Notice of meeting and agenda

City of Edinburgh Council

10.00 am Tuesday, 28th July, 2020

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to watch the live webcast on the Council’s website.

The law allows the Council to consider some issues in private. Any items under “Private Business” will not be published, although the decisions will be recorded in the minute.

Contacts

Email: gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk
Tel: 0131 529 4239
1. Order of business

1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2. Declaration of interests

2.1 Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3. Deputations

3.1 If any

4. Minutes

4.1 The City of Edinburgh Council of 30 June 2020 – submitted for approval as a correct record 15 - 108

5. Questions

5.1 By Councillor Lang - Play Parks – for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee 109 - 110

5.2 By Councillor Lang - Street Lighting – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee 111 - 112

5.3 By Councillor Osler - Support for Safer Routes to School – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee 113 - 114

5.4 By Councillor Osler - Plans for the Return to School – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee 115 - 116

5.5 By Councillor Osler - Transport Related Projects – Staffing – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee 117 - 118
5.6 By Councillor Osler - Delivery of the Spaces for People Programme – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.7 By Councillor Neil Ross - Edinburgh Catering Services - Other Catering – for answer by the Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee

5.8 By Councillor Neil Ross - Trailers and Caravans Parked on the Street – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.9 By Councillor Neil Ross - Re-opening of Libraries – for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee

5.10 By Councillor Young - Denominational High School Catchment – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee

5.11 By Councillor Young - Return to School and After School Provision – for answer by the Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee

5.12 By Councillor Young - Speeding and Noise Complaints – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.13 By Councillor Mowat - Removal of Residents Parking Spaces – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.14 By Councillor Johnston - Council Loans – for answer by the Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee

5.15 By Councillor Mowat - Public Spaces Manifesto – for answer by the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee
5.16 By Councillor Rust - Edinburgh International Conference Centre Hotel and Hotel Business School – for answer by the Convener of the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

5.17 By Councillor Webber - Spaces for People - Emergency Covid Measures, Assessment Criteria – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.18 By Councillor Jim Campbell - Lost Income – for answer by the Leader of the Council

5.19 By Councillor Laidlaw - Roundabout Sponsorship – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.20 By Councillor Laidlaw - Weed Control – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.21 By Councillor Mowat - Picardy Place Cycle Lanes – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

5.22 By Councillor Webber - Active Travel Schemes Progress and Status – for answer by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee

6. Leader’s Report

6.1 Leader’s report

7. Appointments

7.1 Senior Councillor Remuneration July 2020 and Appointments to Committees and Outside Organisations etc – Report by the Chief Executive

8. Reports
9. Motions

9.1 By Councillor Burgess - Edinburgh Climate Commission First Report

“Council

1) Welcomes the report “Forward, Faster, Together” published by the Edinburgh Climate Commission on 9 July 2020;

2) Specifically welcomes;
   - Affirmation that progressing to the 2030 Net Zero carbon target could create at least 16,000 jobs;
   - Recognition that the City’s status as a global finance centre provides an opportunity for the finance sector, including pension investment, to support a sustainable future; and that this applies equally to Lothian Pension Fund;
   - The principle that public stimulus to business and partner organisations should be conditional on actively contributing to a greener, more inclusive city;
   - Endorsement of the 20-minute walking principle as core to placemaking;

3) Agrees that to achieve the full potential of a Green Recovery for Edinburgh the Scottish Government needs to review policy, funding and enabling powers to ensure that the City council can deliver on zero-carbon ambitions, and therefore that the Council Leader will ask the Scottish Government how they intend to engage on these issues.”
9.2 By Councillor Staniforth - Commercial Short-Term Lets in Edinburgh

“Council:

1) Notes the report on Commercial short term lets published by Andy Wightman MSP on 10 July 2020.

2) Notes that, of the 477 commercial short term lets identified in the report, only one had sought and obtained planning permission; and therefore agrees to ask the chief planning officer to prepare a response for the next meeting of Planning Committee.

3) Notes that three-quarters of the properties identified were not registered for Non-Domestic Rates; and agrees to request that the Lothian Valuation Joint Board investigate this further, along with the tax liability issues highlighted in the report.

4) Notes and welcomes the council’s aspirations to see more commercial short term lets returned to residential use, both for temporary accommodation and permanent residential purposes; but recognises that the extent to which some short term let owners have continued to trade during the restricted period; and the shortfalls in regulation and taxation frameworks highlighted means that a more pro-active approach is required to achieve those aspirations.”

9.3 By Councillor McNeese-Mechan - 50th Anniversary of the Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society

“Council notes that the Society:

a) was originally established in March 1971 as the East of Scotland Archaeological Association. In 1975 the name was changed to the Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society to foster an interest in fieldwork archaeology;

b) encourages people from the City and across the East of Scotland to learn practical archaeological skills and to discover more about current archaeology activity across the region and wider Scotland. Work includes surveys, lectures, and excavation and research;
c) has most recently been undertaking excavations at Cammo Cottages;

d) hopes to return to lectures and excavations following the current lockdown; and

e) continues to work closely with the Council’s Museums Service on relevant archaeological projects.

In acknowledging the positive specialist fieldwork, heritage and educational impacts of the work of Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society, Council requests that the Lord Provost, marks the upcoming 50th Anniversary in an appropriate way.”

9.4 By Councillor Gardiner - Fields in Trust - Malleny Park

“Council requests:

Officers bring forward a report for Elected Members to consider ‘Fields of Trust’ status for Malleny Park in Balerno to the Policy and Sustainability Committee, in two cycles.

Implementing ‘Fields of Trust’ status for Malleny Park has the support of both Balerno Community Council and Balerno Village Trust.”

9.5 By Councillor Staniforth - Edinburgh Leisure Wins Environmental Impact Award

“Council:

Notes that despite the immediacy of Covid-19, climate change remains the greatest challenge of the coming decade and that it is imperative ALEOs in partnership with the council, as well as City of Edinburgh Council itself, work hard to reduce carbon production.

Therefore congratulates Edinburgh Leisure on winning the Environmental Impact award at the Community Leisure UK Awards 2020 and commends Edinburgh Leisure on its commitment to carbon reduction.

Requests that the Lord Provost write to Edinburgh Leisure to formally convey the above congratulations.”
9.6  By the Lord Provost - Centenary of the North Merchiston Club

“Council notes that:

a) The Club was founded in 1921 as the first and largest Boys Club in Scotland and was initially given a large hut from the YMCA to operate activities.

b) Matching the ambition of the Club, the building gradually grew in scale as funds allowed and more people became involved.

c) The Club was the hub of the local community for 50 years, until the 1970’s when a number of factors, i.e.; lack of volunteers, changing tastes in activities, the rise of technology etc., led to a decline in presence and operations.

d) In 2010, the Board decided to undertake one last effort to get the Club going again, and with support from the wider community, the Club now has a vibrant presence and popular programme of over 40 different activities.

e) Currently, the Club has over 1000 people of all ages and cultures using their facilities every week and also provide a substantial venue for local celebrations, fundraisers, family parties etc. The Club endeavours to foster a sense of worth, self-confidence, citizenship, etc., and still hold true to these values today.

f) The Board of the North Merchiston Club believe that the Club is unique and holds a special place in many people’s hearts across the City.

Few community clubs reach a centenary of operation, and in acknowledging this substantial milestone, and the continuing local positive social and wellbeing impacts of the work of the Club, Council requests that the Lord Provost, marks this important upcoming Centenary Anniversary in an appropriate way.”

9.7  By the Lord Provost - Commonwealth Games - Edinburgh 1970, 50th Anniversary
“Council notes that:

a) In 1970, Edinburgh was the first city in Scotland to host a Commonwealth Games. The Games were attended by 1,383 athletes representing 42 countries, featuring 9 sports, with competitions across 121 events.

b) 2020 marks the 50th Anniversary for both the International Commonwealth Games movement and the City of Edinburgh’s hosting of these Games.

c) This 1970 event left an indelible legacy for Edinburgh and the country, with; (i) major new facilities built such as the Royal Commonwealth Pool and the Meadowbank Sports Centre, and (ii) a generation of young people being inspired to participate in a range of sports.

d) One world record and two Games records were broken at the competition.

e) At the 1970 Games, Scotland won 25 medals including six gold, four of which were in athletics - a feat which has not been matched since.

f) The 1970 Games also left their mark on the wider Commonwealth, being the first Games to use metric measurements (previously imperial units) and was the event that gave the Games its status as the ‘Friendly Games’, a moniker for which Edinburgh can be rightly proud and which continues today.

g) Edinburgh has hosted events at three Commonwealth Games (1970, 1986 and as part of the 2014 Games) and a Commonwealth Youth Games in 2000. This is a record that no other city in the Commonwealth has achieved.

In acknowledging the continuing positive impact of the 1970 Games upon the City of Edinburgh, Council requests that the Lord Provost, marks the 50th Anniversary in an appropriate way.”

9.8 By Councillor Jim Campbell - IX Commonwealth Games

“Council:

Recognises the 50th Anniversary of the IX Commonwealth Games hosted in Edinburgh from the 16 to 21 July 1970 and the III
Commonwealth Paraplegic Games held the following week.
Celebrates the success of these Games where Edinburgh played a welcome host to many visitors and gained new world class facilities such as previous Meadowbank Stadium and the Royal Commonwealth Pool, some of which still serve the sporting purposes of the City.

Notes the many “firsts” of these Games: first to be held in Scotland; first opening ceremony that was broadcast in colour across the Commonwealth; first Games attended by the Queen who presented a number of medals; first to use only metric measurements; and the first to use electronic photo-finish technology.

Further notes that Scotland achieved its equal highest ranking of 4th position in the Medals Table.

Pays tribute to the work of the then organisers, volunteers and athletes, including our former Lord Provost, Sir Herbert Brechin, who all made these Games a resounding success, and wishes them all well on this anniversary.

Looks forward to Edinburgh once again welcoming visitors for sport or leisure."

9.9  Motion withdrawn

9.10  By Councillor Webber - Taxi Rank Spaces

"Council:

1) Recognises that there has been a reduction in the number of taxi rank spaces across the city and these will be reduced further with the implementation of Spaces for People schemes.

2) Recognises the role taxis play in the city’s public transport network.

3) Notes that road regulations mean that only licensed taxi cabs can wait in these road spaces and tickets should be issued against a range of vehicles, including private hire cars as well as privately owned cars.
4) Recognises that it is vital that the existing taxi rank network is readily and easily identifiable to passengers and that the spaces are kept for eligible vehicles only.

5) Requests that signage and road markings for existing taxi ranks are refreshed to permit the enforcement of the road regulations and to ensure they are available for use by licensed taxi cabs and to make them more accessible for passengers.

6) Instructs the pending review of taxi rank spaces be expedited.”

9.11 By Councillor Laidlaw - 1140 Hours Provision of Early Learning and Childcare

“Council:

1) Notes that funded, local authority delivered early learning and childcare (ELC) is available to all three- and four-year olds and eligible two-year olds and that currently 600 free hours are provided to each child per year – and that the Scottish Government had committed to increasing this to 1140 hours from August 2020.

2) Notes the announcement by Early Years Minister, Maree Todd MSP that releases the statutory obligation of local authorities to meet the August deadline and the recent announcement by the First Minister that an 'initial assessment of readiness' will be conducted in December, suggesting that the requirement to provide the provision will not be this academic year.

3) Recognises that the previous commitment to provide high quality, flexible ELC, that is accessible and affordable for all families, was to enable improve children’s outcomes and help close the poverty-related attainment gap, increase family resilience through improved health and wellbeing of children and parents and support parents into work, study or training.

4) Notes the above objectives are particularly pertinent in the COVID-19 recovery phase and that much work has been done by City of Edinburgh to meet the earlier deadline
including the provision of facilities and recruitment of staff.

5) Asks the Executive Director Communities and Families to report back within one cycle as to what provision can be made available to the families of Edinburgh and the costs and feasibility of providing the following options:

- Full 1140 hours provision as envisaged
- A phased scale-up across the 2020-21 academic year rising from 870 hours to 1140 hours
- Provision of 1140 hours to the children of key workers."

Laurence Rockey
Head of Strategy and Communications

Information about the City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council consists of 63 Councillors and is elected under proportional representation. The City of Edinburgh Council usually meets once a month and the Lord Provost is the Convener when it meets.

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Gavin King, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.1, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG, Tel 0131 529 4239, email gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk.

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