

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 12 November 2015.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Deputy Leader)	Councillor Mary Montague
Councillor Elaine Green	Councillor Vincent Waters
Councillor Ian McAlpine	

Councillor Buchanan, Deputy Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Andy Corry, Head of Environment (Environmental Services and Roads); Donnie McManus, Parks and Cemeteries Manager; Steve Fox, Prevention Services Manager; Stuart Free, Principal Officer (Asset Management); Scott Gibson, Senior Transportation Officer; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apology:

Councillors Jim Fletcher (Leader); Danny Devlin; and Alan Lafferty.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1795. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

Variation in Order of Business

In accordance with the terms of Standing Order 19, Councillor Buchanan altered the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting.

DELIVERY OF THE LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR EAST RENFREWSHIRE

1796. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, providing an update on the progress with the delivery of the Council's Local Transport Strategy (LTS) and advising on the preparation of an Active Travel Action Plan (ATAP) for East Renfrewshire. A copy of the ATAP was appended to the report.

The report explained that the Local Transport Strategy remained the statutory document in reflecting the Council's interest in regional and national policy development as well as providing strategic direction for transport at a local level. It was noted that to date the LTS had been significant in supporting successful applications for the external funding on projects of importance to the Council. A summary of the 2014/15 projects contributing to the LTS was appended to the report. Furthermore, supporting the existing LTS emphasised the continued relevance of the LTS with a focus on delivery of projects.

The report also highlighted that the Active Travel Action Plan (ATAP) provided the Council's strategic direction for the provision and promotion of active travel. It was within this framework that the Council's future projects would be prioritised to provide a local contribution to national policy in relation to walking and cycling.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) noted the progress update in achieving the outcomes of the Local Transport Strategy; and
- (b) approved the Active Travel Action Plan (ATAP) for East Renfrewshire for publication.

FOOTBALL PITCH LETS (ALLOCATION POLICY)

1797. Under reference to the Minute of 21 November 2013 (Page 777, Item 817 refers), when the Cabinet agreed amongst other things that a pitch lets policy be drawn up and be submitted to the Cabinet for approval taking into consideration the Scottish FA Quality Mark scheme within 2 years, the Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval of an Allocation Policy for Football Pitch Lets. A copy of the policy was appended to the report.

The report provided details about the current football pitch allocation policy, highlighted that with a view to improving customer satisfaction, a consultation exercise had been undertaken and that as a result of the feedback received, it was proposed to make a number of changes to the Council's current allocation policy. Details of the proposed changes were outlined in the report.

The report concluded by highlighting that the allocation process for football pitches and training lets would be better served by the formation of a clear policy and one which provided a fairer and more equitable allocation of pitches taking into consideration the Scottish FA Quality Mark Scheme and would also maximise the use of current facilities.

The Cabinet approved the revised Football Pitch Lets allocation policy as detailed in the report.

CONSUMER RIGHTS ACT 2015

1798. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, providing details about the Consumer Rights Act 2015 and the effect that it would have on the enforcement of existing legislation that was delegated to Trading Standards.

The report explained that in the past each piece of legislation had enforcement powers contained within the body of that legislation for Trading Standards which meant that some legislation had different enforcement powers attached to it. Whilst noting that the Consumer Rights Act 2015 consolidated and clarified enforcement powers into one place for the legislation listed in Schedule 5 of the Act, the report also indicated that it also set out a framework that consolidated in one place key consumer rights covering contracts for goods, services, digital content and the law relating to unfair terms in consumer contracts.

The report also highlighted that the Act replaced three major pieces of consumer legislation - the Sale of Goods Act, the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations and the Supply of Goods and Services Act, and introduced changes such as 30 days to get a refund, Digital Content Rights, Pre-contract Information and Unfair Contracts legislation to enable consumers to challenge hidden fees and charges. These changes would make it easier for consumers to understand and pursue their right in regard to faulty good and services.

The Cabinet

- (a) approved the addition of the Consumer Rights Act 2015 to the delegated list of legislation enforced by Trading Standards;
- (b) acknowledged that the Act would significantly enhance consumers rights; and
- (c) acknowledged that the Act would consolidate and standardise enforcement powers for a number of consumer related pieces of legislation.

Resolution to Exclude Press and Public

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Deputy Leader, the Cabinet unanimously resolved that in accordance with the provisions of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

PROPOSED SALE OF LAND ADJACENT TO BROTHER LOCH, GREENHAGS, NEWTON MEARNS

1799. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval of the proposed sale of ground adjacent to Brother Loch, Greenhags, Newton Mearns.

The Cabinet authorised the sale of 0.19 hectares of land adjacent to the Brother Loch at Greenhags, Newton Mearns, as detailed in the report.

CHAIR

