

STIRLING COUNCIL

MINUTES of SPECIAL MEETING of the RESOURCES COMMITTEE held in VIEWFORTH, STIRLING on THURSDAY 26 JUNE 1997 at 9.30 pm

Present:-

Councillor Tom COLL (in the Chair)

Depute Provost Margaret BRISLEY	Councillor Ian LAMBIE
Councillor David DAVIDSON	Councillor Corrie McCHORD
Councillor Keith HARDING	Provost John PATERSON
Councillor Edith HOLLIDAY	Councillor Gillie THOMSON
Councillor Pat KELLY	Councillor John WYLES (Vice-Chair)

Also Present:-

Councillor Ken Campbell
Councillor Ann Strang

In Attendance:-

Mr Bill Dickson, Director of Finance and Information Services
Mr Bob Jack, Director of Civic Services
Ms Jacqui Jones, Head of Personnel Services, Chief Executive's Services
Mr David Martin, Director of Environmental Services
Mr Don Monteith, Press and P.R. Manager, Chief Executive's Services
Mr John Shaw, Development Manager, Environmental Services
Ms Barbara Thompson, Head of Communications, Chief Executive's Services
Mr Keith Yates, Chief Executive
Ms Fiona Matheson, Committee Services Manager (Clerk)

Apologies:-

Apologies for absence had been received from Pam Viney and Margaret Innes, JTUC.

RS108 EVALUATION OF MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES

As part of the recent budget savings exercise the Council had agreed that by the end of September 1997 an evaluation of structures would take place across all services of the Council with the aim of identifying savings of £400,000 through this process. Evaluations of Chief Executive Services, Environmental Services and Technical and Commercial Services were currently in the process of completion. In order that any savings resultant from these review processes might accumulate as soon as possible the resultant recommendations would need to be approved during the summer recess. On 18 June 1997 the Strategy Management Group had recommended the establishment of a Service Evaluation Panel to consider and approve recommendations resultant from service evaluations which would obviate the need for special meetings of this Committee during the summer recess.

Reviews of the remaining services - Finance and Information, Education, Civic and Community would be undertaken over the summer recess and reports on the outcome of these submitted to this Committee on 25 September 1997.

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) that a service evaluation Panel be established comprising the following Members of the Committee:-

Tom Coll
Keith Harding
Ian Lambie
Gillie Thomson
John Wyles

- (2) that Tom Coll and John Wyles be appointed as the Chair and Vice Chair respectively;
- (3) that authority be delegated to the Panel to consider and approve recommendations resultant from service evaluations concluded during the summer recess.

(Reference:- Report by Strategy Management Group dated 26 June 1997 submitted.)

The Committee resolved that under Section 50A (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 the 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 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1974.

SUMMARY

RS109 FORTHSIDE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

A report by the Director of Environmental Services provided an update on the land and financial aspects of the Forthside Development Initiative and requested the Committee to approve the acquisition of land to enable the Council and other Stirling Initiative Partners to proceed with the next stages of this key strategic project with a view to making Forthside available to local people and visitors by 1999.

John Shaw, Development Manager, gave a brief presentation on the master programme for site development covering aspects such as the development components, site assembly, land remediation, transportation, on and off site infrastructure, funding etc.

The Director of Finance and Information Services reported on the financial considerations which the Council would have to take into account prior to taking a decision on this matter.

Decision

Committee agreed:-

- (1) to acquire land on Forthside as outlined in the report by the Director of Environmental Services;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Director of Environmental Services, the Director of Civic Services and the Director of Finance and Information Services in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Resources and Social and Economic Committees to adjust and finalise the legal and financial arrangements necessary to complete these transactions by 31 July 1997, or at such later date as may be agreed;
- (3) to continue in discussions on land assembly and potential participation in the Forthside Development Initiative as outlined in the report by the Director of Environmental Services;
- (4) to approve the proposed land assembly and remediation package on the basis that funding of the acquisition would have no adverse impact on projects already underway in the Council's approved non-housing Capital Expenditure programme 1997/98;
- (5) that the Director of Environmental Services submit a three year detailed business and development funding plan for Forthside to the next meeting of the Resources Committee in September, including proposals for an appropriate mechanism (e.g. a controlled company or joint venture) to undertake the development of Forthside in line with the Council's strategic objectives and vision for the site.