

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,
on 15th December 2011 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Winifred Sloan (Provost), John Allan, Eddie Bulik, Andy Campbell, Douglas Campbell, Ian Cavana, Brian Connolly, Peter Convery, Hywel Davies, Ian Douglas, Stan Fisher, Ian Fitzsimmons, Ann Galbraith, Sandra Goldie, Bill Grant, John Hampton, Hugh Hunter, Mary Kilpatrick, Elaine Little, Mairi Low, John McDowall, Nan McFarlane, Bill McIntosh, Helen Moonie, Alec Oattes, Mike Peddie, Robin Reid, Philip Saxton, Tom Slider and Margaret Toner.

Attending: D. Anderson, Chief Executive; E. Howat, Executive Director – Corporate Services; H. Garland, Executive Director – Children and Community; L. Bloomer; Executive Director – Development and Environment; V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Administration; K. Leinster, Head of Community Care and Housing; L. Long, Acting Head of Children’s Services; J. Cronin, Acting Head of Community Development; A. Wilson, Head of HR and Organisational Development; C. Monaghan, Head of Policy, Performance and Communications; D. Alexander, Head of Corporate Resources; T. Baulk, Chief Accounting Officer; D. Robertson, Communications Manager; and D. Knight, Committee Services Officer.

Also Attending: David Richardson, Senior Audit Manager and Sarah Lawton, Senior Auditor, Audit Scotland.

1. Provost.

The Provost

- (1) welcomed Elected Members to the meeting; and
- (2) on behalf of the Council wished Councillor McIntosh a speedy recovery following his recent operation.

2. Chief Executive’s Remarks.

The Chief Executive advised that Angela Wilson, Head of HR and Organisational Development had recently been appointed as Executive Director of Corporate Services in West Dunbartonshire Council and the Council then congratulated her on this appointment.

3. Sederunt.

The Chief Executive called the Sederunt for the meeting.

4. Minutes of previous Council meetings.

The Minutes of 6th October and 17th November 2011 (Special) (issued) were submitted and authorised to be signed as correct records of these meetings.

5. Minutes of previous meetings of Panels.

The Minutes of the undernoted Panels (issued) were submitted and approved as a correct record of these meetings:-

- (1) Local Review Body of 4th October and 1st and 29th November 2011.
- (2) Leadership Panel of 25th October and 22nd November 2011.
- (3) Regulatory Panel of 27th October and 15th November (Special) and 24th November 2011.
- (4) Development and Environment Standing Scrutiny Panel of 1st and 29th November 2011.
- (5) Community Services Standing Scrutiny Panel of 2nd November and 5th December 2011.
- (6) Corporate and Community Planning Standing Scrutiny Panel of 3rd November and 1st December 2011.
- (7) Chief Officers' Appointments / Appraisal Panel of 7th November 2011.
- (8) General Purposes Panel of 9th November 2011.
- (9) Appeals Panel of 5th December 2011.
- (10) Scrutiny and Governance Management Panel of 6th December 2011.

6. Scheme of Delegation.

Reference was made to the Minutes of 9th September 2010 (Page 452, paragraph 3) and there was submitted a report (issued) of 6th December 2011 by the Head of Legal and Administration

- (1) advising
 - (a) that a further review of the Scheme of Delegation had been completed, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report with the amendments being highlighted in bold; and
 - (b) that the principal amendments were:-

- to incorporate references to planning decisions to be made by full Council;
- to incorporate the newly approved remit (Audit Committee Handbook) for the Corporate and Community Standing Scrutiny Panel sitting as Audit Committee;
- to incorporate references to Local Review Body and Education Appeals Committee (existing);
- to incorporate certain existing delegations to specific Executive Directors/ Chief Executive as delegations to all Executive Directors to reflect changing responsibilities across Directorates;
- to incorporate delegations which had already been agreed in specific Council reports over the year (for example, CC64); and
- to reflect changes in Officers' responsibilities following organisational changes during the last year,

with other updates having been incorporated to reflect changes in legislation and current practice; and

(2) proposing

- (a) that the Scheme of Delegation would continue to be reviewed on an annual basis, and that any required amendments would be reported to a future meeting of the Council; and
- (b) that subject to approval, the revised Scheme of Delegation would be published on The Wire and Public Website.

Councillor McIntosh, seconded by Councillor Toner, moved that the Council should approve the revised Scheme of Delegation to take effect from 1st January 2012.

By way of Amendment, Councillor McDowall, seconded by Councillor Moonie, moved that the following three amendments be made to the Scheme of Delegation:-

- (i) Page 24, paragraph 6 that after the word frequency, the words “**but not less than annually**” be added;
- (ii) Page 27, paragraph G27 that after the word Service, the words “**and appropriate Portfolio Carrier**” be added; and
- (iii) Page 51, paragraph CC64 that after the word Council, the words “**subject to the prior approval of the Leadership Panel**” be added.

A full discussion took place on the terms of the Motion and the Amendment and a question was raised by a Member of the Council in relation to the enforcement of notices / orders for Houses in Multiple Occupation and the Head of Legal and Administration responded accordingly.

The Council agreed that the vote be taken by calling the roll.

The Head of Legal and Administration then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Winifred Sloan (Provost)	Motion
John Allan	Motion
Eddie Bulik	Motion
Andy Campbell	Amendment
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Amendment
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Motion
Hywel Davies	Motion
Ian Douglas	Motion
Stan Fisher	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Ann Galbraith	Motion
Sandra Goldie	Amendment
Bill Grant	Abstain
John Hampton	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Motion
Elaine Little	Motion
Mairi Low	Motion
John McDowall	Amendment
Nan McFarlane	Motion
Bill McIntosh	Motion
Helen Moonie	Amendment
Alec Oattes	Motion
Mike Peddie	Motion
Robin Reid	Motion
Philip Saxton	Amendment
Tom Slider	Motion
Margaret Toner	Motion

Six Members voted for the Amendment and twenty three Members for the Motion with one Member abstaining. The Motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided: to approve the revised Scheme of Delegation as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report to take effect from 1st January 2012.

7. Financial Regulations.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6th December 2011 by the Executive Director – Corporate Services

- (1) advising that in accordance with the commitments given under Corporate Governance, the Financial Regulations required to be kept under review; and
- (2) seeking approval to revise the Financial Regulations as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

Decided: to approve the revised Financial Regulations as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

8. Section 112 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The Chief Executive

- (1) reminded the Council that Members were subject to the provisions of Section 112 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which provided that a Member of the Council could not vote on a range of Council Tax issues, including setting or adjusting the rate of Council Tax, if he or she was three months or more in arrears with payment of Community Charge (Poll Tax) or two months or more in arrears with Council Tax;
- (2) indicated that if Section 112 applied to any Member he or she was also required to disclose that fact; and
- (3) gave the opportunity to any Member to disclose the fact that Section 112 applied to him or her and indicated that failure to disclose was also an offence.

No Members so declared.

9. Revenue and Capital Estimates 2012/13 to 2014/15.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 12th December 2011 by the Executive Director – Corporate Services outlining the issues to be considered in setting the Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2012/13 and 2014/15 and recommending that the Council

- (1) accept the funding proposal as outlined by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report;
- (2) note that the funding levels included within Finance Circular 11/2011 remained provisional until the Finance Order was approved in February 2012;
- (3) present budget proposals for Revenue and Capital Budgets;

- (4) with regard to General Services Revenue:-
- approve net expenditure on services;
 - approve the contributions to / from the Council's corporate funds for 2012/13;
 - decide on the level of bad debt provision for the non-collection of Council Tax;
 - levy the appropriate Band D Council Tax for 2012/13 (recognising the funding available from the Scottish Government if the Band D level was frozen at 2007/08 levels);
- (5) with regard to General Services Capital:-
- approve the 2012/13 to 2014/15 General Services Capital Programme;
- (6) with regard to Housing Capital:-
- approve the 2012/13 to 2014/15 Housing Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (7) request that the Executive Director – Corporate Services submit a report to the meeting of the Council on 8th March 2012 confirming the final detail of the Revenue and Capital Budgets.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor McFarlane, moved that the Council should

- (a) freeze Council Tax charges at 2007/08 levels for a fifth year, in recognition of the additional funding available to South Ayrshire Council from the Scottish Government for this purpose;
- (b) provide 2.5 per cent for the non-collection of the Council Tax;
- (c) note that Council Tax income of £53,921,686 was therefore available to fund service expenditure in 2012/13;
- (d) utilise Aggregate External Finance of £212,778,000 to fund planned expenditure;
- (e) utilise £1,300,000 of the surplus projected at 31st March 2012;
- (f) approve net service expenditure of £267,044,686 as detailed in column 7, row 8, of Appendix 1 with the supporting Departmental subjective analysis shown in Appendix 2, incorporating:-
- Departmental base expenditure from 2011/12 totalling £264,854,423 as detailed in column 7, row 1 of Appendix 1;
 - additional service expenditure of £3,778,927 being the total of rows 2 to 4 of Appendix 1 with further details of row 4 (contractual and other unavoidable increases) shown in Appendix 3;

- a payroll management savings target of £2,000,000;
 - additional funding of £2,645,150 to address service priorities agreed by Elected Members as detailed in column 7, row 5 of Appendix 1 with further details shown in Appendix 4; and
 - efficiency measures totalling £2,283,814 as detailed in column 7, row 6 of Appendix 1 with further details shown in Appendix 5; and
 - efficiency measures totalling £1,950,000 as detailed in column 7, row 7 of Appendix 1 with further details shown in Appendix 6;
- (g) approve the following contributions to / from the Council's funds and reserves:-
- a contribution of £960,000 to general reserves in 2012/13 pending confirmation of the Finance Settlement via 2012 Finance Order;
- (h) approve Community Planning Partnership funding as detailed in Appendix 7;
- (i) note indicative Revenue Budgets for 2013/14 and 2014/15 as detailed in Appendix 8;
- (j) approve the 2012/13 to 2014/15 General Services Capital Programme as detailed in Appendices 9 and 10;
- (k) note that total planned expenditure for 2012/13 was £268,849,005 as follows:-

	£m	£m
Funding:		
Council Tax income		53.922
Community Charge : prior year collections		0.005
Aggregate External Finance		211.559
Additional AEF grants due: Teachers induction scheme	1.010	
Hostel grant	0.209	<u>1.219</u>
Use of anticipated accumulated surplus to 31st March 2012		<u>1.300</u>
Total Funding		<u>268.005</u>
Planned expenditure:		
Gross Expenditure	364.194	
Income	<u>97.149</u>	
Net service expenditure		267.045
Add:		
Contribution to General Contingency Fund		<u>0.960</u>
Total planned expenditure		<u>268.005</u>

- (l) generate the required level of Council Tax income in 2012/13 by again levying a Council Tax of £1,153.95 for Band D with the resulting Council Tax for all bands being as follows:-

Indicative Calculation of Council Tax

Band	Maximum house value	Number of houses	Weighting	Number weighted	Council Tax
A	27,000	6,020	6/9	4,012	£769.30
B	35,000	10,732	7/9	8,347	£897.52
C	45,000	7,438	8/9	6,612	£1,025.73
D	58,000	7,285	9/9	7,458	£1,153.95
E	80,000	8,487	11/9	10,373	£1,410.38
F	106,000	4,238	13/9	6,122	£1,666.82
G	212,000	2,698	15/9	4,496	£1,923.25
H	>212,000	253	18/9	506	£2,307.90
				47,926	
Less bad debts 2.5 per cent				1,198	
				46,728	
Council Tax Band D				£1,153.95	

- (m) agree, that as part of the 2012/13 budget considerations, a range of issues which required to be progressed during the forthcoming financial year had been identified and that the following action be taken:-
- **Revenue and Capital Budgets 2013/14 onwards** – indicative budgets for both Revenue and Capital showed a gap between projected funding and planned expenditure and that
 - the Financial Strategy be updated to reflect the latest projections;
 - a series of Seminars be established to keep all Elected Members advised of the Budget position; and
 - a timetable and strategy for the delivery of the 2013/14 Budget be presented to the meeting of the Leadership Panel on 13th March 2012; and

- **updated Reserves Strategy** – that the Council were on target to exceed the planned level of uncommitted general reserves and that
 - the Reserves Strategy be updated to reflect the latest projections prior to closure of the accounts for the year to 31st March 2012;
- **further efficiencies (Appendix 6)** – that regular updates on progress in delivering these efficiencies would be presented to a future meeting of the Leadership Panel and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to implement the proposed restructures;
- **investment of £1.0m in roads** - that detailed proposals for this expenditure would be presented to a future meeting of the Leadership Panel;
- **investment of £0.500m in social enterprise / young people** – that detailed proposals for this expenditure would be presented to a future meeting of the Leadership Panel;
- **investment in tourism / renewable** – that detailed proposals for this expenditure would be presented to a future meeting of the Leadership Panel; and
- **continued investment in asset rationalisation** – that Elected Members remained fully committed to rationalising the asset base to allow the required investment identified in Asset Management Plans and that
 - the balance of funding set aside for PPP be transferred to the Change Fund;
 - Officers prepare a proposed schedule of demolitions to the meeting of the Leadership Panel on 13th March 2012; and
 - provision be made within future Revenue Budgets to keep the Change Fund balance at £0.500m, with any savings from property rationalisation being retained corporately.

By way of Amendment, Councillor McDowall, seconded by Councillor Moonie, moved that the Council should

- (A) accept the recommendations as outlined at 2.1(1) and (2) of the report;
- (B) reject the proposals of Members; and
- (C) recognise the need to rethink and refocus its priorities and to bring forward alternative proposals inclusive of a priority based budget for consideration at a Special Meeting of the Council on 9th February 2012.

A full discussion took place regarding the terms of the Motion and the Amendment and questions were raised by Members of the Council in relation to the progress being made regarding the new build for Ayr Academy, why no public consultation had taken place about the Budget, whether long terms plans for the Budget would be proposed and interest payments for housing and the costs of the modernisation programme and the relevant Officers responded accordingly and the Chief Executive advised that he would circulate a note to Elected Members outlining the progress being made regarding Ayr Academy.

The Council agreed that the vote be taken by calling the roll.

The Head of Legal and Administration then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Winifred Sloan (Provost)	Motion
John Allan	Motion
Eddie Bulik	Motion
Andy Campbell	Amendment
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Amendment
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Motion
Hywel Davies	Motion
Ian Douglas	Motion
Stan Fisher	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Ann Galbraith	Motion
Sandra Goldie	Amendment
Bill Grant	Motion
John Hampton	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Motion
Elaine Little	Motion
Mairi Low	Motion
John McDowall	Amendment
Nan McFarlane	Motion
Bill McIntosh	Motion
Helen Moonie	Amendment
Alec Oattes	Motion
Mike Peddie	Motion
Robin Reid	Motion
Philip Saxton	Amendment
Tom Slider	Motion
Margaret Toner	Motion

Six Members voted for the Amendment and twenty four Members for the Motion. The Motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided:

- (I) to approve the terms of the Motion as detailed at (a) to (m) above; and
- (II) to record their appreciation of the work undertaken on the Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2012/13 to 2014/15 by Elected Members, the Executive Director - Corporate Services and her Finance team and all Officers involved in the process.

8. Olympic Torch Relay Funding Request.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6th December 2011 by the Executive Director – Children and Community

- (1) advising
 - (a) that South Ayrshire was the first Local Authority area in Scotland to host the Torch Relay which would guarantee good coverage worldwide on the lunchtime news on 8th June 2012 and would provide an unique opportunity to promote the area, develop tourism opportunities and maximise economic benefit;
 - (b) that the Torch Relay would be used as a focal point for a wider range of celebratory activity delivered via schools and within community settings with there being a significant focus on children and young people's participation; and
 - (c) that a Member / Officer Group had been established and had discussed a range of issues related to the Olympic Torch and had recognised that to take full advantage of this unique opportunity some funding would be required and that a sum of £50,000 should be awarded to celebrate this event;
- (2) intimating that detailed proposals were still under development, however, the most pressing of these was the need to dress the route, through products purchased via the London Olympic Games Organising Committee (LOGOG)'s "Look Book" and that if orders were received from the Local Authority by 15th December 2011, there was approximately a 15% discount on price;
- (3) reporting that other anticipated areas of spend would include:-
 - promoting awareness of the Torch event and associated traffic arrangements;
 - road rerouting;
 - stewarding the route;
 - welcoming the torch to Ayr;
 - crowd control;
 - Mini-Olympics for school children; and
 - local community celebrations; and

- (4) indicating that key information was still being obtained on these issues including where responsibilities started and ended between South Ayrshire Council and LOCOG, therefore, it was too early to be definitive on costs.

Questions were raised by Members of the Council enquiring whether the University of the West of Scotland, Ayr College and North Ayr would be involved in the Olympic Torch Relay Event and whether the costs for the Relay Event could be met from a different budget and the Acting Head of Community Development responded accordingly.

Decided: to agree that a sum of up to £50,000 be set aside from the projected 2011/12 Children and Community Directorate under spend which would be used to fund celebrations aligned to the Olympic Torch Relay as it travelled through South Ayrshire.

Adjournment.

The time being 12 noon the Council adjourned for ten minutes.

Resumption of Meeting.

The meeting resumed at 12.10 p.m.

9. Forehill Council New Build Housing and Children's Residential Consultation Findings.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6th December 2011 by the Executive Director – Children and Community

- (1) advising of the outcome of the consultation on the Council new build housing and Children's Residential Unit at Forehill and outlining the following concerns:-
- perceived increase in anti-social behaviour;
 - people on benefits moving into a desirable area;
 - potential impact on the asset value of neighbouring homes;
 - loss of open space and local children not being able to walk by/through this area;
 - impact of increased traffic during construction and car parking concerns once completed; and
 - potential impact on school roll at Forehill Primary School;
- (2) intimating that it was the Council's policy to increase the availability of affordable housing to meet an identified shortage, with 200 new affordable homes being required each year and that in 2009, the Council had agreed to modernise the residential estate for looked after children to improve outcomes and to fulfil its role as Corporate Parents;

(3) recommending

- (a) that Option 1 (of the two potential Options for the Council) be approved on a 'without prejudice' basis to considerations involved in the Planning Application process and to submit a Planning Application to include both the affordable housing and Children's Residential Unit, taking into consideration community recommendations to support integration;
- (b) that to achieve a start date of 31st May 2012 for affordable housing, as required in terms of the offer of grant, a planning application should be submitted no later than early February;
- (c) that the Council's website and a further newsletter to be sent to all residents within the area would answer all of the questions that had been raised alongside the typical questions asked during the consultation exercise;
- (d) that a feasibility study be undertaken into potential enhancement of the Glencairn Park greenspace; and
- (e) that consultation continue with the Forehill community and that this would ensure that they were fully informed about the consultation findings and the proposed next steps; and

(4) reporting

- (a) that Glencairn Park was owned by the Housing Revenue Account and that the development of a plan to enhance facilities on this Park would require resources of approximately £10,000 which could be funded from an underspend in HRA Employee Revenue Costs;
- (b) that failure to deliver the Children's Residential Unit would impact on the Council's Capital Programme budget and would increase the need for additional revenue resources to fund placements out with the authority area; and
- (c) that the cost of design and submission of the Planning Application was approximately £43,000.

Councillor Douglas Campbell, seconded by Councillor Toner, moved that the Council should approve the recommendations as outlined in the report.

By way of Amendment, Councillor Kilpatrick, seconded by Provost Sloan, moved that the Council should note the findings of the consultation exercise and reject the recommendations contained in Paragraph 2 and adopt the proposals as contained in paragraph 4.2 sub paragraph 2 of the report.

By way of a Counter-Amendment, Councillor Cavana, seconded by Councillor Andy Campbell, moved that the Council should note that proper and adequate consultation requires that a public meeting be held with local residents and instructs Officers to facilitate this and to report the outcome to a Special meeting of the Council in January 2012.

A full discussion took place on the terms of the Motion, Amendment and Counter-Amendment and questions were raised by Members of the Council in relation to the discussions with Community Councils and consultation process and the relevant Officers responded accordingly.

The Head of Legal and Administration advised in terms of Standing Order No. 32 for Meetings that where a Member desired to move the direct negative of the Motion (which includes an Amendment implying negation of the Motion), this shall be first put to the vote against the Motion. If this is carried, the Motion and any Amendment(s) shall not be put to the meeting; if it is not carried, the Motion and Amendment(s) shall be put to the vote in accordance with Standing Order No. 31.

The Council agreed that the vote be taken by calling the roll.

In accordance with the terms of the Council's Standing Orders, the Council then firstly proceeded to vote on the terms of the Motion moved by Councillor Douglas Campbell and seconded by Councillor Toner and the Amendment, being the Direct Negative, moved by Councillor Kilpatrick and seconded by Provost Sloan.

The Head of Legal and Administration then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Winifred Sloan (Provost)	Amendment
John Allan	Motion
Eddie Bulik	Motion
Andy Campbell	Abstain
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Abstain
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Motion
Hywel Davies	Motion
Ian Douglas	Motion
Stan Fisher	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Ann Galbraith	Motion
Bill Grant	Motion
John Hampton	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Amendment
Elaine Little	Motion
Mairi Low	Motion
John McDowall	Abstain
Nan McFarlane	Motion
Bill McIntosh	Motion
Helen Moonie	Abstain

Alec Oattes	Motion
Mike Peddie	Motion
Robin Reid	Motion
Philip Saxton	Abstain
Tom Slider	Motion
Margaret Toner	Motion

Two Members voted for the Amendment and twenty two Members for the Motion with five Members abstaining. The Motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

The Council then proceeded to vote on the terms of the Motion moved by Councillor Douglas Campbell and seconded by Councillor Toner and the Amendment moved by Councillor Cavana and seconded by Councillor Andy Campbell.

The Head of Legal and Administration then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Winifred Sloan (Provost)	Abstain
John Allan	Motion
Eddie Bulik	Motion
Andy Campbell	Amendment
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Amendment
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Motion
Hywel Davies	Motion
Ian Douglas	Motion
Stan Fisher	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Ann Galbraith	Motion
Bill Grant	Motion
John Hampton	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Abstain
Elaine Little	Motion
Mairi Low	Motion
John McDowall	Amendment
Nan McFarlane	Motion
Bill McIntosh	Motion
Helen Moonie	Amendment
Alec Oattes	Motion
Mike Peddie	Motion
Robin Reid	Motion
Philip Saxton	Amendment
Tom Slider	Motion
Margaret Toner	Motion

Five Members voted for the Amendment and twenty two Members for the Motion with two Members abstaining. The Motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided:

- (i) to note the findings of the consultation exercise as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report and to agree to submit a Planning Application for the proposed development of 19 affordable homes and Children's Residential Unit in Forehill, Ayr as outlined in 4.2 of the report;
- (ii) to agree to a feasibility study into the potential improvement of the greenspace at Glencairn Park in partnership with the local community; and
- (iii) to agree to the outcomes of the consultation and that the next steps would be communicated to residents in the Forehill, Glencairn and Holmston neighbourhood and to continue to work with the community to support the further improvement of the area.

Councillor Goldie left the meeting during consideration of the foregoing item.

10. Exclusion of press and public

The Council resolved, in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the remaining business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

11. Declarations of Interest.

Councillors Little, McIntosh and Peddie and the Executive Director – Development and Environment declared an interest in the following item of business on the agenda regarding Ayr Renaissance Business Plan 2012-15 as they are on the Board of Ayr Renaissance LLP and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

12. Ayr Renaissance Business Plan 2012-15.

There was submitted a report (issued to Members only) of 5th December 2011 by the Chief Executive updating the Council on the progress being made on the Ayr Renaissance project and outlining the Ayr Renaissance Business Plan for 2012-15.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Douglas Campbell, moved that the Council should

- (1) note the Ayr Renaissance Business Plan for 2012-15 attached as Appendix 1 of the report; and

- (2) confirm the total level of revenue support for 2012-15 but not the allocation as set out in the Business Plan and request the Chief Executive to submit proposals on the future staffing requirements of Ayr Renaissance to a future meeting of the Leadership Panel.

By way of Amendment, Councillor Moonie, seconded by Councillor McDowall, moved that the Council should not approve the Business Plan at this time and that options to expand the opportunities for regeneration be brought forward prior to agreeing any further support before the end of February 2012.

A full discussion took place regarding the terms of the Motion and Amendment and questions were raised by a Member of the Council in relation to the condition of a building within the Town Centre and Christmas Events taking place and the Chief Executive responded accordingly.

The Council agreed that the vote be taken by calling the roll.

The Head of Legal and Administration then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Winifred Sloan (Provost)	Motion
John Allan	Motion
Eddie Bulik	Motion
Andy Campbell	Amendment
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Amendment
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Motion
Hywel Davies	Motion
Ian Douglas	Motion
Stan Fisher	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Ann Galbraith	Motion
Bill Grant	Motion
John Hampton	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Motion
Mairi Low	Motion
John McDowall	Amendment
Nan McFarlane	Motion
Helen Moonie	Amendment
Alec Oattes	Motion
Robin Reid	Motion
Philip Saxton	Amendment
Tom Slider	Motion
Margaret Toner	Motion

Five Members voted for the Amendment and twenty one Members for the Motion. The Motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided:

- (a) to note the Ayr Renaissance Business Plan for 2012-15 attached at Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (b) to request the Chief Executive to submit proposals on the future staffing requirements of Ayr Renaissance to a future meeting of the Leadership Panel.

Councillor Little and the Executive Director – Development and Environment rejoined the meeting at this point.

13. Common Good - Revenue and Capital Estimates 2012/13 to 2014/15.

There was submitted a report (issued to Members only) of 9th December 2011 by the Executive Director – Corporate Services advising of the issues to be considered in setting Common Good Revenue and Capital Budgets for the period from 2012/13 to 2014/15.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor McFarlane, moved that the Council should

- (1) approve the 2012/13 to 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Budgets for Common Good Funds as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) approve the refurbishment of the Ayr Customer Contact Centre using Ayr Common Good funds;
- (3) not enter into negotiations for the sale of Common Good land;
- (4) introduce charges at Common Good car parks; and
- (5) request Officers to explore funding options in respect of the Freemans Hall.

By way of an Amendment, Councillor Moonie, seconded by Councillor McDowall, moved that the Council should

- (a) approve the recommendations as outlined at (1) and (2) in the report;
- (b) reject the recommendations as outlined at (3) and (4) in the report;
- (c) agree to carry out, with immediate effect, a consultation with the citizens of Prestwick on the options to replace the steeple at the Freemans Hall; and
- (d) further explore the additional opportunities for sponsorship associated with replacement.

A full discussion took place regarding the terms of the Motion and Amendment and questions were raised by a Member of the Council enquiring whether certain parts of this report could now be made public and the costs of the Ayr Customer Contact Centre and the relevant Officers responded accordingly and the Executive Director – Corporate Services advised that she would circulate the costs of the Ayr Customer Contact Centre to Elected Members.

The Council agreed that the vote be taken by calling the roll.

The Head of Legal and Administration then took the vote by calling the roll as follows:-

Winifred Sloan (Provost)	Motion
John Allan	Motion
Eddie Bulik	Motion
Andy Campbell	Amendment
Douglas Campbell	Motion
Ian Cavana	Amendment
Brian Connolly	Motion
Peter Convery	Motion
Hywel Davies	Motion
Ian Douglas	Motion
Stan Fisher	Motion
Ian Fitzsimmons	Motion
Ann Galbraith	Motion
Bill Grant	Motion
John Hampton	Motion
Hugh Hunter	Motion
Mary Kilpatrick	Motion
Elaine Little	Motion
Mairi Low	Motion
John McDowall	Amendment
Nan McFarlane	Motion
Helen Moonie	Amendment
Alec Oattes	Motion
Robin Reid	Motion
Philip Saxton	Amendment
Tom Slider	Motion
Margaret Toner	Motion

Five Members voted for the Amendment and twenty two Members for the Motion. The Motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided:

- (i) to approve the 2012/13 to 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Budgets for Common Good Funds as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the refurbishment of the Ayr Customer Contact Centre using Ayr Common Good funds;
- (iii) to agree not to enter into negotiations for the sale of Common Good land;
- (iv) to introduce charges at Common Good car parks;
- (v) to request Officers to explore funding options in respect of the Freemans Hall; and
- (vi) having confirmed the legal position with the relevant Officers, that Officers should decide which parts of this report should now be made available to the public.

14. Provost's remarks.

The Provost wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The meeting ended at 2.10 p.m.