

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2008 AT
0900 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Provost Stephanie Young and Councillors Rose-Ann Cuninghame, John MacKay, Helen Coffey, Willie Coffey, Maureen McKay, Tom Cook, Robert Keohone, Iain Linton, Douglas Reid, Depute Provost John Campbell, Councillors Gordon Cree, Drew McIntyre, John Knapp, Hugh Ross, Jim Todd, Alan Brown, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Jim Roberts, William Crawford, Barney Menzies, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie, Drew Filson and Jim Sutherland.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services and Julie McGarry, Administration Manager.

APOLOGIES: Councillor John McGhee, Jim Buchanan and Kathy Morrice.

CHAIR: Provost Stephanie Young, Chair.

**BOUNDARY REVIEW FOR SCOTLAND: FIRST PERIODICAL REVIEW OF
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT BOUNDARIES**

1. There were submitted a report dated 6 March 2008 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which provided Council with: (i) information on the First Periodical Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries; (ii) information of the implications for East Ayrshire; and (iii) an opportunity to consider any part of the proposals on which the Council wished to make representation.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Linton moved:-

- (i) that any review by the Boundary Commission of Scottish Parliamentary Constituencies within this area should be carried out on an Ayrshire-wide basis and that all Parliamentary Constituencies for Ayrshire should be contained solely within Ayrshire;
- (ii) that the Chief Executive be authorised to seek support from North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Councils for their agreement to support the principle that any review by the Boundary Commission should be focussed on an Ayrshire-wide basis, and that Parliamentary Constituencies within Ayrshire should be contained solely within Ayrshire;
- (iii) that the following examples of Parliamentary Constituencies be submitted for consideration by the Boundary Commission as part of the Council's representations, in the following order of preference:

PREFERENCE 1

1. that the existing Parliamentary Constituency of Kilmarnock and Loudoun be retained with an existing electorate as at July 2007 of 61,066;
2. that the proposed North Cunninghame Constituency, with an electorate of 51,560 be retained; and

3. that in order to create a further three Constituencies to propose that amendments be carried out to the proposed South Cunninghame and North Ayr and Troon Constituencies, together with amendments to be carried out to the South Ayr, Carrick and Doon Valley Constituency, in order to provide for the retention of Wards 7, 8 and 9 within a Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley Constituency equivalent Constituency and therefore provide for five Parliamentary Constituency within Ayrshire.

PREFERENCE 2

Option 1 as outlined in paragraphs 5.6 and 5.7, together with the proposals contained within paragraph 5.9 of the paper.

- (iv) to propose the suggested names, as outlined in paragraph 7;
- (v) that the Council authorise the Chief Executive to submit, on behalf of the Council the above, as this Council's representations to the First Periodical Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries.

Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Cuninghame moved as an amendment to make no Council representation and that this should be a matter for individual Councillors and Parties to make representation on.

Councillor Jackson, seconded by Councillor Knapp moved as a second amendment to support option 1 as detailed within the report given the historical background which existed and acknowledged that there would be an opportunity at the local inquiry to develop further the proposals for Constituencies in the area.

On a division by a show of hands for the motion, the first amendment and the second amendment, there were 13 votes for the second amendment, 3 votes for the first amendment and 12 votes for the motion.

As none of the proposals received the support of a majority of the Members taking part in the vote, in accordance with Standing Order 35, the first amendment, having received the least support fell and the vote was then taken anew between the motion and the second amendment.

On a division by a show of hands between the seconded amendment and the motion, the second amendment was carried by 13 votes to 12.

The meeting terminated at 0920 hrs.