

# 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 May 2006 at 3.00pm.

Present: Councillors Hayton, Baird, Bushby, Coburn, Culliven, Doig, A Grant, Lennie, Lyall (substituting for Councillor Howie), MacLellan, Simpson, Stewart, Mr I Jackson, Mr C Mackie, Father K McCaffrey, Mr F Shewan, Mr D Stewart and Mr G Young.

In Attendance: Councillor Crabbie (for Articles 374 to 380), Councillor McEwen (from Art. 374); L McConnell, Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), M Anderson, G Boland, J Cessford, N Copland, A Hynd, A Ker, L Knowles, D Lingley, B Renton, K Robertson, A Turnbull and M Walker (all Education and Children's Services); J Cockburn, A Wilson and C Irons (all Corporate Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors E Grant and Howie and Mr Dunlop.

Councillor Hayton, Convener, Presiding.

## **370. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

## **371. ELECTION OF PARENTS TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE**

It was noted that Mr Gerard Young had been appointed as the Primary Sector parent representative to the Lifelong Learning Committee.

The Convener welcomed Mr Young to his first meeting of the Committee and wished him well in his appointment.

## **372. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 19 April 2006 (Arts 260-271) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

## **373. MINUTE OF MEETING OF JOINT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHING STAFF**

The Minute of Meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 8 May 2006 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix I*)

C Mackie expressed very profound thanks to Ian Mason, due to retire from Education and Children's Services at the end of June 2006. He had undertaken an enormous amount of work for the Joint Negotiating Committee, in particular progressing the National Agreement agenda in 2001, and will be missed by JNC members. The Convener also expressed thanks to Ian for all his work in Education and Children's Services and wished him well in his retirement.

## **374. TOWARDS A MODERN LIBRARY SERVICE**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/361) identifying key priorities of the Library Service and seeking approval of the endorsement of the Management Rules which supported them. Liz Knowles, Service Manager, Libraries and Lifelong Learning, also gave a presentation on the current situation within the Council's Library Service.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) The key priorities for the Library Service be approved.
- (ii) The Management Rules for the Library Service be endorsed.
- (iii) Internet access within Libraries be monitored and a further report be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.

### **375. DRAFT POLICY FOR FOSTERING AND ADOPTION SERVICES IN PERTH AND KINROSS**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/362) on the draft policy for Fostering and Adoption in Perth and Kinross following consultation.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The consultation responses be noted.
- (ii) The revised Policy for Adoption and Fostering Services in Perth and Kinross be approved.

### **376. TEACHERS' AGREEMENT FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY – IMPLEMENTATION OF REDUCTION IN CLASS CONTACT PHASE 2**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/363) outlining the actions taken to support the implementation of Reduction in Class Contact Time (RCCT) Phase 2 from August 2006, as set out in the Teachers' Agreement for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The deployment of specialist teachers of art, drama, music and physical education to facilitate the Reduction in Class Contact Time for staff in nursery and primary classes, be approved.
- (ii) An additional staffing allocation to secondary schools to facilitate the Reduction in Class Contact Time in secondary schools, be approved.
- (iii) Notes of Guidance be produced to assist schools to implement arrangements for Reduction in Class Contact Time along with recommendations for the use of related Collegiate Hours, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/363.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring back a progress report to the Lifelong Learning Committee in September 2007.

### **377. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR EMPLOYEE REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/364) with an updated version of the 'Strategic Framework for Staff Development' together with amended Employee and Review Guidelines.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of the draft 'A Strategic Framework for Employee Review and Development' be noted.
- (ii) It be agreed that a period of consultation take place from May to October 2006.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring back the outcomes of this consultation to the Lifelong Learning Committee by November 2006.

### **378. CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEAL APPLICATIONS**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/365) outlining proposed changes to the current policy for free school meal applications and seeking approval for implementing these changes with effect from August 2006.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The proposed changes for free school meal applications be approved, with effect from August 2006.
- (ii) The guidance for parents/carers regarding applications be approved.

### **379. ST FILLANS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/366) outlining the latest consultation exercise undertaken with parents/carers in the St Fillans Primary School catchment area.

In terms of Standing Order 53, Councillor Crabbie, as the local member, was invited to speak and he referred to previous good HMIE reports on the school and congratulated the Community Council on its efforts to save the school.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The outcome of the consultation process be noted.

- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to progress the proposal to close St Fillans Primary School taking relevant steps to merge the school's current catchment area with that of Comrie Primary School, and informing all parents/carers and the wider community of the proposed official closure of the school.

### **380. ACTIVE SCHOOLS PROJECT**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/367) detailing the work of the Active Schools Project to date and seeking approval to conduct a review of Active Schools (Secondary) in line with the development of the Project.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The progress and good practice evidenced in Report 06/367 be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to conduct a review of the Active Schools (Secondary) Project and report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee on 22 November 2006.

### **381. FEARNAN OUTDOOR CENTRE**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/372) seeking approval to declare Fearnan Outdoor Centre surplus to the operational requirements of Education and Children's Services, and to note the intention to bring forward a Business Case for the upgrade of Kinloch Rannoch Centre.

**Resolved:**

- (i) Fearnan Outdoor Centre be declared surplus to the operational requirements of Education and Children's Services.
- (ii) Report 06/372 be referred to the Property Sub-Committee for its consideration and approval to proceed with the disposal of Fearnan Outdoor Centre.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring forward a Business Case supporting the refurbishment of Kinloch Rannoch Centre for the consideration of Elected Members.

### **382. RAISING ACHIEVEMENT STRATEGY**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/368) detailing the on-going consultation of the document and the development work currently being undertaken on the Draft Raising Achievement Strategy.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The progress of the Raising Achievement Strategy be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee on progress by 27 September 2006.

### **383. DRAFT IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/369) giving details on the consultation on the Draft Improvement Framework and the development work currently being undertaken.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The progress of the draft Improvement Framework be noted.
- (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring back the final version of the Improvement Framework for approval by the Lifelong Learning Committee by September 2006.

### **384. PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING ON, AND SCRUTINY OF, FORMAL SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORTS**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/370) updating the Committee on the implementation of the revised model for involving parents, headteachers, central staff and the wider community in the reporting and scrutiny for formal inspection reports for schools within Perth and Kinross Council.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 06/370 be noted.
- (ii) The proposals outlined in Section 4 of Report 06/370 be approved.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring back a further report at the end of school session 2006/2007 regarding the on-going effectiveness of the procedure.

**385. 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 Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/371) advising the Committee of the key findings and progress with main points for action, as set out in Appendices 1-5, from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE), Care Commission and Education Authorities.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The following summary reports, as attached in Appendices 1-5 to Report 06/371, be noted:
  - (a) Summary of the HMIE Inspection Report on Arngask Primary School (Appendix 1);
  - (b) Summary of the HMIE/Care Commission Integrated Inspection Report on ABC Day Nursery (Appendix 2);
  - (c) Summary of the HMIE/Care Commission Integrated Inspection Report on Crossroads Pre-School Nursery (Appendix 3);
  - (d) Summary of the HMIE/Care Commission Integrated Inspection Report on Humpty Dumpty Playgroup, Scone (Appendix 4); and
  - (e) Summary of the HMIE/Care Commission Integrated Inspection Report on Kinloch Rannoch Primary School Nursery Class (Appendix 5).
- (ii) The information provided by Councillor Baird to members on the meeting she had attended at Arngask Primary School be noted.
- (iii) It be noted that the Standards and Scrutiny Committee on 3 May 2006 had welcomed the reports.