

**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Minute of virtual meeting held at 7.00pm on 28 April 2021.**

**Present:**

Provost Jim Fletcher	Councillor Annette Ireland
Deputy Provost Betty Cunningham	Councillor Alan Lafferty
Councillor Paul Aitken	Councillor David Macdonald
Councillor Caroline Bamforth	Councillor Jim McLean
Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)	Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor Angela Convery	Councillor Stewart Miller
Councillor Danny Devlin	Councillor Paul O’Kane
Councillor Charlie Gilbert	Councillor Jim Swift
Councillor Barbara Grant	Councillor Gordon Wallace

Provost Fletcher in the Chair

**Attending:**

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Julie Murray, Chief Officer - Health and Social Care Partnership; Mark Ratter, Director of Education; Sharon Dick, Head of HR and Corporate Services; Louise Pringle, Head of Communities, Revenue and Business Change; Barbara Clark, Chief Accountant; Graeme Smith, Communications Manager; Kathryn McCormack, HR Manager; Jamie Reid, Communities and Strategic Insight Senior Manager; Claire Coburn, Strategic Services Lead Officer; Eamonn Daly, Democratic Services Manager; John Burke, Committee Services Officer; and Liona Allison, Assistant Committee Services Officer.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**1621.** There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF COUNCIL – 25 FEBRUARY 2021**

**1622.** The Council considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 25 February 2021, subject to an amendment to the date of the meeting from 2020 to 2021.

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 15 MARCH 2021**

**1623.** The Council considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 15 March 2021.

## **MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES**

**1624.** The Council considered and approved the Minutes of the meetings of the undernoted, except as otherwise referred to in items 1625 and 1626 below:-

- (a) Cabinet – 4 March 2021
- (b) Planning Applications Committee – 10 March 2021
- (c) Local Review Body – 10 March 2021
- (d) Education Committee – 11 March 2021
- (e) Audit & Scrutiny Committee – 11 March 2021
- (f) Licensing Committee – 16 March 2021
- (g) Audit & Scrutiny Committee – 18 March 2021
- (h) Cabinet – 1 April 2021
- (i) Local Review Body – 7 April 2021
- (j) Licensing 13 April 2021
- (k) Cabinet – 15 April 2021
- (l) Education Committee – 22 April 2021
- (m) Appointments Committee – 26 April 2021

### **CABINET – 4 MARCH 2021 – CROOKFUR PLAYING FIELDS**

**1625.** Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of the Cabinet of 4 March 2021 (Page 1444, Item 1562 refers), Councillor Grant requested clarification on the consultation to be carried out in respect of the lease and what community benefit would be delivered. In response, the Director of Environment indicated that these matters had been fully set out in the report to Cabinet and the Culture and Leisure Trust had been fully consulted on the lease of the ground. Furthermore, he explained that sports clubs did provide community benefit by engaging with young people and giving them a place to socialise and to keep fit.

Councillor Swift sought further clarification on this matter, in terms of how it would be guaranteed that the public would still have access to the playing fields for recreational purposes. The Director of Environment confirmed that those matters would be resolved through the terms of the lease agreement.

### **LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 7 APRIL 2021**

**1626.** Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of the Local Review Body of 7 April (Page 1492, Item 1602 refers), it was noted that the reference to 2 Mansefield Crescent should, in fact, refer to 42 Mansefield Crescent.

The Council noted this correction.

### **NOTICE OF MOTION – FIELDS IN TRUST STATUS FOR KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD**

**1627.** In accordance with Standing Order 25, the following notice of motion had been submitted by Councillor Wallace, seconded by Councillor Grant.

*“This motion requests that East Renfrewshire Council instruct officers to proactively seek Fields in Trust status for the recreational area commonly known as the ‘lower playing fields and woods’ (Area 2 – see attached map) that adjoin the existing King George V Playing Field (Giffnock), known as ‘Huntly Park’ (Area 1 – see attached map).*

*Huntly Park was transferred by the First District Council to itself as trustees for King George's Field Foundation (King George V pitches). This dedicates the area in all time coming for the purposes of a playing field for public recreation. Under the terms of the agreement, no buildings shall be erected except residences for park keepers, gardeners or pavilions, dressing rooms or shelters in connection with recreation purposes and East Renfrewshire Council cannot sell or dispose of any part without consent of Scottish Committee of the National Playing Fields Association.*

*The lower playing fields and associated woods are not afforded the same protection, leaving them to an uncertain future, where their inestimable value as a resource that has helped and may continue to help underpin the health and wellbeing of countless generations, remains under constant threat of development in pursuit of the short-term interests of just one."*

No amendment to the motion having been submitted, Provost Fletcher invited Councillor Wallace to speak to the terms of the motion in the course of which he made a short presentation highlighting the work of Fields in Trust and the historical significance of the site. Further, Councillor Wallace highlighted the work of the Friends of Huntly Park community group in maintaining and improving the site for public use.

The motion received widespread comments of support from the Members present in the course of which some of the work already undertaken by the Council through the Local Development Plan to protect the site was highlighted.

Thereafter in the absence of an amendment, the Council approved the terms of the motion.

## **STATEMENTS BY CONVENERS/REPRESENTATIVES ON JOINT BOARDS/COMMITTEES**

**1628.** The Council received the following statement.

### **Councillor Bamforth – Integration Joint Board**

Councillor Bamforth reported on the most recent meeting of the Integration Joint Board (IJB) held on 17 March 2021. She explained that the budget for 2021/2022 had been agreed as part of which the significant financial challenges facing the IJB had been recognised. The Chief Officer had given an overview of the review of adult social care with 53 recommendations, centred around human rights, having been made. An interim Strategic Plan and Carer's Strategy was also agreed and a seminar for IJB members would take place in June which would focus on Carers' issues. A presentation on addiction issues had been given and a report on the Health and Social Care Partnership's response to the pandemic had also been considered.

The Council noted the statement.

## **EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS MAINSTREAMING**

**1629.** The Council considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, seeking approval of the East Renfrewshire Council Equality and Human Rights Mainstreaming Report.

The report explained that The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Scotland) Regulations 2012 placed a requirement on the Council to publish an Equality and Human Rights Mainstreaming Report every 4 years with details of those matters to be considered being set

out. In addition, the Council was required to publish a progress report every 2 years on the equality outcomes it had set and progress made towards mainstreaming the general equality duty into its functions. A copy of the Equality and Human Rights Mainstreaming Report accompanied the report.

It was noted that the reporting period for the report had fallen within the pandemic and that as a member of the Scottish Council Equality Network the Council had raised concerns about the April 2021 deadline for setting new outcomes. However the deadline had remained unchanged and so all engagement activity had taken place virtually and within a limited timescale.

Particular highlights raised were the work of the Equality Officer Working Group, the roll out of improved training, work on the gender pay gap and information on employees' equality status. Work around LGBT+ issues were also highlighted.

Welcoming the report. Councillor O'Kane commended the team involved in delivering it in such difficult circumstances.

The Council:-

- (a) acknowledged the duties of the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Scotland) Regulations 2012; and
- (b) approved the content of the Equality and Human Rights Report, including the new Equality Outcomes, prior to publication.

PROVOST