

Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh, Thursday, 14 March 2013

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Donald Wilson

COUNCILLORS

Elaine Aitken
Norma Austin Hart
Nigel Bagshaw
Jeremy R Balfour
Gavin Barrie
Angela Blacklock
Chas Booth
Mike Bridgman
Deidre Brock
Steve Burgess
Andrew Burns
Ronald Cairns
Steve Cardownie
Maggie Chapman
Maureen M Child
Bill Cook
Nick Cook
Gavin Corbett
Cammy Day
Denis C Dixon
Karen Doran
Paul G Edie
Catherine Fullerton
Nick Gardner
Paul Godzik
Joan Griffiths
Bill Henderson

Ricky Henderson
Dominic R C Heslop
Lesley Hinds
Sandy Howat
Allan G Jackson
Karen Keil
David Key
Richard Lewis
Alex Lunn
Melanie Main
Mark McInnes
Adam McVey
Eric Milligan
Joanna Mowat
Gordon J Munro
Jim Orr
Ian Perry
Alasdair Rankin
Vicki Redpath
Cameron Rose
Frank Ross
Jason G Rust
Alastair Shields
Stefan Tymkewycz
David Walker
Iain Whyte
Norman Work

1. Appointments

The Council had approved new political management arrangements and made appointments to its Committees on 20 September 2012.

A number of members had since resigned from the Education, Children and Families Committee and the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee and the Council was invited to appoint members in their place.

Decision

- 1) To appoint Councillor Fullerton as the Vice-Convenor of the Education, Children and Families Committee.
- 2) To appoint Councillor Bill Henderson to the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee.
- 3) To appoint Councillor Bill Henderson as the Vice-Convenor of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee.

2. Deputations

The Council agreed to hear the following deputations:

- a) Outcome of the Consultation Process for the Proposal to Close Castlebrae Community High School and Associated Catchment Changes Affection Portobello High School and Liberton High School (item 3)

- (i) Craigmillar Community Council

The deputation asked the Council to ponder on the consequences of losing a secondary school within Edinburgh. They asked the Council to consider the impact this would have on students' education and the impact on the whole area. They felt that with the ongoing regeneration within the area a key element of this was for a school to be available to those moving into the area. The deputation indicated that if necessary they would consider seeking a judicial review should the decision be taken to close Castlebrae Community High School.

- (ii) Community Regeneration Forum

The deputation stressed that the Council had a responsibility for the future of the area and community and that they felt threatened by the recommendations for the future of Castlebrae Community High School. They indicated that no community should be without a school and that those who lived in the area were entitled to the same access to education as those across the City. They felt that it was of no benefit to the people

living within the area and those trying to move into the area for the school to close.

(iii) Castlebrae Community High School Family Centre

The deputation indicated that the siting of the Family Centre within the Castlebrae Community High School had a positive impact on family health and education, providing safe outdoor play area, gym facilities, daycare facilities, childcare and work placements. The deputation felt that the consultation process had not been open or transparent, that the alternative accommodation being offered to them was inadequate in terms of health and hygiene, the size of the building and inadequate security for child protection purposes and that at the moment they were able to access the additional services provided at Castlebrae. They asked the Council to reconsider the recommendations and allow the school to remain open.

(iv) Castlebrae Community High School Pupil Council

The deputation indicated that Castlebrae Community High School was an important part of the Craigmillar community. The felt is was important for pupils to have a school which they were able to walk to and feel safe in. They stressed that they would have to travel across Edinburgh to attend a school which they would not feel a part of. They further indicated that the proposed threat of closure was having a detrimental effect on those attending Castlebrae and putting their education in jeopardy. The deputation then presented a petition to the Lord Provost.

(v) Castlebrae Community High School Parents Forum

The deputation indicated that many of the current 4th year pupils at Castlebrae Community High School would leave at the end of the school year and they could not cope with moving to a new school. The felt that there was also little capacity within Portobello High School for pupils with learning difficulties. They expressed concern that the children who thrived in their local area would not do so if they were relocated outwith their area. The felt that Portobello was too big and that pupils from their area would feel isolated.

(vi) Save the Brae

The deputation stressed the need to retain the local Community High School which they felt gave residents a sense of pride in their area. They felt that the proposal was a mistake with all the regeneration that was going on within the Craigmillar area. A masterplan for the area had been agreed ten years ago with a new Community High School being at the centre of it. They asked the Council to consider forming a commission to look at the way ahead for Castlebrae High School with a membership of

Councillors, officers, the Head Teacher from Castlebrae Community High School and members of the local community. The remit of this group would be to determine the educational needs within the Craigmillar area. The deputation also stressed the need to look at how the education needs of the pupils within the area could be best developed.

b) Portobello Park Private Bill (item 4)

Portobello Park Action Group

The deputation suggested that the promotion of a Private Bill was only appropriate when there was no other way to achieve an objective. The objective in this case was to provide a new Portobello High School and the deputation felt that there were alternatives and therefore the Private Bill was not appropriate. They felt that the consultation exercise which had been carried out had failed to meet many standards including a lack of independent scrutiny, lack of clarity for children responding, no lower age limit being set and good practice not being followed. They indicated that they felt that their concerns were not being listened to and requests for clarification of responses had not been answered. They asked the Council to reconsider building the new school on an alternative site within the area.

3. Outcome of the Consultation Process for the Proposal to Close Castlebrae Community High School and Associated Catchment Changes Affecting Portobello High School and Liberton High School

Details were provided on the outcome of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of the proposal to close Castlebrae Community High School with effect from July 2013. The main issues raised during the consultation process were outlined together with recommendations on how to proceed.

Motion

- 1) To acknowledge the strong arguments presented in favour of, and against, closing Castlebrae Community High School; and the concerns expressed by the local community and the 'Save the Brae' campaign.
- 2) To reject the officials' recommendations in the report by the Director of Children and Families.
- 3) To instruct the Director of Children and Families to report to the Education, Children and Families Committee within three months with future options for Castlebrae Community High School including the potential to retain the Castlebrae Community High School building as an Annex of Portobello High School until a new Secondary School in Craigmillar was delivered.

- 4) To instruct officers to submit a report regarding the potential establishment of a Commission with appropriate external experts to look at viable options for the use of the proposed Annex.

- moved by Councillor Godzik, seconded by Councillor Fullerton

Amendment

- 1) To agree that Castlebrae Community High School should close in July 2013.
- 2) To note the statutory requirement to refer this decision to Scottish Ministers.
- 3) To agree that the Portobello High School catchment area be extended to incorporate the Niddrie Mill, Newcraighall and Castlevie Primary School catchment areas together with the area of land shown in the map in Appendix 1 on page 94 of the report by the Director of Children and Families, on which there were no dwellings at present and for which there was currently no designated non-denominational secondary school catchment.
- 4) To agree that Liberton High School become the sole non-denominational catchment secondary school for the Prestonfield Primary School catchment area.
- 5) To agree that the existing Castlebrae Community High School pupils be offered a place at Portobello High School.
- 6) To agree that, at any point, should there not to be sufficient space at Portobello High School to accommodate S1 pupils in the revised enlarged catchment area who wished to attend the school, then pupils would have priority access to any other non-denominational secondary school in the city. In accordance with the existing placing in schools guidelines this priority would sit above any non-catchment siblings at any of the other schools.
- 7) To agree that free home to school transport would be provided, regardless of distance from their home to the school, to all pupils who were on the Castlebrae Community High School roll at the start of the 2012/13 school year whose denominational catchment school would change to be Portobello High School and who had already chosen, or if a decision was made to close the school chose, to attend Portobello High School. Also to further approve that this principle would also apply to any future pupils from the existing Castlebrae catchment area whose denominational catchment school would change to be Portobello High School and who chose to attend Portobello High School in any future year until a new secondary school in Craigmillar had been built.
- 8) To agree that the existing Castlebrae Community High School building be declared surplus from the end of the 2012/13 school session; that the building be demolished as soon as possible and that any disposal proceeds which would arise in the event that the disposal of the site was progressed directly by the

Council be ring-fenced towards the cost of delivering a new secondary school in Craigmillar.

- 9) To agree the following costs, the details of which were set out in the report by the Director of Children and Families:
- £551,000 for the demolition of the existing school buildings to be funded through prudential borrowing over five years at an annual cost of £130,000;
 - £10,000 of one-off funding for the provision of replacement school uniforms for those children who needed them;
 - £77,000 per annum of recurring revenue costs to fully re-provide the community facilities currently delivered in the school;
 - £120,000 per annum for reinvestment into the Craigmillar area as set out in Section 2.5 of the report to provide additional support for pupils who would move from Castlebrae Community High School and those in catchment primary schools
- 10) To note that the use to which any future revenue cost savings of an estimated £1.116m per annum which would arise as a result of the proposed closure would be considered as part of the Council budget setting process in 2014/15.
- 11) To note that the timing for the required delivery of a new secondary school in Craigmillar, currently anticipated to be 2020, and how the new school would be funded, should be kept under review with updates being provided to Council during the annual budget process as part of the update of the Capital Investment Programme.
- 12) To note that, at a later date, it was the intention that further public consultation take place to align minor anomalies in primary school catchments relating to land that currently had no non-denominational primary school catchment coverage.
- 13) To agree to set up a working party to investigate and report on future educational provision in the Castlebrae Community High School area having regard to;
- Expected future increase in population
 - The possibility of development of localised delivery of diverse forms of education
 - Tracking and monitoring of achievement and attainment of local pupils
- 14) To report back to Full Council in December 2013.

- moved by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Jackson

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 43 votes
For the amendment - 12 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Godzik

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 9 October 2012 (item 6), Act of Council No 1 of 22 November 2012; report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted.)

4. Portobello Park Private Bill

The Council had noted the intention to introduce a Private Bill to the Scottish Parliament to seek to address the legal impediment which was currently preventing the new Portobello High School being built on Portobello Park and approved the commencement of the necessary consultation and all other necessary actions in connection with this.

Details were provided on the outcome of the consultation process undertaken and approval sought for the proposed next steps.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Director of Children and Families.
- 2) To formally resolve to promote legislation by way of a Private Bill to reclassify Portobello Park as alienable common good land for the purposes of Part VI of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, but only insofar as permitting the appropriation of the Park for the purposes of the Council's education authority functions.
- 3) To delegate authority to the Director of Children and Families to take all steps necessary to complete the process of promoting the Private Bill including the drafting and finalising, and where necessary signing, of all supporting documentation required by the Standing Orders of the Scottish Parliament and the production and signing of any additional documents and the submission of any additional information that might be required by the Bill Committee or the Parliament; including, as required, the attendance of witnesses appearing on the Council's behalf at any hearings; and the approval of any amendments to the Private Bill.

- 4) To delegate authority to the Director of Children and Families to take all necessary steps to complete the appropriation of Portobello Park as the site for a new Portobello High School in the event that the Bill received Royal Assent.
- 5) To refer the question regarding the most appropriate use of the new area of open space which would be created if the new Portobello High School was built on Portobello Park (and for which provision of £1m had been identified within the project budget) to the Craigentiny and Duddingston Neighbourhood Partnership for further consideration and consultation.
- 6) To approve that, on completion, the new area of open space which would be created if the new Portobello High School was built on Portobello Park would be (with the approval of Fields in Trust) designated as a Field in Trust.
- 7) In line with the decisions above and the public consultation, to further clarify:
 - a) That in referring the most appropriate use of the new open area to the Craigentiny and Duddingston Neighbourhood Partnership, this was within the parameters of the space being allocated as parkland/green space and/or for social and recreational purposes.
 - b) That the purpose in seeking Fields in Trust designation for the new open space was to safeguard the uses agreed within a) above in perpetuity.
 - c) That the free community access to playing fields in Portobello Park was safeguarded in perpetuity.
- 8) To note that Section 82(2)(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 required that the resolution was passed by a majority of all members of the Council and that the decision had been agreed by the majority of all elected members, with 55 elected members present when this item was unanimously agreed.

(References – Act of Council No 1 of 22 November 2012; report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted.)

5. Minutes

Decision

- 1) To approve the minute of the Council of 31 January 2013 as a correct record.
- 2) To approve the minute of the Council of 7 February 2013 as a correct record.

6. Questions

The questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in Appendix 1 to this minute.

7. Leader's Report

The Leader presented his report to the Council. The Leader commented on:

- The upcoming opening of the EICC extension and Atria office building
- The establishment of the new shared repairs service

The following questions/comments were made:-

Councillor Burgess	- Scottish Welfare Fund
	- Welfare Reform – Bedroom Tax
Councillor Balfour	- Communities League Cup Final
	- Review of advice services provided to the Advice Shop and funding to other organisations
Councillor Cardownie	- Communities League Cup Final
Councillor Rose	- Freedom of Information release of the Deloitte report
Councillor Key	- Film making within the City - Funding for Film Focus
Councillor Edie	- No compulsory redundancies policy
	- Edinburgh Film focus - funding
Councillor Rust	- SNP leadership election
Councillor McVey	- Scottish Youth Parliament - Election
Councillor Lewis	- Third Party Organisations contributions to the city

8. Commercial and Procurement Transformation Project

The Council was seeking to achieve savings of £9m in 2013/14 through more efficient commercial and procurement activity. Work was being carried out to identify where and how these savings could be achieved by the Council within the timeframe required.

Details were provided on operational changes which would be required to assist in the effective and efficient delivery of the savings.

Decision

- 1) To approve the appointment of Ernst and Young LLP (E&Y) and that the Director of Corporate Governance be authorised on behalf of the Council to enter into a contract with E&Y substantially on the terms summarised in the report with such amendments as might be considered appropriate.
- 2) To agree that a report on progress of the Project be provided to the Finance and Budget Committee at least every six months.
- 3) To agree to arrange a session for Finance and Budget Committee members to assess how and to what extent this contract would impact on other potential procurement criteria such as social and environmental benefits, community benefits, ethical considerations and scope to support local and social businesses through use of City Council procurement.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

9. Annual Treasury Strategy 2013/14

A Treasury Management Strategy for 2013/14 was proposed. The Strategy included estimates of funding requirements, an economic forecast and borrowing and investment strategies.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Treasury Management Strategy for 2013/14.
- 2) To approve the Treasury Policy Statements.
- 3) To remit the report by the Director of Corporate Governance to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for scrutiny.

(Reference – report by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

10. Zero Waste: Edinburgh and Midlothian – Capital Contributions

The Council had approved the Project Initiation document for the Zero Waste Project, including the governance arrangements, procurement budget and the joint purchase of the Millerhill Site in Midlothian.

Details were provided on the progress of the procurement of residual waste treatment facilities which had reached the stage of inviting bidders to submit detailed tenders.

Motion

- 1) To agree to offer to the bidders a capital contribution, to be injected when the plant was fully commissioned with a year's track record of service delivery and not to exceed 30% of the cost of the asset or assets constructed at the project

site, providing said assets reverted to Partner Council ownership at the end of the concession.

- 2) To delegate authority to the Director of Services for Communities and the Director of Corporate Governance in consultation with the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Finance and Budget Committee to decide, in accordance with the established evaluation criteria of the Zero Waste Project, at the point of selection of Detailed Tenders, if the injection of public capital represented the optimal value for money solution and to pursue said injection, including entering into a suitable legal agreement with Midlothian Council should that be the case.

- moved by Councillor Hinds, seconded by Councillor Orr

Amendment 1

- 1) To agree to offer to the bidders a capital contribution, to be injected when the plant was fully commissioned with a year's track record of service delivery and not to exceed 30% of the cost of the asset or assets constructed at the project site, providing said assets reverted to Partner Council ownership at the end of the concession.
- 2) To delegate authority to the Director of Services for Communities and Director of Corporate Governance, in consultation with both "**the Convener of the Governance Risk and Best Value Committee**, and the Convener and Vice Convener" of the Finance and Budget Committee to decide, in accordance with the established valuation criteria of the Zero Waste project, at the point of selection of detailed tenders, if the injection of public capital represented the optimal value for value for money solution and to pursue said injection, including entering into a suitable legal agreement with Midlothian Council should that be the case.

- moved by Councillor McInnes, seconded by Councillor Mowat

Amendment 2

- 1) To note that the Zero Waste project was initiated in 2009 and since then had largely been progressed through a project-board;
- 2) To note that the residual waste treatment facility was a very major commitment for the Council; costing £130-150m to build, with an overall cost to the Council of around £750m over a period of 25 years to 2042;
- 3) To therefore call for the proposals on residual waste treatment, including the option of investing in the facilities, to be reported to the Transport & Environment Committee for scrutiny before recommendations were made to full Council for approval.

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Booth

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	39 votes
For amendment 1	-	10 votes
For amendment 2	-	6 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Hinds.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

11. Review of Scheme for Community Councils

Decision

To continue consideration of the matter to a Special Meeting of the Council on 2 May 2013.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

12. Property Conservation Service Re-design – Service Review Update

It had previously been agreed to end the existing Property Conservation service and launch a replacement by April 2013.

Details were provided on the proposed new “Shared Repairs Service” which was to start on 2 April 2013.

Decision

- 1) To note:
 - (a) the development of the *Shared Repairs Service* based on feedback from consultation (3 September 2012 to 31 October 2012) with a wide range of stakeholders including:
 - homeowners and private landlords,
 - elected members and MSPs,
 - Neighbourhood Partnerships, Community Councils and other local fora, Council services, building trade organisations and equalities groups, solicitors, architects, housing and emergency services;

- (b) the redesigned service would continue to provide a much valued emergency response which would be available 365 days per year and 24/7. Costs of this work would continue to be recovered from owners; and
 - (c) in addition to the emergency response the Council would provide a new advice and information service offering guidance to support owners in taking responsibility for maintaining their own property.
- 2) To welcome this first step in the delivery of a new *Shared Repairs Service*. However, to also note that the public consultation exercise conducted last autumn highlighted the desire for other related services such as facilitation of neighbour meetings and provision of a surveying and project management service for larger projects.
 - 3) To note that work to develop such a service was underway and call for a report to the Council within 3 cycles setting out the opportunities and risks associated with such service development including what Political scrutiny was required for taking the scheme forward.

(References – Policy and Strategy Committee 7 August 2012 (item 9); report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

13. Outcome of the Consultation Process for the Proposal to Relocate the Pilrig Child and Family Centre to Craigentenny Primary School

Details were provided on the outcome of the statutory exercise carried out in respect of the proposed relocation of the Pilrig Children and Family Centre to Craigentenny Primary School. The main issues raised during the consultation were outlined.

Decision

- 1) To agree that Pilrig Child and Family Centre be relocated to Craigentenny Primary School and opened in August 2013.
- 2) To agree that information be provided to parents at Pilrig Child and Family Centre and Craigentenny Primary School on the relocation and services available.
- 3) To agree to plan and implement the works to be carried out at Craigentenny Primary School.
- 4) To declare the Pilrig Child and Family Centre building surplus from August 2013 and that action be taken to dispose of the site and buildings.

- 5) To agree that the receipt from the sale of Pilrig Child and Family Centre be ringfenced for re-investment into the Early Years sector.

(Reference – report by the Director of Children and Families, submitted.)

14. Future Arrangements for the Scrutiny of Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Edinburgh

Details were provided on proposed new scrutiny and governance arrangements for police and fire and rescue services in Edinburgh. There required to be agreed as a result of the Police and Fire and Rescue Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 which had come into force on 1 October 2012 and created a single police force and a single fire and rescue service in Scotland.

Motion

- 1) To note the work programme, resources and training that would be required to allow the Council to facilitate appropriate and effective scrutiny of the police and fire & rescue plans;
- 2) To agree option three in Report No 8.9 (b) by the Director of Corporate Governance, to establish an Interim Police and Fire and Rescue Review Committee, with the remit outlined in paragraph 2.2 of the Director's report and the existing political balance of the Pathfinder Committee, subject to a further report in October.
- 3) To appoint Councillors Cook, Lunn, Walker, Barrie, Bridgman and Tymkewycz together with Councillor Main and two Conservative members to be nominated and appointed by their group, to the new Committee in line with the agreed political balance;
- 4) To appoint Councillor Bridgman as Convener and Councillor Lunn as Vice-Convener of the new Committee; and
- 5) To delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Governance to amend the Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions in line with the Council's decision.

- moved by Councillor Bridgman, seconded by Councillor Lunn

Amendment

To agree option one in the report by the Director of Corporate Governance, namely, to agree in terms of Standing Order 27.1(a) to change the Council decision of 20 September 2012 to alter the remit of the Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee and appoint a Public Safety Committee with the remit as outlined in paragraphs 2.2 and

2.16 of the Director's report and agree the political balance as detailed in paragraph 2.7 of the report, on the grounds that there had been a material change of circumstances.

- moved by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Balfour

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 43 votes
For the amendment - 9 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Bridgman

(References – Police and Fire Reform Pathfinder Committee 12 February 2013 (item 2); reports (2) by the Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance and the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

15. Environment Asset and Works Order Management System – referral from Committee

The Finance and Budget Committee had considered proposals for the procurement and implementation of the preferred IT solution for Asset and Works Order Management for the Environment and Transport service area within Services for Communities.

Approval was sought to use prudential borrowing to fund the initial capital investment.

Decision

To approve the use of prudential borrowing to fund the initial capital investment.

(References – Finance and Budget Committee 21 February 2013 (item 6); report by the Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance, submitted.)

16. North Edinburgh Childcare Centre – Eco Flag Status – Motion by Councillor Redpath

The following motion by Councillor Redpath was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council recognises the efforts of the North Edinburgh Childcare Centre in Achieving Eco Flag Status. The Centre has an eco committee with representatives from children, parents and staff. A range of activities are undertaken, including:

- recycling with parents and children
- a visit by the children to a recycling centre

- compost making
- litter picking by the children
- a recycling song composed by the staff and sung by the children to the tune of Bob the Builder
- paper is re-used for children's drawings
- in order to save energy and water, the children have made signs to remind everyone to switch off lights and plants are watered by using water from the water tray.

Council asks the Lord Provost to officially recognise this achievement”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Redpath.

17. Trust in the Food We Eat – Motion by Councillor Booth

The following motion by Councillor Booth was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council:

- 1) notes concerns about food sourcing and transparency of the food supply chain in light of the recent horse meat scandal;
- 2) agrees that locally sourced food and short supply chains can help give consumers confidence in the food they eat;
- 3) agrees to receive a report setting out:
 - a) what steps the Council was taking to ensure that food provided by the council or used in council establishments met all the standards of food sourcing and food supply chain transparency that the public and service users would reasonably expect; and
 - b) what measures could be taken to accelerate and expand the current Food for Life pilot which was seeking to increase the use of fresh, local and organic food in partnership with NHS Lothian and the University of Edinburgh.”

- moved by Councillor Booth, seconded by Councillor Burgess

Amendment

To take no action on the motion.

- moved by Councillor Rose, seconded by Councillor Balfour

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion - 44 votes
For the amendment - 10 votes

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Booth

18. Standardisation of Registered Day Centre Charges – Motion by Councillor Aitken

The following motion by Councillor Aitken was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Given that service providers only received a letter notifying them of the implementation of a standard charge of £6.50 for day care services on 1 March, that Council agrees to delay the implementation from 1st April to allow for forward planning and budget considerations.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Aitken.

19. Introduction of Enforcement Measures – Waste – Motion by Councillor Mowat

The following motion by Councillor Mowat was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council is disturbed to see the introduction of enforcement measures by Services for Communities regarding the presentation of side waste and top hatting of bins and calls for this to be rescinded given the poor service of waste collection experienced by some areas of the City since the introduction of Managed Weekly Collections.”

- moved by Councillor Mowat, seconded by Councillor Rust

Amendment 1

To note the motion by Councillor Mowat and recognise that some issues had recently arisen around the enforcement measures which were supporting our ambitious recycling plans and notes that we are continuing to work with the frontline operatives to resolve these. However, figures already demonstrate that landfill had been reduced and recycling levels in the city were at an all time high.

- moved by Councillor Orr, seconded by Councillor Hinds

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the introduction of enforcement measures by Services for Communities for presentation of side waste and top hatting of bins.
- 2) To agree that every effort should be made to encourage and incentivise waste prevention and recycling before any penalties were introduced;
- 3) To agree that the Transport and Environment Committee receive a report within one cycle setting out the existing and potential measures the Council was taking to encourage and incentivise waste prevention and recycling, specifically but not restricted to examining the scope for: support for real nappies; home composting; kitchen waste awareness; donations to charity shops and freecycle/freegle and other reuse schemes; prevention of junk mail schemes; and also examining the scope for wider roll-out of recycling advisory officers and the provision of cut-price indoor recycling containers;
- 4) To agree to suspend the enforcement measures mentioned above until a decision had been taken by Transport and Environment Committee on the report mentioned at 3) above

- moved by Councillor Booth, seconded by Councillor Bagshaw

Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	12 votes
For amendment 1	-	36 votes
For amendment 2	-	6 votes

Decision

To approve amendment 1 by Councillor Orr.

20. Boroughmuir High School Building Centenary – Motion by Councillor Godzik

The following motion by Councillor Godzik was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Council:

- 1) Congratulates the staff and pupils of Boroughmuir High School for their recent achievement of being voted the top state school in Scotland by the Sunday Times.
- 2) Notes the Council's intention to provide a state of the art new school by summer 2016;

- 3) Notes that 2013 is the centenary of the existing Boroughmuir High School building and requests that this significant anniversary is marked by the Lord Provost and Council in an appropriate way.”

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Godzik

Appendix 1

(As referred to in Act of Council No 6 of 14 March 2013)

QUESTION NO 1

By Councillor Heslop for answer by
the Lord Provost at a meeting of the
Council on 14 March 2013

Question

'To ask the leader what help and advice the Council will give in assisting veterans, their widows and relatives of the Arctic Convoys from Edinburgh in obtaining their much-deserved medals.'

Answer

The Arctic Star and Bomber Command Clasp are promoted on a dedicated web page on the Veterans UK website (http://www.veterans-uk.info/arctic_star_index.htm) along with links to the [eligibility criteria](#) and [applications forms](#).

Eligible veterans and next of kin are encouraged to apply using the relevant forms.

In line with the Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Community Covenant, officers in the Corporate Policy and Strategy Development Team within Corporate Governance have contacted the Edinburgh Garrison to discuss ways in which the Council can help promote this opportunity.

Subject to the outcome of these discussions, this could take the form of promoting relevant information and a link to the Veterans UK web pages on the Council Homepage and/or Edinburgh Partnership web pages.

Paul Kingham at the Edinburgh Garrison, tel 0131 310 5022, can also offer assistance.

**Supplementary
Question**

Can I thank the Lord Provost for his generous and positive response which I am sure will be welcomed by veterans and their families of the Arctic Convoys from Edinburgh and indeed the rest of Britain. Those who have long fought for the awarding of the Arctic staff can be proud that their campaign has finally come to fruition, but can I just ask the Lord Provost whether he would consider some form of local recognition in the form of a civic reception for the veterans and their families such as my constituent whose late brother survived the Arctic Convoys, a mission described by Churchill as the worst journey in the world.

**Supplementary
Answer**

I was very happy that you had brought this question forward and I hope that you are content that we are doing what we can in consultation with the Armed Forces to progress applications that go in and I am more than happy to agree that we should recognise it locally in some fashion as well.

QUESTION NO 2

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 14 March 2013

Question

What measures are the Council taking to promote and encourage community renewables.

Answer

The recently established Corporate Policy and Strategy Team (CPST) is remitted to support the development of community energy co-operatives in Edinburgh and in doing so will promote and encourage community renewables.

CPST organised a successful first meeting of a new Edinburgh Sustainable Strategic Partnership on 18 February. As a specific action arising from this meeting the Edinburgh Community Energy Co-operative (EC)² undertook to convene an early meeting of community and council officer energy stakeholders, including officers with planning, housing, asset and finance remits. This will be taken forward by Changeworks under their existing energy project remit with the Council.

The purpose of this meeting will be to identify specific opportunities for the Council to facilitate the development and expansion of community energy projects across the city and to share information. The target date for this meeting is mid-April 2013, after the Easter break.

An important context for this meeting is the four main outcomes from the recent *Community and Co-operative Energy in Edinburgh: The Next Steps* seminar hosted by the Council in December 2012. These were:

- projects to promote the insulation of existing buildings;
- community-scale renewable electricity generating projects (e.g. urban wind turbines);
- microgeneration installations for domestic, community and local commercial buildings; and
- negotiating, managing and promoting bulk-buy collective energy purchasing deals.

**Supplementary
Question**

I also want to acknowledge the very considerable work that the Capital Coalition has done in promoting the issue of community renewables not least in the Next Steps Seminar which was mentioned in his response which was attended by the Council Leader amongst many others. However, it does appear to me and appear to some who are active in the community renewables sector, that since that seminar in December the momentum seems to have dropped a little. I hope the Deputy Convener can assure me that he will continue to press this agenda and specifically, will he commit to working with community groups to see if it is possible to share the feasibility work that has been done for renewables on Council owned buildings which we as a Council are not taking forward but which might be possible for community groups to take forward to the benefit of those communities and to help reduce carbon emissions as well.

**Supplementary
Answer**

I certainly can confirm that the Capital Coalition is very very committed to encouraging community renewables and I give a couple of examples; there are two in the development on the Water of Leith including, Lord Provost, one you are promoting yourself I understand, the hydro electric project around Saughton Weir which is now being incorporated into a Heritage Lottery Fund bid which I hope is successful. With regard to the detailed point on the sharing of information I am very happy to engage with Councillor Booth to see if that is possible, I have no reasons to believe it won't be

QUESTION NO 3

By Councillor Booth for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee at a meeting of the Council on 14 March 2013

Question

What measures are the Council taking to promote energy saving in the Council estate.

Answer

The Council is committed to reducing energy consumption across its property estate and has delivered a number of associated projects over the past few years such as;

- Tyncastle High School - use of waste heat from distillery
- *Voltage optimisation installed across majority of High Schools
- Voltage optimisation to be installed in City Chambers in March/April 2013 following which City Chambers lighting review to be carried out
- **Electricity Capacity Reduction in 32 properties (saving circa £20k per annum) with ongoing investigation into other potential opportunities for capacity reduction
- Building Management Systems strategic review (survey and assessment) underway. This is seen as one of the key enablers in understanding, monitoring and controlling consumption and targeting efficiency projects)
- Fitted water, electricity and gas SMART meters to high consuming buildings to provide more accurate and real-time consumption data.

- Raised awareness amongst staff and building users to reduce consumption through their own actions such as switch lighting off when areas not in use and turning heating down before opening windows, etc.

Through the iPFM programme a lot more work in this area is planned over the next few years to reduce energy consumption by 20% and become an upper quartile performer. Initiatives include;

- Reviewing and updating the Council's energy policy and carbon reduction plan.
- Creating targeted annual 'invest to save' programmes to upgrade existing inefficient buildings such as heating, lighting, insulation and controls. Where possible secure other funding streams to complement Council budgets and therefore achieve more.
- Investment in micro generation where technically feasible and financial viable such as solar photovoltaic (PV) and biomass.
- Run more targeted and sustained energy awareness campaigns for staff and building users.
- Develop a network of 'energy champions' across the council
- Work with and learn from organisations with high levels of expertise in this area such as The Carbon Trust.

* Voltage Optimisation (technically this is voltage reduction - essentially most equipment runs at 230V and doesn't need the 240V supplied, by stepping down this reduces our waste)

**Capacity Reduction (technically CEC reviews and where appropriate reduces the "reserved" capacity it has on the network with resultant financial savings - no physical intervention in buildings required)

**Supplementary
Question**

I note that the Council spends around £10m of taxpayers money each year on heat and power for our own estates. I also note in the most recent CRC energy efficiency league table compiled by the Environment Agency, the City of Edinburgh Council was ranked number 728 in the UK league table below such environment luminaries as Bradford and Bingley Plc, Matalan and would you believe it Johnstons Press publishers of our very own Evening News. What is worse, we were more than a 100 places behind Glasgow City Council. I hope the Deputy Convener can assure me that he has the ambition to ensure that Edinburgh does better

**Supplementary
Answer**

I am pleased to report that while we might not be number one in Britain our carbon tonnage from this city estate fell from 55,000 tonnes to 52,000 tonnes up to July 2012 that also included a saving of £38,000 on the carbon reduction commitment sort of carbon tax. On Monday evening I actually went to a symposium of renewable energy where I listened to some very dire warnings from senior academics about the consequences of accelerating melting of the polar ice caps and the weather consequences that that is going to have for all of us in the world and I can assure the Green Party that both parties in the Capital Coalition are very very concerned about climate change and taking action as quick as we can and as much as we can. The current management plan will be revised in the next five years will be coming to Committee soon. Our target is 42% by 2020 in line with Scottish Government targets, a very ambitious target and one that we can hope we can meet. If I can just finish by saying that Earth Hour will take place next Saturday at 8.30 pm and you may all wish to know that the Castle Rock which is lit by the City of Edinburgh Council will not be illuminated for that hour and I hope that my colleagues in the Council and people in the city of Edinburgh will also be encouraging a switching off of lights for Earth Hour next week.