

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 30 January 2014.

Present:

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Leader)
Councillor Alan Lafferty
Councillor Ian McAlpine

Councillor Mary Montague
Councillor Paul O'Kane
Councillor Vincent Waters

Councillor Fletcher, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Jim Sneddon, Head of Democratic & Partnership Services; Phil Prentice, Regeneration and Economic Development Manager; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Tony Buchanan (Deputy Leader), Danny Devlin and Elaine Green.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

917. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

CONSULTATION ON THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (SCOTLAND) BILL

918. Under reference to the Minute of meeting of 27 September 2012 (Page 176, Item 181 refers) when the Cabinet approved the Council's response to the first consultation on the proposed Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill, the Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, seeking approval of a response to the Scottish Government's second consultation on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill. A copy of the response was appended to the report.

Whilst noting that comments were being sought on the specific provisions of the Bill and further detailed policy proposals which did not yet appear in a draft Bill, the report indicated that in general the East Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership was supportive of the proposals and recognised the need for legislation in this area.

The report indicated that the response commented that there was limited focus on building community resilience and developing sustainable solutions although it was recognised that

the Bill was intended to provide the legislative framework to support other strategic policies such as implementation of the Strategic Guidance on Community Learning and Development.

Furthermore, the response stressed the importance of the legislation fostering inclusive engagement and empowerment of communities, ensuring that hard to reach members of the community were equally involved, and that decisions were made by local authorities that benefited the wider community rather than select groups.

The Cabinet approved the response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill which was appended to the report.

Resolution to Exclude Press and Public

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Leader, the Cabinet unanimously resolved that in accordance with the provisions of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 8 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

SPIERSBRIDGE BUSINESS PARK

919. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, advising of proposed developments at Spiersbridge Business Park, including the construction of additional car parking for the Council, creation of a new business incubation unit for local businesses and the conclusion of the lease negotiations with the owners of the Spiersbridge Business Park.

The Cabinet agreed:-

- (a) to note the position regarding the Spiersbridge offices and the proposed creation of much welcomed business incubation space for local micro enterprises;
- (b) to the Council funding additional car park spaces on Council land to create necessary parking for visitors and staff and to improve road safety within the business park; and
- (c) agreed that it be delegated to the Director of Environment in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement to make the necessary arrangements to conclude the lease and provide parking spaces at the Spiersbridge offices.

CHAIR