

MINUTES of SPECIAL MEETING of MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith on Tuesday, 3 December 2013 at 2.35pm.

Present:- Provost Wallace, Depute Provost Rosie and Councillors Baxter, Beattie, Bennett, Bryant, Constable, Coventry, de Vink, Imrie, Johnstone, Milligan, Muirhead, Pottinger, Russell and Thompson.

Apologies for Absence - Councillor Montgomery and Mr Bourne, Mr Hayes and Mrs Harkness.

1 Minute's Silence for Victims of Clutha Bar Helicopter Crash

At the opening of proceedings a minute's silence was observed for the nine victims of the Clutha Bar helicopter crash in Glasgow on Friday 29 November 2013. It was also agreed that letters of condolence be sent to the Lord Provost of Glasgow and the Chief Constable of Police Scotland.

2 Order of Business

It was noted that the "To Follow" paper for Agenda Item 4 (Report of Seminar of Midlothian Council of 26 November 2013) had been circulated on 2 December 2013 and that the Provost had accepted this as urgent business in view of the Council's interest in the matter.

3 Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Council 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 paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

- (a) Report of Seminar of Midlothian Council of 26 November 2013 –
Noted; and
- (b) A New Executive Leadership Structure for Midlothian Council – To
approve the recommendations set out in Chief Executive's report of 15
November 2013, viz:-
 - (a) To note the inconsistency that had come to light and the
invalidity of the original decision taken on this matter by the
Council on 5 November 2013;
 - (b) To:-
 - i) Approve the proposals set out in the Chief Executive's
report in terms of the new Head of Service roles and
structure;
 - ii)/

- ii) Delegate to the Chief Executive the task of recruiting to the new Head of Service structure in accordance with Council policies and to present a report on the proposed appointments to be considered by the Cabinet;
- iii) Note that further changes to portfolios would be made as a result of structural reviews undertaken by Heads of Service and agree that authorisation of these changes be delegated to the Chief Executive; and
- iv) Note the intention to review the structure again in 2015 with a view to creating a structure with 6 Head of Service posts, subject to taking cognisance of further changes in the external and internal environment.

The meeting terminated at 2.57pm.