

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2009 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Reid, Iain Linton, John MacKay, Jim Buchanan, Hugh Ross, Robert McDill, Jim Roberts and Kathy Morrice.

ATTENDING: Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Robin Baker, Financial Controller, Chief Executive's Department; and Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors John Knapp and Jim Todd.

CHAIR: Councillor Douglas Reid, Chair.

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION

CUMNOCK TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION - PROJECTS UPDATE

1. There was submitted a report dated 16 February 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which updated Cabinet on the progress of the various elements of the Cumnock Town Centre Regeneration Project including (i) proposed office development at Greenholm Road; (ii) retail development; (iii) Cumnock Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS); (iv) Cumnock Masterplan Strategic Environmental Assessment; (v) proposed formation of a car park at the Cleansing Yard; and (vi) Town Centre Management.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made for each element of the Cumnock Town Centre Regeneration project as updated by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES

NON DOMESTIC RATES - MANDATORY AND DISCRETIONARY RELIEF POLICY

2. There was submitted a report dated 5 January 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management which advised Cabinet of the current policy in respect of mandatory and discretionary relief available and which sought approval for an addition to the policy whereby organisations could be considered for discretionary relief notwithstanding that the award of occasional licences could be made in respect of any premises from which they carried out their activities.

Cabinet, having noted that Paragraph 3.9.3 of the report should have referred to Appendix 1 and not Appendix 2, agreed:-

- (i) that the revised mandatory and discretionary non-domestic rates relief policy as detailed in Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report be approved;
- (ii) that the addition to the policy proposed at Paragraph 3.6(d) in respect of occasional licences be approved; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROPOSED DISESTABLISHMENT OF CUMNOCK DISTRICT COURT

3. There was submitted a report dated 9 February 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which apprised Cabinet of the Scottish Court Service's proposal to disestablish Cumnock District Court on 29 June 2009 and to transfer all Cumnock District Court business to the newly established Ayr Justice of the Peace Court and which sought Cabinet's endorsement of the consultation response issued thereon by the East Ayrshire Justices.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the views expressed by the East Ayrshire Justices with particular reference to the proposed disestablishment of Cumnock District Court and transfer of business to the Ayr Justice of the Peace Court;
- (ii) that the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support convey this decision to the Scottish Courts Service;
- (iii) that the Council apprise Cathy Jamieson, MSP and relevant List MSP's of the proposal and seek their endorsement of the views expressed by the East Ayrshire Justices with particular reference to the proposed disestablishment of Cumnock District Court and transfer of business to Ayr Justice of the Peace Court;
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report; and
- (v) to note that the Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services reported that, in the absence of Cabinet Member Councillor Knapp, the East Ayrshire Labour Group had submitted a letter dated 16 February 2009 which advised that they also endorsed the views expressed by East Ayrshire Justices in respect of the proposed disestablishment of Cumnock District Court and the transfer of business to Ayr Justice of the Peace Court.

The meeting terminated at 1020 hours.