

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - FIFE COUNCIL - GLENROTHES**

26th September, 2019

10.00 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.  
and 2.05 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jim Leishman (Convener), David Alexander, Lesley Backhouse, Alistair Bain, David Barratt, John Beare, Tim Brett, James Calder, Ken Caldwell, Alistair Cameron, Ian Cameron, Alex Campbell, Rod Cavanagh, Bobby Clelland, Dave Coleman, Bill Connor, Neil Crooks, Colin Davidson, Dave Dempsey, John Docherty, Gavin Ellis, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, David Graham, Fiona Grant, Mick Green, Gary Guichan, Garry Haldane, Judy Hamilton, Andy Heer, Zoe Hisbent, Linda Holt, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law, Kathleen Leslie, Rosemary Liewald, Carol Lindsay, Jane Ann Liston, Mary Lockhart, Donald Lothian, David MacDiarmid, Mino Manekshaw, Karen Marjoram, Alice McGarry, Tony Miklinski, Derek Noble, Dominic Nolan, John OBrien, Tony Orton, Bill Porteous, Graham Ritchie, David Ross, David J Ross, Fay Sinclair, Ryan Smart, Kate Stewart, Alistair Suttie, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson, Ann Verner, Andrew Verrecchia, Ross Vettraino, Craig Walker, Darren Watt, Richard Watt, Vikki Wilton and Jan Wincott.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors Altany Craik, Margaret Kennedy and Ross Paterson.

**136. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors David Barratt, Karen Marjoram and Mary Lockhart all declared an interest in paragraph 145 below – Motion 5, as they are all members of CND Scotland, however they considered that as the interest was so remote or insignificant, they would remain and participate.

**137. DEPUTATION - CHARITY ASSOCIATION OF BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS**

A presentation was made to members by Amy Gannon from the Charity Association of Breastfeeding Mothers. Her presentation provided members with an overview of the work carried out by the Charity of Association of Breastfeeding Mothers and the progress made to increase the number of breastfeeding mothers in Fife.

Following questions from members, the Provost thanked Amy for her presentation.

**138. CIVIC BUSINESS BULLETIN**

There was tabled at the meeting a Civic Business Bulletin, a copy of which is appended as Appendix 1 to the minute.

**139. MINUTE OF FIFE COUNCIL OF 27TH JUNE, 2019**

The Provost, seconded by Councillor Alexander, moved that the minute of the meeting of Fife Council of 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 be approved,

**Decision/**

**Decision**

The minute was approved.

**140. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES**

The minutes of the undernoted Committees and Sub-Committees, as contained in the volume of minutes (available on FISH and Fife Direct), were submitted for accuracy.

- (1) Regulation and Licensing Committee of 4<sup>th</sup> June, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2<sup>nd</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.
- (2) North East Planning Committee of 26<sup>th</sup> June and 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2019.
- (3) Central Area Planning Committee of 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.
- (4) Fife Planning Review Body of 17<sup>th</sup> June and 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.
- (5) Assets, Property and Facilities Committee of 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019.
- (6) Standards and Audit Committee of 20<sup>th</sup> June and 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.
- (7) Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning and Transportation Committee of 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.
- (8) Environment and Protective Services Committee of 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.
- (9) City of Dunfermline Area Committee of 25<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.
- (10) Glenrothes Area Committee of 19<sup>th</sup> June and 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2019.
- (11) South and West Fife Area Committee of 12<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.
- (12) Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 11<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.
- (13) North East Fife Area Committee of 19<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.
- (14) Levenmouth Area Committee of 26<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.
- (15) Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 26<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.
- (16) Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board of 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2019 (subject to approval by the Integration Joint Board at their meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2019).

**141. CO-LEADERS REPORT**

The Council considered a report from the Co-Leaders on a number of strategic issues and a high level progress report on the Programme for Administration.

The Co-Leaders provided updates on a number of issues in response to questions from members.

**Motion**

Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Alexander, moved approval of the report.

**Amendment**

Councillor Dempsey, seconded by Councillor Miklinski, moved as follows:-

“Council notes that the Administration’s progress summary completely lacks evidence and, therefore, credibility. The report should be resubmitted with appropriate detail.”

**Vote/**

Vote

Amendment - 21 votes  
Motion - 45 votes

**Decision**

The Council agreed in terms of the motion.

**142. QUESTION TIME**

In terms of Standing Order No. 1.7, the questions put by members to the meeting, the written answers and supplementary questions, as contained in Appendix 2 to the minute.

*Councillor Holt left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.*

**143. STANDARDS COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND DECISION**

The Council considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services which presented the findings of the Standard Commission for Scotland in relation to a complaint against Councillor Linda Holt.

**Decision**

The Council noted the report.

**144. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE**

The Council considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services seeking approval of the revised structure of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) following agreement of the revised committee structure in June 2019. Members were also asked to appoint Conveners and Vice-Conveners to both scrutiny committees.

Motion

Councillor David Ross, seconded by Councillor Alexander, moved that Standing Orders be suspended in terms of Standing Order No. 14.4, to allow the Vice-Conveners of both Scrutiny Committees to be appointed at their respective committees.

As the required majority of members present and entitled to vote was achieved, Standing Orders were suspended to allow the appointment of Vice-Conveners to be delegated to their respective committees.

Education/

Education and Children's Services, Health and Social Care Committee

Councillor Dempsey, seconded by Councillor David J Ross, moved that Councillor Miklinski be appointed as Convener of the Education and Children's Services, Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

**Decision**

The Council agreed unanimously that Councillor Miklinski be appointed as Convener of the Education and Children's Services, Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

Environment, Finance and Communities Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Lothian, seconded by Councillor Calder, moved that Councillor Brett be appointed as Convener of the Environment, Finance and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

**Decision**

The Council agreed unanimously that Councillor Brett be appointed as Convener of the Environment, Finance and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

**145. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

The Council considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which requested the Council consider the motions submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 8.1.

*The Provost advised that in agreement with the movers of the motions, given the similarities between Motions No. 4 and 6 on the agenda, these motions were to be conjoined. The wording of the revised conjoined motion was circulated for members information.*

**Motion 1**

Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Brett, moved as follows:-

Fife Council agrees to:

1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency';
2. Work with others, taking the lead if necessary, to make Fife carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption;
3. Work with partners and community groups across Fife to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans, and encourage them to adopt the likes of our Environmental Assessment passed earlier this year in the consideration of each new policy and procedure;
4. Assist communities to become more resilient to the impacts of global warming, particularly to flooding and to drought
- 5./

5. Ensure that all reports in preparation for the 2020/21 budget will take into account the actions the council will take to address this emergency;
6. Report to Full Council before the end of 2019 with the actions the Council has, and will take, to address this emergency.

### Amendment

Councillor Vettraino, seconded by Councillor Hamilton, moved as follows:-

“Council agrees to declare a Climate Emergency for Fife and, as the only democratically elected body representing Fife alone, to provide leadership in working with others to address urgent challenges of climate change.

Council recognises that what is needed are results not rhetoric and by merely expressing wants does not make them happen.

Council further agrees to:-

1. Acknowledge the latest target set by the Scottish Parliament and to seek to reduce Fife’s carbon emissions by 75% compared with the baseline by 2030 reduce by 90% by 2040 and be carbon neutral by 2045;
2. Continue to develop its Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan, which is currently under preparation for consultation and due to be submitted for final consideration by the Environment and Protective Services Committee in February 2020;
3. That the Plan should include a clear strategy and actions with realistic targets, to address climate change and achieve the overall target for reduction in carbon emissions, and should take account of the 12 point guidance on taking forward the climate change emergency agenda locally produced by the Association of Public Service Excellence;
4. Taking account of the capacity and resources, both required and available to it, that the Council will incorporate the cost of climate change adaptation and mitigation within its budgetary decisions;
5. To engage with its community planning partners to revise the Plan4Fife to include a clearer commitment and actions to address climate change;
6. To assist communities to be more resilient to the impacts of global warming and climate change and work with partners and communities across Fife in pursuit of these targets.

### Vote

Amendment	-	58 votes
Motion	-	6 votes

### Decision

The Council agreed in terms of the amendment.

### Motion/

**Motion 2**

Councillor Graham, seconded by Councillor Smart, moved as follows:-

"Fife council notes and applauds the news that the Levenmouth Rail Link is to be open with an investment of £75m to reinstate the line plus additional investment with the Levenmouth blue print to the Levenmouth area from both Fife Council and Scottish Government.

Council also recognises that the credit for this life and area changing announcement needs to go to the members of the Levenmouth Rail Campaign, Fife Council and Scottish Government staff along with the people of Levenmouth.

We thank the members of LMRC for the work they have done and with the professionalism in which they have executed their campaigning."

**Decision**

The Council agreed the motion unanimously.

**Motion 3**

Councillor Liewald, seconded by Councillor Marjoram, moved as follows:-

"That this Council recognises and acknowledges the problems and anxieties of peri-menopausal and menopausal women and ensures that all staff are treated fairly, equally and with dignity and respect, whilst seeking to improve their well-being, comfort and general health. Furthermore that this council are committed to introducing a policy that will positively impact on our female work force, with this Council providing appropriate support to women who are experiencing symptoms of the menopause."

**Decision**

The Council agreed the motion unanimously.

**Conjoined Motions 4 and 6**

Councillor Calder, seconded by Councillor Beare, moved as follows:-

"Council notes the significant negative impact and threats a 'No-Deal Brexit' would have on public services, residents, businesses and other organisations across Fife. Council notes that the Westminster Parliament has legislated to prevent a no-deal Brexit, agrees that the UK should in no circumstances leave the EU on a no-deal basis and condemns the Prime Minister's suspension of the UK Parliament found to be unlawful by the Court of Session in Edinburgh, and the Supreme Court in London.

Council asks the Council Co-Leaders to write to the Prime Minister in that regard."

**Amendment/**

Amendment 1

Councillor Dempsey, seconded by Councillor David J Ross, moved as follows:-

“Council notes we have to leave the European Union in order to uphold the democratic outcome of the 2016 referendum and that we need to leave on the best deal possible.”

Amendment 2

Councillor David Ross, seconded by Councillor Alexander, moved as follows:-

“Council further condemns the Prime Minister’s flippant use of pejorative and inflammatory language that is whipping up division in our society and creating an environment that encourages hate speech, verbal abuse and the threat of physical violence.”

*With the agreement of the Provost, the mover of the conjoined motion agreed to accept amendment 2. For the purposes of the vote this became the substantive conjoined motion.*

Vote

Amendment	-	12 votes
Conjoined Motion	-	51 votes

Decision

The Council agreed in terms of the conjoined motion.

*The meeting adjourned at 1.30 p.m.*

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*The meeting reconvened at 2.05 p.m.*

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jim Leishman (Convener), David Alexander, Lesley Backhouse, David Barratt, John Beare, Tim Brett, James Calder, Ken Caldwell, Alistair Cameron, Ian Cameron, Alex Campbell, Rod Cavanagh, Bobby Clelland, Dave Coleman, Bill Connor, Neil Crooks, Dave Dempsey, John Docherty, Gavin Ellis, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, David Graham, Mick Green, Gary Guichan, Garry Haldane, Judy Hamilton, Andy Heer, Zoe Hisbent, Gordon Langlands, Helen Law, Kathleen Leslie, Rosemary Liewald, Carol Lindsay, Jane Ann Liston, Mary Lockhart, Donald Lothian, David MacDiarmid, Mino Manekshaw, Karen Marjoram, Alice McGarry, Tony Miklinski, Derek Noble, Dominic Nolan, John OBrien, Bill Porteous, David Ross, David J Ross, Fay Sinclair, Ryan Smart, Jonny Tepp, Brian Thomson, Ann Verner, Andrew Verrecchia, Ross Vettraino, Craig Walker, Darren Watt, Richard Watt, and Jan Wincott.

Motion/

**Motion 5**

Councillor Barratt, seconded by Councillor Marjoram, moved as follows-

The International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons

“Fife Council is an active member of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA), and the Hiroshima-led Mayors for Peace; both of which have been working for almost four decades to promote multilateral nuclear disarmament.

NFLA and Mayors for Peace work with the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which received the Nobel Peace Prize for its work in encouraging over two thirds of United Nations members to agree to the International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Council supports ICAN’s new ‘Cities Appeal’ which urges Councils to formally support the TPNW. It has already been signed by a number of important global cities likes Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Paris, Berlin, Oslo, Washington DC, Toronto, Sydney, Melbourne, Los Angeles, Geneva, Mainz, Trondheim, Zaragoza and in the UK, Manchester, Renfrewshire, Edinburgh, West Dunbartonshire and Hebden Royd.

In supporting the Cities Appeal, Council is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world. We firmly believe that our residents have the right to live in a world free from this threat. Any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment. Therefore, we warmly welcome the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by the United Nations in 2017, and we call on the UK Government to join it.

Council agrees to sign the Cities Appeal and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the UK Government to inform them of this resolution and urge them to take account of it.”

**Amendment 1**

Councillor Miklinski, seconded by Councillor Dempsey, moved as follows:-

“Council recognises that a Government’s first priority is the security of its citizens. In a world where totalitarian states such as North Korea, Russia and China hold substantial nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them, the possession of an independent, credible nuclear deterrent represents the ultimate guarantor of the UK’s security. Council agrees that wishful thinking is not an effective nuclear policy.”

**Amendment 2**

Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Lothian, moved as follows:-

“Council seeks a nuclear free Britain and a nuclear Free World. Council believes that these aims, and all of Britain’s interests, are best advanced by actively and constructively/



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constructively working with the UK's allies and partners in the European Union, the Commonwealth, the United Nations and NATO to develop effective global solutions.

Britain needs to step down the nuclear ladder, pursue multi-lateral disarmament and meet the UK's obligations as a signatory to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons.”

### Amendment 3

Councillor Guichan, seconded by Councillor Noble, moved as follows:-

“Add

Council recognises Fife's economy and history of supplying highly skilled manufacturing work for the Ministry of Defence and therefore calls for the establishment of Defence Diversification Agencies at Scottish and UK levels, with a focus on ensuring a just transition for communities whose livelihoods are based in the defence sector and that jobs, engineering and scientific skills are not lost.”

*With the agreement of the Provost, the mover of the motion agreed to accept amendment 3. For the purposes of the vote this became the substantive conjoined motion.*

### Vote

Amendment 2	-	6 votes
Amendment 1	-	12 votes
Conjoined Motion	-	40 votes

### Decision

As there was a clear majority, the Council agreed in terms of the conjoined motion.

## **146. BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE PROVOST AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

It was noted that there was no business to be brought forward under this item.