

MINUTES of MEETING of the MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL CABINET held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday 5 June 2012 at 11.00am.

Present:- Councillors Beattie (Convener), Bryant, Johnstone, Thompson and de Vink

Religious Representatives Present:- Mr P Hayes, Mr V Bourne

Apology:- Mr V Bourne

1 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

2 Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee

Prior to the commencement of business the Convener, on behalf of the Committee extended her appreciation of those staff who had administered an event at St. Nicholas Buccleuch Church Dalkeith on Saturday, 2 June 2012 to commemorate the diamond jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

3 Cabinet – Membership, Terms of Reference and Allocation of Portfolios

There was submitted report dated 23 May 2012 by the Director, Corporate Resources, detailing the terms of reference and membership of the Cabinet as approved by the Council on 22 May 2012 and inviting consideration of the portfolios to be allocated to Cabinet members.

Decision

(a) To allocate portfolios as follows:-

Councillor Beattie - Corporate Resources; Community Planning; Business Transformation; Best Value; Education; Training; and Tourism;

Councillor Bryant - Commercial Operations; Property and Facilities; Zero Waste; Sport and Leisure; and Council Budget.

Councillor de Vink – Finance and Economic Development

Councillor Johnstone - Adult and Community Care; Children and Families; and Health.

Councillor Thompson - Planning and Housing and Community Safety; and

(b) To otherwise note the report.

4 Minutes

The Minutes of Meeting of 6 March 2012 were submitted and accepted as a correct record thereof.

5 Minutes of Education Appointment Committee

The Cabinet noted and approved the Minutes of Meetings of the Education Appointment Committee of 17 April 2012 and 28 May 2012 as shown at **Appendices I, II and III** hereto, thereby approving the following teaching appointments:-

School	Post	Appointee
Cuiken Primary School	Head Teacher	J.E Taylor
Woodburn Primary School	Head Teacher	D. J Mathhew
King's Park Primary School	Head Teacher	A Limerick

(Action: Director, Education and Children's Services)

6 Performance Reports – 2011 12

There were submitted Performance Reports detailing the progress made in respect of the Corporate Plan for the Council; and the Plans for Education; Children and Families; Communities and Support; Adult and Community Care Housing and Community Safety; Customer Services; Commercial Operations; Property and Facilities Management;; Planning and Development and Finance and Human Resources. Each report contained a summary of the major successes; the major challenges and the actions to address them; and the budget position and the impact of efficiencies. Thereafter, the Cabinet received verbal updates in respect of each of the reports.

Decision

- (a) To note that the Audit Committee would continue to monitor progress with the implementation of improvement plans resulting from internal and external audits;
- (b) To note that a report on Midlothian Council sickness absence rates in comparison to other authorities would be submitted once this information was available;
- (c) To note that in respect of attainment levels in schools, Midlothian had outperformed 75% of authorities in Scotland in 2011/12;
- (d) To note that the "refreshment" of ICT facilities in schools was an ongoing programme;
- (e) To note that Children and Families were progressing towards compliance with new timescales in respect of Child protection issues ahead of legislation being enacted;

- (f) To note that performance reports from the operators of PPP schools and associated facilities were not available;
- (g) To note the difficulties faced by some community groups in meeting the charges for the use of facilities in PPP schools;
- (h) To note that the proposed reform of Police and Fire and Rescue Services was kept under review by officials;
- (i) To note that an update report on Welfare Reforms was scheduled to be submitted to the Council on 26 June 2012;
- (j) To continue consideration of the reports in respect of the Corporate Services Division to a reconvened meeting; and
- (k) To otherwise note the performance reports in respect Midlothian Council; Education and Children's Services and Community and Wellbeing Divisions.

7 Scottish Borders Local Development Plan Main Issues Report

There was submitted report dated 10 May 2012 by the Head of Planning and Development advising that Scottish Borders Council was undertaking consultation on its Scottish Borders Local Development Plan (LDP) Main Issues Report. The report explained that the Scottish Borders and Midlothian Councils were partner authorities, along with the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife and West Lothian Councils, in SESplan, the Strategic Development Planning Authority for South East Scotland. The preparation of LDPs was a statutory requirement for each of these Councils, as a means to implement the SESplan Strategic Development Plan. As a partner authority, as well as a neighbouring authority, with shared strategic requirements, Midlothian Council therefore had an interest in the preparation of the Scottish Borders LDP and had been invited to submit a response to the consultation.

The report highlighted the key matters raised in the Scottish Borders Local Development Plan (LDP) and commented specifically in respect of it's provisions in relation to Employment Land; Housing; Retailing; Regeneration; Green Networks; Climate Change; Minerals and Transport.

Decision

- (a) To note and welcome the public consultation by Scottish Borders Council in relation to its Scottish Borders Local Development Plan Main Issues Report; and
- (b) To submit the Head of Planning and Development's report as the Council's response to the consultation.

(Action: Head of Planning and Development)

8 Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme Bids

There was submitted report dated 18 May 2012 by the Director, Corporate Resources advising of a fresh round of grant funding by Historic Scotland for improvement works within conservation areas (CARS) and recommending that the Council submit a bid in respect of Gorebridge Conservation Area. The report explained that the Council had previously submitted a similar application for funding in 2010 but that due to the fund being heavily subscribed, the application had been unsuccessful. However, at that time, Historic Scotland recognised the good local support for the Gorebridge CARS application and noted that it fitted well within the proposed development plans for Gorebridge. The eligibility of Gorebridge to meet the CARS criteria remained strong both in terms of the deprivation data and the potential for notable improvement in the Main Street. In respect of the significant issue of match funding from the Council, the Midlothian Local Plan 2008 made provision for the collection of developer contributions towards town centre improvements in Gorebridge. Developer contributions of up to £82,000 were due from various sites around Gorebridge. At present, approximately £45,000 had been identified as being available over the next five years.

Decision

- (a) That a fresh application to Historic Scotland for Gorebridge Town Centre be prepared for the 5th round of the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme;
- (b) That the identification of sources of match funding, including developer contributions, continue; and
- (c) That an update on the finalised application be provided to Members prior to its submission by 31 August 2012.

(Action: Head of Planning and Development)

9 Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Cabinet agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted items, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraphs 9 and 11 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

- (a) Minutes of Meeting of Midlothian Negotiating Committee for Teachers of 25 January 2012 – Noted and Recommendations approved; and
- (b) Replacement Bus Services - To approve the recommendations contained in the report.

10 Adjournment and Reconvention

The meeting adjourned at 11.59 am and reconvened on Wednesday 13 June 2012 at 10.00 am , when there were present:-

Councillors Beattie (Convener), Bryant, Johnstone and de Vink.

Apologies had been received from Councillor Thompson and Mr P Hayes and Mr V Bourne (Religious Representatives).

11 Performance Reports – 2011 12 - Corporate Services Division

The Cabinet resumed consideration of those performance reports relating to the Corporate Services Division referred to in paragraph 6 above. The Cabinet heard from the Director, Corporate Resources in amplification of the reports.

Decision

- (a) To note the improvement in Council Tax collection rates;
- (b) To note that investigations were ongoing into utilising the services of community groups in making safe memorials in cemeteries;
- (c) To note that the Cabinet portfolio holder for Economic Development (Councillor de Vink) would meet with the Travel Team to discuss a number of issues relating to rural public transport; and
- (d) To note that the abolition of incentive bonus schemes for Craft Workers etc had helped to remove a further element on which to base an equal pay claim.

The meeting terminated at 10.31 am.

**Appendix I
(Relative to Paragraph 5)**

MINUTES of MEETING of the EDUCATION APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE held in the Committee Room, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday 17 April 2012 at 9.45 am.

Councillors Present:- Councillors Montgomery, Russell and L Beattie.

Cuiken Primary School Parent Representatives Present:- Mr A Watt, Ms H Larkins and Ms R Robbie.

In Attendance:- Ms S Dawe, Education and Communities Division.

Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Committee agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

Appointment of Head Teacher - Cuiken Primary School.

The meeting terminated at 12.15 pm.

**Appendix II
(Relative to Paragraph 5)**

MINUTES of MEETING of the EDUCATION APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE held in the Committee Room, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Monday 28 May 2012 at 9.15 am.

Councillors Present:- L Beattie (Chair), Coventry and Muirhead.

Woodburn Primary School Parent Representatives Present:- Ms S Munro, Mr S Reiedie and Ms P Spence.

In Attendance:- Ms S Dawe, Education and Children's Services.

Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Committee agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

Appointment of Head Teacher, Woodburn Primary School.

The meeting terminated at 12.20pm.

**Appendix III
(Relative to Paragraph 5)**

MINUTES of MEETING of the EDUCATION APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE held in the Committee Room, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Monday 28 May 2012 at 1.30pm.

Councillors Present:- L Beattie (Chair), Coventry and Muirhead.

King's Park Primary School Parent Representatives Present:- Ms L McGregor, Ms T Marr and Mr S Wightman.

In Attendance:- Ms S Dawe, Education and Children's Services.

Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Committee agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

Appointment of Head Teacher, King's Park Primary School.

The meeting terminated at 5.50pm.



