

North Ayrshire Council
30 March 2016

IRVINE, 30 March 2016 - At a Special Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 5.00 p.m.

Present

Joan Sturgeon, Robert Barr, John Bell, Matthew Brown, John Bruce, Marie Burns, Ian Clarkson, Joe Cullinane, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, Alex Gallagher, Willie Gibson, Tony Gurney, Alan Hill, John Hunter, Ruth Maguire, Grace McLean, Catherine McMillan, Peter McNamara, Ronnie McNicol, Alan Munro, David O'Neill, Donald Reid and Robert Steel.

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support); C. Hatton, Executive Director (Place); K. Yeomans, Executive Director (Economy and Communities); A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Support; C. Andrew, Senior Manager (Legal Services); M. Gilmour, Senior Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications) and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

John Ferguson, Jean Highgate, Tom Marshall, Elizabeth McLardy and Jim Montgomerie.

Having concluded its Ordinary Meeting at 4.50 p.m., the Special Meeting of the Council adjourned for a short recess, reconvening at 5.00 p.m. with the same Members and Officers present and in attendance.

1. Apologies for Absence

The Provost invited intimation of apologies for absence, which were recorded.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

There were no declarations of the Party Whip.

3. Community Council Scheme

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the outcome of the third and final period of public consultation on the current review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils.

The review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils has comprised three consultation periods. During the initial consultation period, consultation responses were invited on any aspect of the current Scheme. The second period of consultation saw a number of proposed amendments taken forward for further consultation. Following the second consultation period, the Council formally approved a number of uncontested amendments to the Scheme and agreed a third and final consultation period for two proposals which had received a 'mixed' response.

The Council was invited to consider the outcome of the third and final consultation period on the review of the Community Council Scheme which ended on 25 March 2016, as summarised at Appendix 1, and formally adopt the revised Scheme set out at Appendix 2 to the report.

The Chief Executive advised of two minor corrections to Appendix 2 to the report, to change the reference to "one year" at section 7(i) of the proposed Scheme to "two years" and to add the phrase "in consultation with the community council" to the end of 10(vi). A copy of the revised pages was circulated at the meeting.

Members asked questions, and received further information, on the following:-

- the extent to which the role of Irvine community associations was similar to that of a community council;
- whether a proposed change of name for Girdle Toll Community Council could be considered at this stage in the consultation process; and
- the contact information used to consult with community associations and residents groups in areas without an active community council.

Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Burns, moved that the Council approve the recommendations set out in the report, subject to the above-mentioned corrections to Appendix 2. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Council agreed (a) to note the outcome of the third period of public consultation on the review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils, as summarised in Appendix 1 to the report; (b) on the basis of the consultation responses received, (i) to approve the retention of four community councils in the wider Irvine area (namely Irvine, Dreghorn, Girdle Toll and Springside Community Councils) and (ii) to include in the Scheme a provision to allow the option of postal and/or electronic voting at community council elections in the future; (c) approve the publication of the revised Community Council Scheme set out at Appendix 2 to the report, incorporating the changes agreed by the Council at its special meeting on 17 February 2016, the further changes arising from (b) above and the corrections to sections 7(i) and 10(vi) mentioned above; and (d) that officers commence arrangements to hold community council elections under the new Scheme.

The Meeting ended at 5.15 p.m.