

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CENTRAL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2011 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Maureen McKay, Tom Cook, Iain Linton, Douglas Reid, Drew McIntyre, Hugh Ross, Barney Menzies and Kathy Morrice; Jennifer Elliot, William Cree and Stewart Dorbie (TGWU); Brian Reid, Jane Beale (Unison); Janet Mitchell and Stuart Ross (GMB); Billy McBurnie (AMICUS/ AEEU) and Andy Wilson (UCATT).

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; Alex McPhee, Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support; Martin Rose, Head of Human Resources; Andrew Kennedy, Head of Facilities Management; George Park, Employee Relations Manager and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Arthur West, Trade Union Convener; Tracey Dalling, Unison Full Time Official and Jim Winter, TGWU Full Time Official.

APOLOGIES: Paul Bennett, UCATT Full Time Official and Louise Gilmour GMB Full Time Official.

CHAIR: Jennifer Elliot, Chair.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

1. The Committee resolved "That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act".

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2. There were submitted and approved (circulated) as a correct record the Minutes of previous meetings, viz:-
 - 2.1.1 Minutes of Special Meeting held on 25 November 2010;
 - 2.1.2 Minutes of Meeting held on 2 December 2010; and
 - 2.1.3 Minutes of Special Meeting held on 3 February 2011.

SINGLE STATUS UPDATE

3. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2011 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which provided a final update on Single Status and related matters.

It was agreed to note this final report on the Council's harmonisation arrangements for Local Government Employees under Single Status.

Councillor Drew McIntyre joined the meeting at this point.

PENSIONS PATHFINDER PROJECT

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 10 March 2011 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which provided an update on the Pension's Pathfinder Project.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SECTOR PENSIONS COMMISSION – RECOMMENDATIONS

5. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2011 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which provided an update on the final report of the Independent Public Sector Pensions Commission which was chaired by Lord Hutton.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that updates would be provided to the Committee as appropriate; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

TRADE UNION CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS POST 1 APRIL 2011

6. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2011 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which advised of the arrangements for Trade Union Consultation following the discontinuation of the post of full time Trade Union Convener with effect from 1 April 2011.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Draft Collective Bargaining Protocol had been issued to the Trade Unions, and Jim Winter had invited all Unions to a meeting to discuss the matter, and would respond in due course;
- (ii) to meanwhile provide Jim Winter, TGWU with a copy of the Central JCC constitution, as requested; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY – 28 APRIL

7. The Trade Union Convener provided a report, and it was noted, on the marking of this event by the Kilmarnock and Loudoun Trade Union Council over the years on the Saturday nearest to 28th April, and the discussions with the Council to mark the day itself with an event on 28 April.

BUDGET UPDATE

8. The Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support provided the meeting with an update on the actions take forward to achieve savings this year. It was reported that the estimated compulsory redundancies had been reduced from approximately 100 to around three.

It was further reported and noted that work had now commenced to balance the budget for the next financial year including a Management Review, with the savings required for 2012/2013 dependent on the level of grant received from the Scottish

Government, which could be in the region of £7M - £15M. Savings proposals would be brought forward throughout the year.

FULL TIME TRADE UNION CONVENOR – ARTHUR WEST

9. The Chair reported the retiral on 31 March of the Trade Union Convenor, Arthur West.

Brian Reid, Unison spoke of the qualities Arthur had brought to the position over the years, and highlighted his involvement in various good causes outwith his employment.

The Chair then paid tribute to Arthur's work with the Council and his contribution to the Central JCC, and presented him with a leaving gift.

Councillor Douglas Reid also thanked Arthur on behalf of the Council and Elected Members for his able contribution.

The Head of Human Resources also wished Arthur well for the future and presented him with an appropriate gift to mark his retirement.

In response Arthur thanked everyone for their kind words and for the gifts he had received, and the Chair wished Arthur all the best for the future.

The meeting terminated at 1440 hrs.