

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL

Meeting of Tuesday 27 February 2018
at 10.30am in Council Offices, English Street, Dumfries

Present

Members

Elaine Murray (Leader)	- Nith
Rob Davidson (Depute Leader)	- Abbey
Graham Bell	- North West Dumfries
Ian Blake	- Abbey
Richard Brodie	- Annandale South
Dougie Campbell	- Dee and Glenkens
John Campbell	- Nith
Ian Carruthers	- Annandale South
Karen Carruthers	- Annandale East and Eskdale
John Charteris	- Lochar
Jim H Dempster	- Mid and Upper Nithsdale
Archie Dryburgh	- Annandale East and Eskdale
Doug Fairbairn	- Annandale North
Andy Ferguson	- North West Dumfries
Patsy Gilroy	- Dee and Glenkens
Andrew Giusti	- Stranraer and the Rhins
Katie Hagmann	- Mid Galloway and Wigtown West
Iain Howie	- Castle Douglas and Crocketford
Ivor A Hyslop	- Lochar
David Inglis	- Mid Galloway and Wigtown West
David James	- Castle Douglas and Crocketford
Malcolm Johnstone	- Nith
Jeff Leaver	- Lochar
Tracey Little	- Lochar
Gail Macgregor	- Annandale North
Jane S Maitland	- Dee and Glenkens
Sean W Marshall	- Annandale South
John Martin	- Nith
Henry McClelland	- Annandale South
Jim McColm	- Mid Galloway and Wigtown West
David J McKie	- North West Dumfries
Ronnie Nicholson	- North West Dumfries
Graham Nicol	- Mid Galloway and Wigtown West
Matthew Ronnie	- Mid and Upper Nithsdale
Tommy Sloan	- Stranraer and the Rhins
Davie Stitt	- Abbey

- Ros Surtees** - Stranraer and the Rhins
- Ronnie Tait** - Annandale East and Eskdale
- Stephen Thompson** - Annandale North
- Adam Wilson** - Annandale North
- Andrew S Wood** - Mid and Upper Nithsdale
- John Young** - Castle Douglas and Crocketford

Apologies

- Willie Scobie** - Stranraer and the Rhins

Lorna Meahan

Director Corporate Services

1 SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES

42 Members present, 1 apology

PROCEDURE

The Leader intimated that with the agreement of Members that she would take Item 10 - Notice of Motion - Early Learning and Childcare after Item 4 - Minute of meeting of 18 January 2018. The decisions on the agenda, however, are recorded as on the agenda calling the meeting

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Ian Carruthers declared an interest in Item 9 Budget Proposals by virtue of being a IJB Board member and determined that his interest was such that he would not leave the meeting during consideration of that matter

2.2 Ros Surtees declared an interest in Item 9 Budget Proposals by virtue of being a IJB Board member and determined that her interest was such that she would not leave the meeting during consideration of that matter

2.3 Tommy Sloan declared an interest in Item 9 Budget Proposals by virtue of being a IJB Board member and determined that his interest was such that he would not leave the meeting during consideration of that matter

2.4 Andy Ferguson declared an interest in Item 9 Budget Proposals by virtue of being a IJB Board member and all determined that his interest was such that he would not leave the meeting during consideration of that matter

3 MINUTE OF MEETING OF 12 DECEMBER 2017

Decision

AGREED

4 MINUTE OF MEETING OF 18 JANUARY 2018

Decision

AGREED

5 CARERS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2016 AND THE DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY SCHEME OF INTEGRATION - REPORT BY IJB CHIEF OFFICER

Decision

AGREED the amendments to the Dumfries and Galloway Scheme of Integration as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report to reflect the change in legislation.

6 ELECTORAL REFORM IN SCOTLAND PUBLIC CONSULTATION - REPORT BY HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Decision

AGREED the response to the consultation on Electoral Reform in Scotland contained at Appendix 1 to the report being submitted to the Scottish Government.

7 COUNCIL TAX AND COMMUNITY CHARGES RESTRICTIONS ON VOTING - REPORT BY DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Decision

NOTED the provisions of Section 112 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which removes a Member's voting rights on Council matters in certain specified circumstances and places the onus of disclosure on individual Members

8 THE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2018/19 - 2020/21 - REPORT BY HEAD OF FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT

Decision

NOTED

8.1 the information reflected in this report as part of determining the revenue budget and associated council tax level for financial year 2018/19, within a 3 year budget plan covering the period 2018/19 to 2020/21; and

8.2 the information reflected in this report (Appendix 3) as part of determining the updated capital programme for the 3 year period 2018/19 – 2020/21 within an indicative 10 year Capital Investment Strategy.

9 PRESENTATION OF BUDGET PROPOSALS

MEMBER - Jim Dempster declared an interest in Item 9 - Budget Proposals by virtue of being a member of SWESTRANS but declared his interest as such that he did not require to leave the meeting

Decision

PROCEDURE - The Leader of the Council, Elaine Murray, on behalf of the Labour/SNP led Administration, presented and moved the Administration budget update (**Appendix 1**). This was seconded by the Depute Leader, Rob Davidson

The Leader of the Conservative and Unionist Group, Ian Carruthers, presented and moved the Group's budget proposal (**Appendix 2**). This was seconded by Graham Nicol

VOTE

MOTION by **ELAINE MURRAY** seconded by **ROB DAVIDSON** that the Labour/SNP led Administration budget update proposals be agreed (**Appendix 1**)

AMENDMENT by **IAN CARRUTHERS** seconded by **GRAHAM NICOL** that the Conservative and Unionist Group budget update proposals be agreed (**Appendix 2**)

On a vote taken by roll call, Members voted as follows:-

MOTION - 26 Votes being:-

Elaine Murray, Rob Davidson, Richard Brodie, Dougie Campbell, John Campbell, Jim Dempster, Archie Dryburgh, Andy Ferguson, Katie Hagmann, Iain Howie, Jeff Leaver, Tracey Little, Jane Maitland, Sean Marshall, John Martin, Henry McClelland, Jim McColm, David McKie, Ronnie Nicholson, Tommy Sloan, Davie Stitt, Ros Surtees, Stephen Thompson, Adam Wilson, Andrew Wood and John Young

AMENDMENT - 16 Votes being:-

Graham Bell, Ian Blake, Ian Carruthers, Karen Carruthers, John Charteris, Doug Fairbairn, Patsy Gilroy, Andrew Guisti, Ivor Hyslop, David Inglis, David James, Malcolm Johnstone, Gail MacGregor, Graham Nicol, Matthew Ronnie and Ronnie Tait

Decision

9.1 **AGREED** the Labour/SNP led Administration budget proposals as detailed in **Appendix 1**;

9.2 **AGREED** the revenue budget for 2018/19 as contained in the document "Budget 2018/19" submitted by the Administration Group, including the policy development proposals and savings options detailed in the supporting documents;

9.3 **NOTED** and **WELCOMED** the policy development investments to tackle poverty; support young people as part of the 2018 year of young people programme; to support employability and economic inclusion; and to mitigate the consequences of welfare reform;

9.4 **AGREED** the establishment of an apprenticeship board with a range of partners to make sure we can maximise the opportunities for young people and make the most impact together, involving young people and trades unions;

9.5 **AGREED** that participatory budgeting should apply to Council services as well as to grant funding and to apply participatory budgeting to the Communities Directorate's Streetscene approach to public realm works and maintenance. **FURTHER AGREED** that the approach to applying participatory budgeting to Streetscene will be subject to a detailed report to Members of Communities Committee, before being implemented in 2018;

9.6 **AGREED** the capital budget programme as contained in the document "Budget 2018/19" submitted by the Administration Group, for the three year period 2018/19 – 2020/21, be updated to reflect the Administration's capital investment proposals and indicating future priority projects including Stranraer Waterfront, Borderlands and Dumfries learning Town Phase 2;

9.7 **NOTED** and **WELCOMED** the capital investments in our roads and schools, and the extension of our inclusive play and play park funding;

9.8 **AGREED** that loan funding is made available to the Crichton Trust, to focus on bringing the unlettable floor space up to 21st century standards which means investing in the buildings containing unlettable floor space; and that the terms of this loan and how it is established and used, is subject to a detailed report to Members of Policy and Resources Committee

9.9 **AGREED** that officers look at the feasibility of options for harbour authority arrangements for Annan harbour, and report back on these through Economy Environment and Infrastructure Committee later this year;

9.10 **NOTED** the intention to change the way in which that future years budget decisions are made by improving consultation and discussion with service users, staff and trades unions, through the Modernisation Programme outlined in the document "Budget 2018/19" submitted by the Administration Group

9.11 **AGREED** the themes of the Modernisation Programme contained in the document "Budget 2018/19" submitted by the Administration Group to transform how we deliver services and close the budget gap in future years, and delegate to the Chief Executive to proceed to develop and deliver this programme, and

9.12 **AGREED** to establish a Transformation Board to lead this Modernisation Programme, and that detailed proposals on the operation of the Transformation Board will be brought to Full Council for consideration at the earliest opportunity

10 NOTICE OF MOTION - EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE - REPORT BY DIRECTOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Decision

AGREED

10.1 to withdraw delegation from the Children Young People and Lifelong Learning Committee;

10.2 that an Independent Financial Evaluation be carried out in partnership with the PVI Sector to consider the impact of increasing Early Learning and Childcare provision on the sector, enabling recommendations to be made to address the longer term 600 and 1140 hourly rate; and

10.3 that the findings of the Independent Financial Evaluation be reported to the May 2018 meeting of the Children Young People and Lifelong Learning Committee

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN DUE TO THE NEED FOR A DECISION

PROCEDURE - The Leader advised Members that there was an item deemed urgent due to the need for a decision

11.1 COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS - APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE NITHSDALE AREA COMMITTEE - Report by Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Decision

AGREED that Jim Dempster be appointed Chairman of the Nithsdale Area Committee