



MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Alloa, on Thursday 3 October 2024 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 (Via Teams)
Councillor William Keogh (Via Teams)
Councillor Fiona Law
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Mark McLuckie (Via Teams)
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Bryan Quinn
Councillor Janine Rennie (Via Teams)

IN ATTENDANCE

Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive
Lorraine Sanda, Strategic Director (People)
Kevin Wells, Strategic Director (Place)
Chris Alliston, Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance)
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams and in Chambers)
Colin Bruce, Chief Education Officer (People)
Sharon Robertson, Chief Social Work Officer (People) (Via Teams)
Chief Inspector Kat Thompson, Police Scotland
Lee Robertson, Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Partnership & Performance) (Clerk to the Council)
Alastair Hair, Team Leader/Senior Manager (Partnership & Performance)
Cherie Jarvie, Senior Manager, Partnership & Transformation (Partnership & Performance)
Andrew Buchanan, Housing Operations Manager (Place) (Via Teams and in Chambers)
Robbie Stewart, Senior Manager, Sport and Leisure (People) (Via Teams and in Chambers)
Catriona Scott, Senior Manager, Secondary Education (People)
Scott McDonald, Senior Manager, Justice Services (People) (Via Teams)
Adrienne Aitken, Improving Outcomes Team Leader (People)
Michael Boyle, Improving Outcomes Business Manager (People) (Via Teams and in Chambers)
Katie Roddie, Team Leader, Housing Business Management (Place) (Via Teams)
Nicola Mack, Chief Accountant (Partnership & Performance)
Ben Watson, Team Leader, Revenues (Partnership & Performance)
Wilson Lees, Homelessness & Supporting People Manager (Place)
Carla MacFarlane, Communications Officer (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams)
Clair Fullarton, Communications Officer (Partnership & Performance) (Via Teams)
Lesley Robertson, Business Support, Wellbeing Hub (People) (via Teams)
Ross McGuire, Team Leader, Wellbeing Hub (People) (via Teams)
Wendy Robertson, Senior Manager Transformation
Murray Sharp, Senior Manager, Housing (Place) (Via Teams and in Chambers)
Emma Fyvie, Senior Manager, Development (Place) (via Teams and in Chambers)
Alison Morrison, Senior Manager, Property (Place) Via Teams
Shaun Carroll, Licensing Paralegal (Partnership & Performance)
Melanie Moore, Committee Services (Partnership & Performance) (Minute)

Jackie Davies, Member Services (Partnership & Performance)

The Convenor advised that it was Emma Fyvie's (Senior Manager, Development) last day with Clackmannanshire Council and wished her the best for her future.

CC(24)055 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Kathleen Martin.

CC(24)056 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

CC(24)057 MINUTES OF CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL – 29 AUGUST 2024

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 29 August 2024 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 29 August 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

Action

Clerk to the Council

CC(24)058 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, sought Council approval of recommendations which had been made by the Regulatory Committee on 13 August, 2024 and the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on 22 August 2024.

Motion

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

1. That Council, from the Regulatory Committee of 13 August 2024 in relation to the report entitled "Review of Taxi Operators' Licence Duration", the Regulatory Committee approved the introduction of a taxi and private hire car operator' licence with a 3-years duration in addition to the existing and currently available 1-year licence option:
 1. Approves a fee of £540 in relation to this licence; and
 2. Noted that the increased fee relates to 2.25 times the current 1-year fee and creates a saving of £180 over a 3-year period for each operator that takes up a 3-year licence.
2. That Council, from the Audit and Scrutiny Committee of 22 August 2024, in relation to the "Community Wellbeing Report 2023/24", where the Audit and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the One Plan, One Report approach:

1. Approves that this approach is further considered across other Directorates and across the council.
3. The reports relating to the Regulatory Committee and the Audit and Scrutiny Committee are available on the Council's website.

Action

Chief Executive

CC(24)059 ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY 2024-2027

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, People, presented the Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2024-2027, which replaces the Community Safety Strategy, which expired in 2017.

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

the Council:

1. Noted and approved the Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2024-2027 (Appendix 1), which had been produced in partnership with stakeholders including residents, young people and community councils and our partner organisations;
2. Noted that the Antisocial Behaviour Strategy will be given further consideration at Clackmannanshire Alliance; in particular, consideration should be given to appropriate Governance and partnership arrangements to take forward the Outcome and Action Planning Framework (Appendix 3)
3. Noted the following points regarding The Scottish Housing Regulator's Annual Assurance Statement:

The Scottish Housing Regulator's Annual Assurance Statement (AAS) requires that all social landlords in Scotland provide assurance to the regulator that they comply with relevant regulatory standards and legal requirements, and are able to provide evidence in support of this. Areas of non-compliance are required to be stated, these termed as "material non-compliances". The Council has previously reported Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) as a material non-compliance, this owed to the lack of a recognised corporate strategy or housing service specific policy.

This year's assurance statement is due to be submitted to the Regulator by 31st October 2024. The Housing Service intend to remove ASB as an item of material non-compliance (with regulatory standards) as a result of the significant progress made in developing the ASB Strategy for presentation at October Council and the subsequent presentation of the Housing Service specific ASB Policy to November Council. The Housing Service will present the Assurance Statement in full to October Council.

Action

Senior Manager, People

CC(24)060 BE THE FUTURE UPDATE OCTOBER

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, provided the latest update in respect of the Council's Be the Future Target Operating Model (BtF TOM) and associated Transformation Programme. The report also provided an update on the Be the Future priorities, refining the detail and timescales on the deliverables and the introduction of the Be the Future Forward Plan.

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council agreed:

1. The Be the Future Forward Plan (Exhibit 1);
2. The specific 'top 3' priorities of Workforce Strategy, Asset Strategy and Digital and Data Transformation (paragraphs 3.8 to 3.9); and
3. The revised prioritisation of the Be the Future themes (Exhibit 3).

The Council noted:

1. The thematic updates in respect of the 2024/25 agreed Be the Future priorities (paragraphs 3.10 to 3.17).

Action

Chief Executive

CC(24)061 ANNUAL REVIEW OF DEBTORS 2023/24

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, provided Council with the annual update on income collection and to propose the 'write off' of those debts which are deemed as irrecoverable.

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council:

1. Noted the trends in income collection for 2023/24;
2. Approved the proposed debt write-off of £1,509,234 which includes £805,238 for Former Tenant Arrears as per paragraph 6.2 (Appendix B);
3. Approved the write-off of school meal debt held within Schools of £13,550.31 (paragraph 4.6 & Appendix C; and
4. Noted and commented on the other matters raised in the report.

Action

Chief Finance Officer

CC(24)062 WELLBEING ECONOMY LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2024-2034

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, Partnership and Transformation, presented the draft Wellbeing Economy Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) for 2024-2034, following a refresh of the current plan 2017-2027.

Motion

To agree the recommendation set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council approved the Wellbeing Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2024-2034.

Action

Senior Manager, Partnership and Transformation

CC(24)063 PLACE BUSINESS PLAN 2024/25

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Place, presented the Place Directorate Business Plan, 2024/2025, for the consideration and approval of Council.

Motion

To agree the recommendation set out in the report.

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

Decision

Having commented on the Plan, the Council agreed to note and approve the Place Business Plan 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

Action

Strategic Director, Place

In line with Standing Order 10.23, the Convener adjourned the meeting at 11.28 am for a short comfort break. When the meeting resumed at 11.46 am, 17 members remained present.

CC(24)064 HOUSING EVICTION POLICY

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Place, provided Council with information on the work undertaken to develop the Housing Eviction policy.

Motion

To agree the recommendation set out in the report.

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

Decision

The Council agreed to approve the revised and updated Eviction Policy (Appendix 1).

Action

Strategic Director, Place

CC(24)065 SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Place, referenced the 2019 changes to the regulatory framework for social housing in Scotland and asks members to approve the submission of Clackmannanshire Council's Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) due to be submitted by 31 October 2024. (The Council's Annual Assurance Statement is attached as Appendix 1).

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

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

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the 2024 submission of the Annual Assurance Statement (AAS) to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR);
2. Noted the progress made in the development of the Clackmannanshire Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Strategy) and the subsequent Housing Landlord specific ASB Policy, and that ASB has been removed as an item of material non compliance from this years AAS;
3. Noted the progress made to develop tenant participation activity in line with the requirements of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2010 and that tenant participation has been removed as an item of material non compliance from this years AAS;
4. Noted the progress made to ensure that all Council housing stock is fully compliant with current electrical and fire safety regulations and that this has been removed as an item of material non compliance from this years AAS;
5. Noted the areas of service delivery highlighted as being materially non-compliant with regulatory requirement; and
6. Noted the improvement actions outlined to redress arrears of non-compliance.

Action

Strategic Director, Place

Councillor Holden withdrew from the meeting during the next item of business (12.17 pm)

CC(24)066 STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN 2025-2030

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director, Place, asked Council to approve the Strategic Investment Plan 2025-2030 (SHIP) at Appendix 1. The SHIP sets out the operational framework for affordable housing development in Clackmannanshire over the next 5 years, establishing the investment priorities.

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

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

Decision

The Council:

1. Approved the Strategic Housing Investment Plan for 2025-2030, including the summary 5 year programme of housing sites, detailed in Appendix 1;
2. Noted the cut in the Resource Planning Assumption (RPA) for affordable housing in Scotland from £752 million to £556 million this year and further year on year reduction in the coming years. This is fully set out in the letter from The Scottish Government at Appendix 2;
3. Noted that the RPA for Clackmannanshire has been cut this year (2024/25) from £5.73 million to £4.45 million (revised to £4.523 million, see 6.4 and Appendix 3) and is expected to reduce by 80%, 60% and 40% over the following years: and
4. Approved the use of £215,000 budget in the Council Tax second homes income, ring-fenced for affordable housing, for Council development site at Lochies Road.

Action

Strategic Director, Place

CC(24)067 WELLBEING HUB AND LOCHIES SCHOOL PROJECT UPDATE

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, Sport and Leisure, provided Council with an update on the progress of the Wellbeing Hub and Lochies School project.

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Scott Harrison. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay??.

Decision

The Council noted:

1. Key programme updates (paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3);
2. The positive engagement with Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) around the design for Lochies School (paragraphs 3.4 to 3.5); and
3. Social impact updates (paragraphs 3.6 to 3.8).

Action

Senior Manager, Sport and Leisure

**CC(24)068 PROGRAMMES OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS: AUGUST
2025 TO JUNE 2027**

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, Legal and Governance, sought approval for the draft Programme of Council and Committee Meetings from August 2025 to June 2027.

Motion

To agree the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Decision

The Council:

1. Agreed the Draft Programme of Meetings from August 2025 to June 2027, set out in Appendix 1 to this report; and
2. Noted that as a consequence of the Scottish Local Government Elections on 6 May 2027, dates noted in Cycle 6 in 2027 and the Planning Committee scheduled for 29 April 2027 may be subject to change.

Action

Senior Manager, Legal and Governance

**CC(24)069 NOTICE OF MOTION IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 16 –
CARSEBRIDGE HOUSE, ALLOA**

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 was submitted by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Motion

“Council expresses anger over the unauthorised demolition of Carsebridge House in Alloa on Wednesday 18 September 2024; recognises that the building was a category B listed property which dated back to the late 18th Century and was of significant historical and architectural interest locally and nationally; acknowledges that following a recent fire that left the historic property severely damaged, an application for listed building consent for demolition had been submitted for consideration by the local planning authority; understands the owner carried out or instructed to carry out the demolition without consent and despite being instructed to stop by Clackmannanshire Council Officers, and considers that those responsible should be fully held to account.

It is an offense under section 8 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas (Scotland) Act 1997 to “exclude or cause to be executed any works for the demolition of a listed building or for its alteration or extension in any manner which would affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest, unless the works are authorised.”

Therefore, Council agrees to consider a range of possible action (including the making a referral to the Procurator Fiscal) against the owner and possibly other; and agrees that officers will present a report on this unauthorised demolition to the Planning Committee.

Moved by Councillor Graham Lindsay. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

Decision

The motion was unanimously agreed by Council.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

The Convener paused the meeting at 12.55 am to provide an opportunity for external parties to leave the meeting. The meeting resumed at 12.57 am with 15 members present.

EXEMPT ITEMS

The Council resolved in terms of Section 50(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraph 1 and Paragraph 9.

CC(24)009 EXEMPT MINUTE OF CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL – 29/08/24

The exempt minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 29 August 2024 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The exempt minutes of the meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 29 August 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

Ends: 12.57 am

