

Minute of Meeting

Cabinet
Tuesday 19 April 2016
Item No 4.2



Cabinet

Date	Time	Venue
1 March 2016	11am	Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Johnstone	Councillor Bryant
Councillor Constable	Councillor Parry
Councillor Rosie	

Religious Representatives:

Mrs M Harkness	
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1 Apologies

1.1 Apologies received for Mr V Bourne and Rev R Halley

2 Order of Business

The order of business was confirmed as outlined in the agenda that had been circulated.

3 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

4 Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Cabinet of 12 January and 9 February 2016 were submitted and approved as correct records.

Reports

Agenda No	Report Title	Presented by:
4.2	Cabinet Portfolios	Director, Resources

Outline of report and summary of discussion

Director, Resources invited the Cabinet to approve the proposed Cabinet portfolios and further to confirm the appointments of the Cabinet Members to each of the portfolios.

Decision

That the proposed Portfolios be approved and that the Portfolio Holders be confirmed as:-

- (i) Adult and Social Care – Councillor Johnstone
- (ii) Education and Children's Services – Councillor Constable
- (iii) Planning Communities and Economy – Councillor Bryant
- (iv) Finance and Integrated Service Support with Customer and Housing Services – Councillor Parry
- (v) Commercial Services and Property and Facilities Management (including Borders Railway) – Councillor Rosie

Action

Democratic and Document Services Manager

Agenda No	Title	Presented by:
4.4 and 4.5	Minutes of Education Appointment Committees of 5 February 2016	

Outline and summary of item

There was submitted the Minutes of Education Appointment Committees of 5 February 2016 with regard to the appointment of Head Teacher, Bilston Primary School and North Gorebridge Primary School.

Decision

That the posts of Head Teacher, Bilston Primary School and North Gorebridge Primary School be offered to S Wallace and P Marr respectively.

Action

Director Education, Communities and Economy

Agenda No	Report Title	Presented by:
4.6	Council House Building Programme Phases 1 and 2 Progress Report, February 2016	Head of Property and Facilities Management

Outline of report and summary of discussion

There was submitted a report dated 17 March 2016 by the Head of Property and Facilities Management providing an update to Cabinet on the progress made on the Council Housing Programmes. The report advised that Phase 1 of the Housing Programme provided 864 additional Council Homes within the Midlothian area over a period of 7 years and within the total budget of £108,684,000.

The Phase 2 Housing Programme planned to deliver a further 420 Council homes by 2018 within the approved total development budget of £63,663,000 which was funded from the Council's Capital Plan.

Current sites under design development were programmed to be completed in 2018 but further sites were still required to complete the remaining target of 102 units. The delivery of these final sites was expected to be during 2019 subject to site availability.

The availability of further sites was currently under review and was dependent on securing sufficient build sites acceptable to meeting housing needs.

Decision
To note the content of the Report and the progress made on Phases 1 and 2 of the Council House Building Programme.
Action
Head of Property and Facilities Management.

Agenda No	Report Title	Presented by:
4.7	Local Affordable Rent Housing Trust	Joint Director, Health & Social Care

Outline of report and summary of discussion
<p>There was submitted a report dated 16 February 2016, by the Joint Director, Health & Social Care providing information on the LAR (Local Affordable Rent) Housing Trust, ("LAR"), which was a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation aimed at providing affordable homes at below market rent levels in Scotland.</p> <p>The report advised that since 2006 Midlothian Council and local housing associations had completed 1,416 new build homes, which was one of the largest affordable housing development programmes for a small council in Scotland and helped to meet the need for affordable housing in this area. However, despite this considerable investment and agreement for a 3rd phase of new council housing, a total of 4,876 households are on Midlothian's Common Housing Register list.</p> <p>The Scottish Futures Trust assisted in setting up LAR Housing Trust which had been funded by a £55 Million loan from the Scottish Government with a further £75 Million anticipated from private investment. LAR aims to be a long term provider of high quality, energy efficient, mid-market rental homes in Scotland and intended to build approximately 1,000 units across Scotland which would be rented out at below market levels to eligible households.</p>

Decision
<p>(a) To note the contents of the Report and;</p> <p>(b) To support the use of LAR to provide affordable housing on affordable housing policy sites and for officers to consider for the suitability of LAR in addition to council housing on suitable sites.</p>
Action
Joint Director, Health & Social Care

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Agenda No	Report Title	Presented by:
5.1	East High Street Public Realm Improvements including the Burns Monument	Head of Communities and Economy

Outline of report and summary of discussion

There was submitted a report dated 15 February 2016, by the Head of Communities and Economy advising Cabinet on the proposals to improve part of the public realm in eastern High Street Dalkeith, to restore and relocate the Burns Memorial Fountain (known locally as the Burns Monument), and to recommend allocation of Dalkeith Town Centre Developer Contributions to this project.

The project would be undertaken in partnership with Dalkeith Business Renewal, which was expected to allocate funding to this project.

In June 2013, a bid led by Midlothian Council was submitted to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund to undertake public realm and building improvements in East High Street, Dalkeith. The bid was unsuccessful. In May 2014, Midlothian Council submitted a reduced bid to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund to undertake public realm and building improvements in East High Street, Dalkeith. This bid was also unsuccessful.

The report further advised that an opportunity has now arisen to undertake public realm improvements to part of eastern High Street and to restore and relocate the Burns Monument to a more historic setting. Works would be paid for by a combination of Dalkeith town centre Developer Contributions and funding from Dalkeith Business Renewal.

Decision

(a)The implementation of the proposals to improve part of the public realm and restore and relocate the Burns Monument at East High Street, Dalkeith;

(b)To approve the use of Dalkeith town centre Developer Contributions for this project;

(c)To recommend to Council that a provision of £120,000 be made in the General Services Capital Plan, funded by the utilisation of £60,000 of developer contributions and £60,000 contribution from Dalkeith Business Renewal : and

(d)To note that the recommendations above were subject to formal written confirmation by Dalkeith Business Renewal of its expected financial contribution to the project.

Action

(a) and (b) Director Education, Communities and Economy and
(c) Democratic and Document Services Manager

The meeting terminated at 11.15am.