
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL

Present

Andrew R Campbell (Convener)	-	Castle Douglas - Urr
Beth Gordon (Depute Convener)	-	Lochar
John Agnew	-	Rhins North
Helen F Bell	-	Dalbeattie - Milton
Andrew O Bell-Irving	-	Hoddum & Kinmount
Ken Cameron	-	Heathhall
Brian D Conchie	-	Georgetown
Kathleen Davidson	-	Dalbeattie - Craignair
James H Dempster	-	Sanquhar & District
John G Dinwoodie	-	Canonbie & Kirtle
Grahame A Forster	-	Rhins South
Alistair Geddes	-	Whithorn
Anthony W Gilbey	-	Stewartry West
Patsy Gilroy	-	Kirkcudbright - Tarff
Allan Graham	-	Solway Border
Robert J Higgins (Depute Leader of the Council)	-	Stranraer East
Thomas E Holmes	-	Loreburn
William Little	-	Caerlaverock
William B Lockhart	-	Moffat
Thomas A McAughtrie	-	Troqueer
George L McBurnie	-	Palmerston
Sandra McDowall	-	Wigtown
Neil McKay	-	Mid Nithsdale
Marjory O McQueen	-	Lockerbie & Upper Annandale
Jane S Maitland	-	Kirkcudbright - Bengairn
Denis R Male	-	Langholm & Upper Eskdale
Joan Mitchell (Depute Leader of the Council)	-	Cree
Fred B Murray	-	Luce
William G Nimmo	-	Lochside
Wilma R Paterson	-	Annan West
Ian A Pennie	-	Lochmaben
George N Prentice	-	Stewartry North
Jock Purdie	-	Castle Douglas - Dee
John Ramage	-	Annan East
Bert Saunders	-	Kirkconnel
Thomas K Sloan	-	Stranraer North
Michael J Thomson	-	Criffel
Donald R Urquhart	-	Maxwelltown
Lavinia Vaughan	-	Dryfe & Lockerbie East
Allan G Wright	-	Cairn Valley

Apologies

Ian Callander	-	Lochvale
John W Forteath (Leader of the Council)	-	Marchmount
Ivor A Hyslop	-	Nithsdale East
David J McKie	-	Lincluden
Sean W Marshall	-	Chapelcross
Tony Turner	-	Annan Central

James M Smith
Secretary to the Council

1. PRAYER

The meeting was opened with prayer by Reverend Billy Kelly, Minister of Troqueer Parish Church and Moderator of the Presbytery of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright.

2. SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES

38 Members present, 6 apologies

3. MINUTES OF 23 JULY AND 13 SEPTEMBER 2002 - Andrew R Campbell and Beth Gordon

Decision

APPROVED

3A MINUTE OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURES REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE OF 19 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Andrew R Campbell and Robert J Higgins

Decision

APPROVED subject to the following amendment:

the deletion of the dates 19 September and 24 September 2002 where occurring in the Sub-Committee's work plan and the insertion of the words "to be arranged" under the heading "Sub-Committee Recommendation by" and the date "26 November 2002" under the heading "Council Decision".

MEMBERS – Jane S Maitland and Denis R Male entered the meeting – 40 Members present

3B FIRE BRIGADES UNION – PAY CLAIM – UPDATE BY BRIAN CONCHIE, CHAIRMAN, POLICE, FIRE AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE, AND THE FIREMASTER

Decision

NOTED

3B.1 the current position nationally and locally in relation to the Fire Brigades Union pay claim and Ballot, whereby the employers were seeking a negotiated settlement;

3B.2 that the Government had established an Independent Review to consider the issues facing the Fire Service, including pay; and

3B.3 that appropriate contingency arrangements would be initiated in the event of industrial action.

4. NOTICES OF MOTION

4.1 NOTICE OF MOTION ON BEHALF OF WIGTOWN WEST AREA COMMITTEE – LOSS OF JOBS AT WEST FREUGH STRANRAER – Report dated 16 September 2002 by Director for Community Resources

MOTION by **GRAHAME A FORSTER** seconded by **FRED B MURRAY** that the Council acknowledges the immediate devastating impact the loss of a further 150 jobs and, in effect the mothballing of West Freugh base, recently announced by the MOD, will have on the local area. The impact of the loss of 200 high quality jobs on this rural area is comparable to the closure of Ravenscraig; and will take the appropriate action, together with partner organisations, to secure as many of the 150 jobs at West Freugh as possible, thereby minimising the impact of the loss of jobs, and further to attract investment and employment to the Stranraer area as a matter of urgency.

Decision

AGREED

4.1.1 to remove delegation for the Community Resources Committee in order to consider the Motion;

4.1.2 that Scottish Enterprise Dumfries and Galloway would continue to take the lead role in the West Freugh Steering Group with the Council channelling its efforts through that group with support at appropriate Officer level ensuring senior Officer input as required;

4.1.3 that Grahame A Forster would represent the Council on the Steering Group with other Members participating in other capacities to ensure maximum benefit from the lobbying process; and

NOTED

4.1.4 the action which had been taken to date by Scottish Enterprise Dumfries and Galloway supported by the Council in response to the threatened loss of jobs at West Freugh;

4.1.5 that the Area Committee would be kept fully informed of the work of the Steering Group; and

4.1.6 that there would be a further report to the Community Resources Committee and Area Committees regarding the proposed establishment of a Task Force to address the overall economic situation in the west of Dumfries and Galloway.

4.2 MOTION BY ROBERT J HIGGINS, SECONDED BY FRED B MURRAY - THE DRAFT AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL – Reports dated 17 and 20 September 2002 by Secretary to the Council.

MOTION by **ROBERT J HIGGINS**, **SECONDED** by **FRED B MURRAY** that this Council lends its full support to the Scottish Tenant Farmers' Action Group in calling on the Scottish Executive to amend the Draft Agricultural Holdings Bill to give Tenant Farmers the absolute right to buy their holdings.

Decision

Following advice from the Secretary to the Council the Convener ruled that the Motion was incompetent on the grounds that the subject of the Motion did not fall within any statutory

function of the Council and was not incidental to or conducive to the discharge of any functions.

NOTED that Members and Political groups could make proposals to MSP's on the Bill.

5. SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY – PROPOSED THIRD AMENDMENT – Report dated 6 September 2002 by Director for Community Resources

Decision

AGREED to review and, in principle to amend the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Dumfries and Galloway in accordance with the proposals set out in the attached Appendix and to give public notice of the Council's proposals in accordance with Section 53 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

MEMBER – Bert Saunders left the meeting – 39 Members present

5A ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUB-COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOLS' PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP – Report dated 16 September 2002 by Lead Officer (PPP)

Decision

AGREED

5A.1 to establish a Sub-Committee of 15 Members comprising 4 Independent, 4 Labour, 3 Conservative, 2 SNP and 2 Liberal Democrat Group Members, from the Executive and Education Committees covering as wide a geographic spread as possible to progress the schools PPP decision making process; and

5A.2 to remit the Chief Executive in consultation with the Convener, Depute Convener and Group Leaders to consider and approve recommendations from the Sub-Committee regarding its proposed remit, work programme and powers taking account of the need for public consultation and Area Committee involvement in the process.

6. MINUTES

6.1 EDUCATION – 3 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Thomas K Sloan and Fred B Murray

Decision

APPROVED

6.2 HOUSING SERVICES – 3 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Thomas E Holmes and George L McBurnie

Decision

APPROVED

6.3 ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE – 10 SEPTEMBER – Michael J Thomson and Andrew R Campbell

Decision

APPROVED

6.4 SOCIAL SERVICES – 10 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Jock Purdie and William G Nimmo

Decision

6.4.1 **APPROVED;** and

6.4.2 **NOTED** that the Chief Executive had confirmed, in reply to a question from Tony Gilbey that the Director for Finance and Corporate Services was currently examining the extent to which the Blue Sky Management Information system would address the issues raised by the External Auditors in relation to the requirement for Social Services Management Information systems and would report to Social Services Committee in due course.

MEMBER – Bert Saunders entered the meeting – 40 Members present.

6.5 CORPORATE SERVICES – 17 SEPTEMBER 2002 – George N Prentice and James H Dempster

Decision

APPROVED

6.6 COMMUNITY RESOURCES – 17 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Denis R Male and William B Lockhart

Decision

APPROVED

6.7 MEMBERS' CONDUCT – 4 SEPTEMBER 2002 – Beth Gordon and James H Dempster

Decision

APPROVED

7. MINUTES OF AREA COMMITTEES

Decision

NOTED