an amendment that this Council calls on the SNP to stop manufacturing grievance and take responsibility for their failings. Council notes that the Employability Fund Programme budget was cut by 40% (2016/17) by the Scottish Government. Council calls on the Scottish Government to use the full powers devolved to it by the Scotland Act 2016 and follow the lead of this Council in tackling unemployment.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, McCartin, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

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

DECIDED: That this Council calls on the SNP to stop manufacturing grievance and take responsibility for their failings. Council notes that the Employability Fund Programme budget was cut by 40% (2016/17) by the Scottish Government. Council calls on the Scottish Government to use the full powers devolved to it by the Scotland Act 2016 and follow the lead of this Council in tackling unemployment.

21 NOTICE OF MOTION 13

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Lawson and K MacLaren in the following terms:

"Council agrees that the SNP Group representation on the Council's Policy Boards be amended as follows:

Economy and Jobs Policy Board - Cllr Andy Doig to replace Cllr Brian Lawson

Leadership Board - Cllr Andy Doig to replace Cllr Bill Perrie

Planning and Property Policy Board - Cllr Andy Doig to replace Cllr Stephen McGee."

Councillor Lawson, seconded by Councillor K MacLaren then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council agrees that the SNP Group representation on the Council's Policy Boards be amended as follows:

Economy and Jobs Policy Board - Councillor Andy Doig to replace Councillor Brian Lawson

Leadership Board - Councillor Andy Doig to replace Councillor Bill Perrie

Planning and Property Policy Board - Councillor Andy Doig to replace Councillor Stephen McGee.

22 **NOTICE OF MOTION 14**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Cameron and Lawson in the following terms, which was agreed unanimously.

"Council notes, with sadness, the passing of Aileen Matthews who was a highly respected resident and community volunteer in Renfrewshire. Council recognises, in particular, her long and committed involvement with the Shopmobility scheme and Gleniffer Credit Union, and the benefits that her involvement with these organisations brought to the people of Renfrewshire."

DECIDED: Council notes, with sadness, the passing of Aileen Matthews who was a highly respected resident and community volunteer in Renfrewshire. Council recognises, in particular, her long and committed involvement with the Shopmobility scheme and Gleniffer Credit Union, and the benefits that her involvement with these organisations brought to the people of Renfrewshire.

23 **NOTICE OF MOTION 15**

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Nicolson and McGurk in the following terms:

"Council instructs the Chief Executive to carry out a best value review of our 'membership' of the SLGP (Scottish Local Government Partnership) and ascertain if we have met our best value duties with regard to operation, staff time, resources and benefit to the people of Renfrewshire. The Chief Executive then provides a report to the next full Council."

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor McGurk, then moved the motion.

Councillor M Macmillan, seconded by Councillor Holmes, moved as an amendment that Council notes that the levy for membership of the Scottish Local Government Partnership is zero. Council recognises that our membership will involve involvement of both officer and elected member time but considers this excellent value compared with our previous membership of COSLA which, in addition to the time commitment from both elected members and officers required Renfrewshire Council to pay an annual requisition of over £100,000. Council considers it would not represent best value to carry out a best value review of this as the facts as outlined above speak for themselves.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McCartin, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

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

DECIDED: That Council notes that the levy for membership of the Scottish Local Government Partnership is zero. Council recognises that our membership will involve involvement of both officer and elected member time but considers this excellent value compared with our previous membership of COSLA which, in addition to the time commitment from both elected members and officers required Renfrewshire Council to pay an annual requisition of over £100,000. Council considers it would not represent best value to carry out a best value review of this as the facts as outlined above speak for themselves.

SEDERUNT

Councillor McCartin left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

24 NOTICE OF MOTION 16

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Nicolson and McGurk in the following terms:

"Motion to amend the Scheme of Delegated Functions with respect to the planning function as follows:

Page 142 sec 3 (b) delete the word 'significantly'

Under the heading 'To be determined by a board of the Council:'

insert after (c)

(d) Any application subject to objection by a Community Council where those objections are relevant material considerations. Any application which raises significant objections (five or more all of which raise material planning issues). Any application which due to particular or sensitive circumstances is agreed by the Head of Planning & Development together with the Convener of the Planning and Property Board to be determined by the Planning and Property board. Any application which if approved would be contrary to the development plan

Council also agrees the following;

The weekly planning list shall contain a schedule with the Planning Officer's recommendation on an application. At the end of a seven day period the recommendation will become the decision of the Planning Authority unless the Head of Planning & Development receives from a Councillor a written objection to the recommendation outlining relevant planning reasons and requesting that the application is referred to the Planning and Property board for determination. Such requests must reach the Head of Planning & Development before the deadline shown in the weekly planning list/schedule.

All relevant Council policies be amended accordingly."

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor McGurk, then moved the motion.

Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor B Brown, moved as an amendment that Renfrewshire Council is concerned at the increase in pressure being exerted by Scottish Ministers and Scottish Government appointed officials in the delivery of the Planning Function of Local Authorities and seek the authority to write within the context of the SLGP to Scottish Ministers asking them to clearly set out what they see as their role and function in making decisions on planning applications and calling for inappropriate land use designations in Local Development Plan.

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors B Brown, Murrin, M Devine, Grady, J Sharkey, M Sharkey, Kelly, Williams, E Devine, Glen, Henry, M Macmillan, Caldwell, I McMillan, Bibby, Gilmour, Provost Hall, Councillors Holmes, Harte and Mullin.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Perrie, McEwan, Lawson, Mylet, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, Mack, McGurk, McGee, Andy Doig, Audrey Doig, Noon, M Brown, McQuade and Nicolson.

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

DECIDED: That Renfrewshire Council is concerned at the increase in pressure being exerted by Scottish Ministers and Scottish Government appointed officials in the delivery of the Planning Function of Local Authorities and seek the authority to write within the context of the SLGP to Scottish Ministers asking them to clearly set out what they see as their role and function in making decisions on planning applications and calling for inappropriate land use designations in Local Development Plan.

25 NOTICE OF MOTION 17

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors McGurk and Nicolson in the following terms:

"Council recognises that the charge to access the provisions of the High Hedges Act, is a barrier to low and fixed income applicants who cannot then gain environmental justice. Council therefore agrees to review the impact that the current charge has on this particular group and on deterring on genuine cases.

Council also agrees that a report be presented to the next relevant board with conclusions and possible recommendations which would allow applicants of limited financial means access to this service. The review should consider a free 'pre-application assessment' of potential cases which would provide a valuable advice service to Renfrewshire residents who may suffer from the anti social blight inflicted by adjacent land owners."

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor Nicolson, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council recognises that the charge to access the provisions of the High Hedges Act, is a barrier to low and fixed income applicants who cannot then gain environmental justice. Council therefore agrees to review the impact that the current charge has on this particular group and on deterring on genuine cases.

Council also agrees that a report be presented to the next relevant board with conclusions and possible recommendations which would allow applicants of limited financial means access to this service. The review should consider a free 'pre-application assessment' of potential cases which would provide a valuable advice service to Renfrewshire residents who may suffer from the anti social blight inflicted by adjacent land owners.

26 NOTICE OF MOTION 18

There was submitted a Notice of Motion by Councillors Mylet and Lawson in the following terms:

"Bus shelters

Council notes with concern the delay in replacing bus shelters which have been damaged resulting in residents, many of whom are elderly, having to wait out in the cold and wet winter weather, for their bus. Council will therefore review all contracts surrounding the maintenance and replacement of bus shelters with a view to ensuring that all damaged shelters are replaced as quickly as possible."

Councillor Mylet, seconded by Councillor Lawson, then moved the motion which was agreed unanimously.

DECIDED: Council notes with concern the delay in replacing bus shelters which have been damaged resulting in residents, many of whom are elderly, having to wait out in the cold and wet winter weather, for their bus. Council will therefore review all contracts surrounding the maintenance and replacement of bus shelters with a view to ensuring that all damaged shelters are replaced as quickly as possible.