



MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Alloa, on Thursday 16 February 2023 at 9.30 am.

PRESENT

Councillor Phil Fairlie, Convener (Chair)
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Denis Coyne
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Wendy Hamilton
Councillor Scott Harrison
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor William Keogh
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay (Via Teams)
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor Mark McLuckie
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Bryan Quinn
Councillor Janine Rennie

IN ATTENDANCE

Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive
Stuart Crickmar, Strategic Director (Partnership and Performance) (Via Teams)
Lorraine Sanda, Strategic Director (People)
Pete Leonard, Strategic Director (Place)
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer (Partnership & Performance)
Chris Alliston, Senior Manager, HR and Workforce Development (Partnership & Performance)
Tony Cain, Senior Manager, Housing (Place)
Alison Morrison, Senior Manager, Property (Place) (Via Teams)
Elizabeth Hutcheon, Management Accountancy Team Leader (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams)
Lee Robertson, Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance) (Clerk to the Council)
Dale Bell, Solicitor, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams)
Gillian White, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance)

CC(23)13 APOLOGIES

None.

CC(23)14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

CC(23)15 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2023/24 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), presented the Housing Revenue Account budget and Housing Capital Programme for the financial year 2023/24 and highlighted the key factors influencing the budget.

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget setting process is subject to statutory, regulatory and governance requirements including consultation with tenants and the additional requirements set out in the "Cost of Living (Tenant Protection) (Scotland) Act 2022". The report requested approval for the 2023/24 HRA Income and Expenditure revenue budget and rent levels, as defined within the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987.

The report also referenced housing programme alignment with the Council's transformational programme "Be the Future".

Motion

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Fiona Law.

Amendment

"Council agrees that rent levels for 2023/24 should remain at their current levels. Reserves are anticipated to be £5.5m at 31st March 2023. After allowing for minimum reserves of £821k (4%) and £142k for the required IT system it is proposed that the remaining reserves will then be used to offset capital expenditure in future years with any capital shortfall resourced from increased borrowing."

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Kenneth Earle.

Voting on the Amendment

In terms of Standing Order 14.7, Councillor Holden asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 18 members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the elected members present voted as follows:

For the Amendment (7)

Councillor Mark McLuckie
Councillor William Keogh
Councillor Janine Rennie
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor Denis Coyne

Against the Amendment (11)

Councillor Phil Fairlie
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Wendy Hamilton
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Bryan Quinn
Councillor Scott Harrison

The amendment was defeated by 11 votes to 7 with 0 abstentions.

Voting on the Motion

In terms of Standing Order 14.7, Councillor Earle asked for a roll call vote. The Council agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were 18 members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the elected members present voted as follows:

For the Motion (12)

Councillor Phil Fairlie
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Wendy Hamilton
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Bryan Quinn
Councillor Scott Harrison
Councillor Denis Coyne

Against the Motion (5)

Councillor Mark McLuckie
Councillor William Keogh
Councillor Janine Rennie
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Kathleen Martin

Abstain from Voting (1)

Councillor Craig Holden

The motion was carried by 12 votes to 5 with 1 abstention.

Decision

On a division of 12 votes to 5 with 1 abstention, the Council agreed to:

1. Note the results of the tenant consultation process and the specific views expressed by the Clackmannanshire Tenants and residents Federation as set out at paragraph 3.17.;
2. Approve the summary revenue budget 2023/24, as set out in Appendix 1;
3. Approve the Housing (HRA) capital programme 2023/24 and illustrative programme to 2027/28, as set out in Appendix 2;
4. Approve the HRA Borrowing Requirement 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in Appendix 3;
5. Approve an increased level for Council house rents of 3% for the financial year 2023/24, as set out in Appendix 6;
6. Approve the same level of increase (3%) be applied equally to lock-up garages, garage pitch-site rentals and associated tenancy charges, as set out in Appendix 6;
7. Approve that the post of Tenant Participation Officer is reappointed as soon as practicable, following further engagement with Clackmannanshire Tenants and Residents Federation;

8. Note that the Westhaugh Gypsy/Travellers site is now closed and under redevelopment. The site is programmed to reopen during 2024/25. As a result there was no need to approve a rent figure for these homes. In advance of the completion of the works officers are instructed to consult with the residents on future rent charges in line with house rents.
9. Note the housing programme alignment with the council transformational programme,
10. Otherwise note the remainder of the report.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

Ends: 11.15 hours