

## Notice of Meeting and Agenda Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 24 June 2021	09:30	Teams Meeting,

KENNETH GRAHAM  
Head of Corporate Governance

### Membership

Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor: Councillor Tom Begg: Councillor Derek Bibby: Councillor Bill Binks: Councillor Bill Brown: Councillor Stephen Burns: Councillor Jacqueline Cameron: Councillor Michelle Campbell: Councillor Carolann Davidson: Councillor Eddie Devine: Councillor Andy Doig: Councillor Audrey Doig: Councillor Natalie Don: Councillor Alison Jean Dowling: Councillor Edward Grady: Councillor Neill Graham: Councillor Jim Harte: Councillor John Hood: Councillor Lisa-Marie Hughes: Councillor Karen Kennedy: Councillor Scott Kerr: Councillor Alistair Mackay: Councillor James MacLaren: Councillor Kenny MacLaren: Councillor Mags MacLaren: Councillor Eileen McCartin: Councillor Colin McCulloch: Councillor Marie McGurk: Councillor John McIntyre: Councillor John McNaughtan: Councillor Kevin Montgomery: Councillor Will Mylet: Councillor Emma Rodden: Councillor Jim Sharkey: Councillor John Shaw: Councillor James Sheridan: Councillor Andy Steel: Councillor Jane Strang:

Provost Lorraine Cameron (Convener): Councillor Cathy McEwan (Depute Convener):  
Councillor Iain Nicolson (Leader): Councillor Jim Paterson (Depute Leader)

### Recording of Meeting

This meeting will be recorded for subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site. If you have any queries regarding this please contact Committee Services on 07534 058160. To find the recording please follow the link which will be attached to this agenda once the meeting has concluded. Please note that only meetings beginning with the Emergencies Board on 17 April 2020 onwards have been recorded for broadcast.

Recording: part 1 of 3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED06b4fFTH8>

Recording: part 2 of 3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHAcEQ6QBqs>

Recording: part 3 of 3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lr18CHLCqmE>



## Items of business

### Apologies

Apologies from members.

### Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

## 1 Minutes of Meetings of Council, Boards and Panels

### (attached separately)

Council, 13 May 2021, pages 536-549

Placing Requests & Exclusions Appeals Panel, 17 May 2021, pages 550-553

Communities, Housing & Planning Policy Board, 18 May 2021, pages 554-577

Placing Requests & Exclusions Appeals Panel, 19 May 2021, pages 578-581

Regulatory Functions Board, 19 May 2021, pages 582-589

Education & Children's Services Policy Board, 20 May 2021, pages 590-597

Audit, Risk & Scrutiny Board, 24 May 2021, pages 598-601

Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board, 26 May 2021, pages 602-609

Finance, Resources & Customer Services Policy Board, 2 June 2021, pages 610-623

Regulatory Functions Board, 3 June 2021, pages 624-631

Petitions Board, 7 June 2021, pages 632-635

Leadership Board 16 June 2021, pages 636-646

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|----------|---|------------------|
| <b>2</b> | <b>Annual Accounts 2020/21</b>  | <b>9 - 170</b>   |
|          | Report by Director of Finance and Resources   |                  |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Treasury Management Annual Report 2020/21</b>  | <b>171 - 180</b> |
|          | Report by Director of Finance and Resources   |                  |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Governance Arrangements and Appointment of the Chair of the Villages Local Partnership</b> | <b>181 - 188</b> |
|          | Report by Director of Finance & Resources   |                  |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Regulation of Bus Services</b>   | <b>189 - 196</b> |
|          | Report by Director of Environment & Infrastructure  |                  |

**6 Standards Commission for Scotland Outcome of Investigation**

197 - 222

Report by Head of Corporate Governance as Monitoring Officer

**7 Notice of Motion 1 by Councillors McCartin and Andy Doig**

"Disabled Parking Bays

Renfrewshire Council agrees to increase checks by wardens on the use of Disabled Bays throughout Renfrewshire, and to assess the number of non-badge holders who are found to be using them.

Council also agrees to advertise more widely the FREE car parking which people can use in our car parks until this benefit is withdrawn."

**8 Notice of Motion 2 by Councillors Andy Doig and McCartin**

"Review of Scottish Planning Policy

Renfrewshire Council reiterates its view that communities, via Community Councils, should have the same right of appeal to the Planning Minister, in relation to planning decisions, as applicants, and calls on the Scottish Government to review and amend existing planning legislation accordingly.

Council recognises the positive elements of the Planning Act (Scotland) 2019, such as the provisions for Local Place Plans envisaged as enabling communities to have a stronger say in deciding how their local areas are developed.

Council further believes this spirit of engagement and community empowerment should also inform the examination and formulation of Local Development Plans, to ensure statutory consultation between the Reporter, Community Councils, and local ward Councillors at all stages in their creation."

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

"Strathclyde Pension Fund

Renfrewshire Council welcomes the decision of the Strathclyde Pension Fund to cut its carbon emissions investments portfolio, including targeting net zero by 2050.

Council also welcomes the Pension Fund's decision to commit to reviewing the energy companies in its portfolio, and divesting from them if they do not meet minimum standards set by the scheme.

The Council is, however, disappointed that the Pension Fund did not agree to the substance of the motion agreed by Glasgow City Council on April 1st 2021 to “make a formal commitment to fossil fuel divestment prior to COP26, with the intention of divesting completely as quickly as possible, and no later than 2029”.

Renfrewshire Council will write to the Strathclyde Pensions Fund, and in particular its fund managers, to stress our disappointment in this decision, to ask them to look again at the speed of their decisions, and to bring their decisions more into line with the position that we as a council take, namely to be carbon neutral by 2030."

## **10 Notice of Motion 4 by Councillors Bibby and Montgomery**

"Libraries

Council recognises that libraries are at the heart of our culture and heritage, and will therefore work closely with Renfrewshire Leisure to ensure that as part of a COVID recovery plan libraries will fully reopen open as soon as possible, and that service provision will be restored to pre COVID levels.

In this regard council notes that Johnstone Town Hall is currently being used as a COVID 19 vaccination centre, and that this will impact on the reopening of Johnstone Library which is located in the Town Hall, and as such alternative options should be explored to reintroduce a full service as soon as possible which will include consideration of a mobile facility.

A progress report will be made available to elected members at the September 2021 Council meeting."

## **11 Notice of Motion 5 by Councillors Davidson and Dowling**

"Community Groups – Renfrewshire

Council recognises the vital role of community groups across Renfrewshire in promoting inclusion and the physical and mental well-being of local residents.

Council will therefore, subject to existing and possible future COVID -19 restrictions, immediately embark on work with its arms length partners to reopen all community halls by mid-August."

## **12 Notice of Motion 6 by Councillors Audrey Doig and Nicolson**

"Council welcomes the recent decision of the Board of Strathclyde Pension Fund to divest from fossil fuel industries that are driving the climate and ecological emergencies.

Council further welcomes the decision of the Investment Review Board to update the Investment Policy Statement relating to Renfrewshire's

Common Good Funds to ensure no direct investment in fossil fuel stocks.

Council calls on all public bodies to review their investments and take action to ensure they no longer invest in these stocks."

### **13 Notice of Motion 7 by Councillors Bibby and Davidson**

"Street Furniture

Council acknowledges the difficulties encountered by blind, visually impaired and disabled people resulting from the proliferation of street furniture in Renfrewshire towns and villages.

Council recognises that street furniture plays a large role in public life, which when well designed and appropriately placed can assist blind, visually impaired and disabled people to navigate pavements and pedestrian areas safely.

Accordingly, council will work with the Health and Social Care Partnership, the Visual impairment Unit, local business organisations, and other partners including local community groups who work with the blind, visually impaired and disabled people, to assess what works best and what improvements can be made to current practice, with a report being brought to the December 2021 council meeting."

### **14 Notice of Motion 8 by Councillors Dowling and Montgomery**

"Chilling Effect on Free Speech

Council notes concerns around a growing cultural environment of chilling effects on freedom of speech. Despite assurances from the Scottish Government during the Hate Crime Bill debates that women would not be persecuted for views defending women's legal rights and gender critical views, a Scottish woman has been criminally charged with malicious communication with a hate crime aggravator on the basis of tweets opposing allowing males to self-declare themselves to be females. She could now face two years in jail.

Council notes that what constitutes hate speech remains a highly subjective matter and we have seen a steady expansion of prohibited terms and words and gestures. The latest HMICS report shows a lack of public confidence in reporting hate crimes.

Council calls on the Scottish Government and Police Scotland to issues statements that give clarity and assurances regarding freedom of speech rights in regards to political and ideological opinions."

### **15 Notice of Motion 9 by Councillors Harte and Kennedy**

"Cleanliness in Schools

In light of press allegations and concerns raised by parents, council agrees to hold an inquiry regarding the causes of the lack of cleanliness

in our schools and the employment of labour without the proper PVG clearance”

**16 Notice of Motion 10 by Councillors Andy Doig and McCartin**

“Closure of Lochwinnoch Post Office

Renfrewshire Council deeply regrets the impending closure of Lochwinnoch Post Office in October, and resolves to continue to work with Lochwinnoch Community Council and local ward Councillors to identify options to help maintain a Post Office presence in the village.

Council deplores the wider problem of corporate financial interests, be it banks or the Post Office, abandoning communities across Renfrewshire, both rural and urban, which especially marginalises and excludes those without private transport, the elderly, those on low incomes, or the digitally disadvantaged.

Council calls on the Scottish Government to initiate discussions with the Scottish League of Credit Unions, to examine the viability of a Scottish Credit Bank, which can reconcile the demand for profit with the priority to serve communities”.

**17 Notice of Motion 11 by Councillors K MacLaren and Mylet**

"Council notes the plan by the UK Government to introduce photographic identification for UK Parliamentary elections. There are concerns that such an action will impact on voter turnout as well as increasing both the administration and costs of such elections. Council agrees to write to the Prime Minister highlighting this Council's opposition to the plan."

**18 Notice of Motion 12 by Councillors Dowling and Bibby**

“Care Home Charter of Rights

Council notes that the forthcoming public inquiry into the COVID -19 pandemic will examine its impact in care homes.

One of the most distressing aspects of the pandemic has been the inability of family members to have longed for contact with loved ones resident in care homes which is essential for their wellbeing.

Council believes that a charter of rights for residents and relatives should be introduced without delay which sets out the arrangements for contact and visiting and will write to the Scottish Government with this recommendation.

Council while recognising that such a charter will take into consideration the impact of any future public health concerns, is mindful of the current situation that pertains in regard to the lack of clarity on care home visits, and that all care homes require to be appropriately resourced to meet the extra costs that visitor covid control measures are incurring.

Council requests that the Health and Social Care Partnership sets out its current and short term intentions on resourcing, visits and contact arrangements which meets the needs of residents and families and will accordingly provide the council with a report by the end of July 2021.”