

# LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 25 May 2005 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors Hayton, Howie, E Grant, Baird, Cowan (substituting for Councillor Bushby) Coburn, Culliven, Doig, Lennie, MacLellan, Mulheron (substituting for Councillor A Grant) Simpson, Stewart, Mr A Dunlop, Mr I Jackson, Mr C Mackie, Mr F Shewan, and Mrs J Whitfield.

In Attendance: Councillors Lloyd and Robertson; G Waddell, Executive Director (Education & Children's Services), L McConnell, Depute Director (Education & Children's Services), A Taylor, L Mason, E Auld, M Taylor, B Renton, M Walker, C Flanigan, K Rodgers, G Lynn, D Adams, K Robertson, S Watson, J McCann and C Grieve (all Education & Children's Services), A Wilson and J Adamson (Corporate Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Bushby and A Grant.

Councillor Hayton, Presiding.

## **393. RETIRAL OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES)**

Prior to the commencement of the business, the Convener referred to the impending retiral of George Waddell, Executive Director of Education & Children's Services with effect from 30 June 2005 and paid tribute to Mr Waddell's many years of excellent service to this Council and the former Tayside Regional Council. Councillors Lennie, Culliven and Stewart and Mr Mackie and Mr Jackson also added their tributes to Mr Waddell.

Mr Waddell responded in suitable terms.

## **394. EIS AGM – PERTH**

The Convener referred to the EIS AGM which would be held in Perth, City Hall from 9 to 11 June 2005.

## **395. AK BELL LIBRARY**

The Convener made a statement regarding a serious incident which had occurred at the AK Bell Library on 23 April 2005 and had involved the police. As a result a number of measures had been put in place with immediate effect, including detailed locking-up procedures. Further longer-term issues arising from the investigations were now being taken forward.

## **396. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

## **397. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 13 April 2005 (Arts. 272-285) were submitted, noted and authorised for signature.

## **398. MINUTES OF MEETING OF ATTENDANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Attendance Sub-Committee of 21 April 2005 were submitted and noted. (*Appendix I*)

## **399. MINUTES OF MEETING OF JOINT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHING STAFF**

The draft Minutes of Meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 9 May 2005 were submitted and noted. (*Appendix II*)

#### **400. IMPROVING THE EARLY YEARS SERVICE (Art. 711/04)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/311) on the findings from the review of the Early Years Service in Perth and Kinross which would enable planning, required for an improved integrated service to support children and families in Perth and Kinross, to progress.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The recommendations of the review for future improvement, as detailed on page 20 of Appendix 1 to Report 05/311, be approved.
- (ii) The realignment of nursery staff and Early Intervention nursery nurses be approved.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) be instructed to bring forward a further report on integrated early years provision in Perth and Kinross by January 2007.

#### **401. EXPRESSIVE ARTS IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL - GUIDELINES**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/327) on guidelines for the development of Expressive Arts in primary schools.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The guidelines for development of Expressive Arts in primary schools be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) be instructed to review the guidelines by October 2006.

#### **402. A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION IN PERTH AND KINROSS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/312) on a strategic plan for Sports and Active Leisure including the establishment and development of a Sports Forum.

Motion – (Councillors MacLellan and Lennie)

To agree the report with the proviso that the political representation on the Forum be three Members of the Administration and two Members of the Opposition

**Amendment – (Councillors Doig and Simpson)**

- (i) **The Strategic Plan be approved as a working document which will serve as a catalyst for this sector.**
- (ii) **The establishment of a Sports Forum, comprising representatives from relevant partners at a strategic level, which will use the Strategic Plan to drive forward the development of Sport and Active Recreation, be approved.**
- (iii) **Councillor Robertson be appointed Chairman of the Sports Forum.**
- (iv) **That in addition to Councillor Robertson, there be one other member of the Administration on the Forum, together with one member of the Opposition.**
- (v) **The Group also function as the local representative forum for Sport 21 and as the New Opportunities Fund of PE and Sport projects which will be concluded in 2007.**
- (vi) **The agreed plan be circulated for consultation to all Community Planning theme groups.**

Amendment – 8 Votes

Motion – 6 Votes

**Resolved:**

In accordance with the Amendment.

#### **403. CONSULTATION PAPER ON THE PROPOSED 'SIGNIFICANCE' RECOGNITION SCHEME FOR MUSEUM COLLECTIONS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/313) on the scope of a proposed 'significance' scheme for Scottish Museums and proposing a method of responding to meet the deadline of 8 July 2005 whereby it was anticipated that the Council's collections would be recognised under such a scheme, and the likelihood that the Council

would eventually benefit from access to additional resources from the Executive, made available to support these collections.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The consultation on the proposed scheme which had the potential to deliver significant improvements be welcomed.
- (ii) It be delegated to the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) in consultation with the Convener of the Lifelong Learning Committee, to respond to the consultation paper and circulate the response to the members of the Committee for information.

**404. ST FILLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL – STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/314) outlining issues arising from the statutory consultation exercise undertaken for St Fillans Primary School.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The issues raised during the statutory consultation exercise on the proposal to close St Fillans Primary School be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to maintain the current status of St Fillans Primary School for a further period to March 2006 to determine if any of the families currently living in St Fillans intended to enrol their children and also establish any impact from the proposed housing development.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Committee within twelve months on the outcome of the period of review and future proposals for St Fillans Primary School.

**405. PROPOSAL FOR NEW GAELIC MEDIUM PRIMARY UNIT: NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS, ABERFELDY**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/315) on a proposal to establish a Gaelic medium primary unit in Aberfeldy, to be sited within the new school campus. This would allow parental requests for this type of provision to be met in accordance with the National Priority outcomes.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The proposal to establish a Gaelic medium primary unit in the new school campus at Aberfeldy, as of August 2007, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to submit an application to the Scottish Executive for specific grant funding to support the establishment of the new unit.

**406. BROADBAND FOR SCHOOLS – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) and the Executive Director (Corporate Services) (05/316) on progress made with the installation of broadband which would be provided to all schools in Perth and Kinross by April 2006, and be used for teaching and learning in school administration.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The progress made with the 2004/2005 implementation plan be noted.
- (ii) Phase 3 of the implementation plan for 2005/2006 onwards be approved.

**407. PERTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL – NAMING OF ATHLETICS TRACK**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/317) on the naming of the new athletics track at Perth Grammar School.

**Resolved:**

The Athletics Track at Perth Grammar School be named "The George Duncan Athletics Arena" in commemoration of the late well-respected and widely-known athletics coach who had held a particular interest in the development of such a track in Perth for some 25 years.

**408. HMIE, CARE COMMISSION AND EDUCATION AUTHORITY REPORTS ON STANDARDS AND QUALITY IN SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (05/318) advising of the key findings and progress made with main points for action as set out in Appendices 1-7 to the report from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE), Care Commission and Education Authorities and on the HMI inspection of Community Learning and Development in the North Perth area.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The following summary reports of the Care Commission/HMIE Integrated Inspection Reports on seven establishments be noted:

Longforgan Primary School,  
Abernethy Primary School Nursery Class,  
Arngask Primary School Nursery Class,  
Balbeggie Primary School Nursery Class,  
Invergowrie Primary School Nursery Class,  
Longforgan Primary School Nursery Class, and  
Moncreiffe Primary School Nursery Class.

- (ii) It be noted that the positive nature of the HMI/Care Commission Reports were welcomed at the Standards and Scrutiny Committee on 27 April 2005.
- (iii) The progress on the Community Learning and Development in the North Perth area be noted, together with the next steps to be taken on the five main points of action identified by HMI.