

## **LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 31 August 2011 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors E Grant, B Band, G Hayton, A Cowan, C Gillies, E Maclachlan, S Miller, C Shiers, L Simpson, A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Wylie; Mr I Jackson, Mrs A McAuley and Mr D Stewart.

In attendance: J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); B Atkinson, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services); H Richardson, T Yule, K Robertson, H Stuart, P McAvoy, J Harding and S Devlin (all Education and Children's Services); J Cockburn, M Willis, C Flynn and S Hendry (all Chief Executive's Service).

Also Attending: Mr C Youlten.

Apology for Absence: Monsignor K McCaffrey.

Councillor E Grant, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led discussion on Arts. 475-481, Vice-Convener Hayton on Arts. 482-484, and Vice-Convener Band on Art. 485.

### **475. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

### **476. DEPUTATION**

In terms of Standing Order 59, the Committee agreed the request to address the Committee received from Mr C Youlten in terms of Art. 479 – Review of School Estate: Logiealmond Primary School Option Appraisal Report.

In terms of Standing Order 19, the Committee unanimously agreed to hear the deputation in the order of business.

### **477. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **(i) Lifelong Learning Committee**

The Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 1 June 2011 (Arts. 282-294) was submitted, approved as a correct record, and authorised for signature.

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**(ii) Attendance Sub-Committee**

- (a) The Minute of Meeting of the Attendance Sub-Committee of 12 May 2011 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix I)**
- (b) The Minute of Meeting of the Attendance Sub-Committee of 26 May 2011 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix II)**

**(iii) Executive Sub-Committee**

- (a) The Minute of Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 2 February 2011 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix III)**
- (b) The Minute of Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 18 May 2011 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix IV)**

**(iv) Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff**

The Minute of Meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 19 April 2011 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix V)**

**(v) School Estate Sub-Committee**

The Minute of Meeting of the School Estate Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 10 March 2011 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix VI)**

**478. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE**

- (i) The appointment of Mrs. Pat Giles to the Lifelong Learning Committee until May 2012 as representative of the Church of Scotland be agreed.
- (ii) The appointment of Mrs. Hilary Bridge to the Lifelong Learning Committee until May 2012 as representative of the Scottish Episcopal Church be agreed.

**479. REVIEW OF SCHOOL ESTATE: LOGIEALMOND PRIMARY SCHOOL OPTION APPRAISAL REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/428) (1) advising the committee of the outcome of the Options Appraisal undertaken in respect of Logiealmond Primary School; and (2) recommending further action in respect of the catchment area.

Mr Youlten, Chairperson of the Logiealmond Primary School Parent Council, addressed the Committee on the proposals outlined in the report. Mr Youlten answered a number of questions from Committee members and thereafter withdrew to the public gallery.

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**Resolved:**

- (i) The Options Appraisal, attached as Appendix A to Report 11/428, be approved.
- (ii) It be approved that Logiealmond Primary School remain open with the situation being kept under review.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to formally consult the appropriate bodies and persons in relation to a limited review of the catchment area for Logiealmond Primary School, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Committee on the outcome of these consultations in due course.

**480. PROPOSAL TO CLOSE STRONE OF CALLY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/429) (1) informing the Committee of the outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of Strone of Cally Primary School, as detailed in the published Consultation Report (attached as Appendix A to Report 11/429); and (2) seeking approval to implement the proposal to close Strone of Cally Primary School.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of the Consultation Report, attached as Appendix A to Report 11/429, be noted.
- (ii) The implementation of the following proposals be approved:
  - Education provision at Strone of Cally Primary School be discontinued with effect from Wednesday 27 June 2012, or as soon as possible thereafter;
  - The pupils of Strone of Cally Primary School to receive their education at Kirkmichael Primary School, from Tuesday 14 August 2012 or as soon as possible thereafter; and
  - The delineated area of Kirkmichael Primary School be extended to subsume the whole delineated area of Strone of Cally Primary School from Tuesday 14 August 2012.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to formally advise Scottish Ministers and provide all relevant documentation in relation to the proposal to close Strone of Cally Primary School for their consideration, in terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

**481. DEFERMENT OF CONSULTATIONS FOR STRALOCH AND STRUAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/430) (1) seeking approval to defer the commencement of formal consultations on the proposals to close Straloch Primary School and Struan Primary School until the findings and recommendations of the Commission on the Delivery of Rural Education are reported; and (2) informing the Committee of the operational arrangements for both schools in the meantime.

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In terms of Standing Orders 30 and 31, the Convener ruled that the contents of Report 11/430 constituted a material change of circumstances that required the decision taken on 1 June 2011 (Arts. 288 and 289 refer) to be reconsidered.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The commencement of formal consultations on the proposals to close Straloch Primary School and Struan Primary School be deferred until the findings and recommendations of the Commission on the Delivery of Rural Education are reported.
- (ii) It be noted that the previously agreed arrangements to mothball Straloch and Struan Primary Schools from 15 August 2011 will remain in place.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Committee on the findings and recommendations of the Commission in due course.

**482. IMAGINATION LIBRARY**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/431) seeking approval for the implementation of the Imagination Library in Perth and Kinross which has been supported by the Scottish Government. The initiative was outlined as a joint venture between Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the Scottish Government and the Scottish Book trust to regularly provide books to Looked After Children.

**Resolved:**

- (i) Perth and Kinross Council's participation in the Imagination Library be agreed.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring a progress report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee in November 2012.

**483. CULTURE MATTERS – THE BIG LISTEN**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/432) that provided members with information about a programme of engagement with current non-users and users of cultural services, which would inform the design of the services in the future.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The content of Report 11/432 be noted.
- (ii) The roll out of the programme during September and October 2011 be agreed.

**484. FOSTERING AND PERMANENCE PANEL CONSTITUTION**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/433); (1) advising that the constitution of the Fostering and Permanence Panel required to be updated following the implementation of the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009; and (2) seeking approval for the publication of the Adoption Services Plan in line with the 2009 regulations.

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**Resolved:**

- (i) The changes to the constitution of the Adoption and Permanence Panel, as outlined in Report 11/433, be approved.
- (ii) The Adoption Services Plan, as appended to Report 11/433, be approved.

**485. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT ENTITLEMENT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/434) seeking approval to implement the Home to School Transport Entitlement Criteria with effect from August 2011.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Home to School Transport Entitlement Criteria, attached as Appendix 1 to Report 11/434, be approved.
- (ii) The continued implementation of the criteria from August 2011 be authorised.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to review and revise all published information for parents, schools and the wider community with regard to the Council's Home to School Transport Entitlement Criteria.

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