

# Minutes

## The City of Edinburgh Council

Edinburgh, Tuesday 28 July 2020

Present:-

### LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Frank Ross

### COUNCILLORS

Robert C Aldridge  
Scott Arthur  
Gavin Barrie  
Eleanor Bird  
Claire Bridgman  
Mark A Brown  
Graeme Bruce  
Steve Burgess  
Lezley Marion Cameron  
Jim Campbell  
Kate Campbell  
Mary Campbell  
Maureen M Child  
Nick Cook  
Gavin Corbett  
Cammy Day  
Alison Dickie  
Denis C Dixon  
Phil Duggart  
Karen Doran  
Scott Douglas  
Catherine Fullerton  
Neil Gardiner  
Gillian Gloyer  
George Gordon  
Joan Griffiths  
Ricky Henderson  
Graham J Hutchison

Andrew Johnston  
David Key  
Callum Laidlaw  
Kevin Lang  
Lesley Macinnes  
Melanie Main  
John McLellan  
Amy McNeese-Mechan  
Adam McVey  
Claire Miller  
Max Mitchell  
Joanna Mowat  
Rob Munn  
Gordon J Munro  
Hal Osler  
Ian Perry  
Susan Rae  
Cameron Rose  
Neil Ross  
Jason Rust  
Stephanie Smith  
Alex Staniforth  
Mandy Watt  
Susan Webber  
Iain Whyte  
Donald Wilson  
Norman J Work  
Louise Young

## 1 Minutes

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### Decision

To approve the minute of the Council of 30 June 2020 as a correct record.

## 2 Questions

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The questions put by members to this meeting, written answers and supplementary questions and answers are contained in Appendix 1 to this minute.

## 3 Leader's Report

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The Leader presented his report to the Council. He commented on:

- Business re-opening
- Schools
- Community Centres
- Transport
- Economic
- Progress of re-opening during recovery from Covid-19 – Guidance and adjustments to be made
- Guidance
- City Vision
- Planning strategies
- Tourism
- Economy

The following questions/comments were made:

- |                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Councillor Whyte    | - | Edinburgh Trams – resolution of budget issues   |
| Councillor Main     | - | Home First Campaign – short-term lets in Edinburgh – action to inform owners that planning permission is required |
| Councillor Aldridge | - | Spaces for People Initiative – removing decision making from officers to politicians                              |
| Councillor Day      | - | Commending work of trade unions for positive engagement   |
| Councillor Dickie   | - | Children and Young People – mental health and well-being – full and safe return to school and support for this    |

- |                          |   |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Councillor Johnston      | - | Tram extension – future analysis of project and funding  |
| Councillor Staniforth    | - | No deal Brexit   |
| Councillor Lang          | - | Changes for safety of pedestrians – ban on pavement parking – commencement order   |
| Councillor Munro         | - | Covid impact on Council budgets – discussions for funding  |
| Councillor Gordon        | - | Good Food Nation Bill and Right to Access Food   |
| Councillor Rust          | - | Spaces for People Programme – Public Engagement – Accessing Bus Stops Across Cycle Lanes   |
| Councillor Barrie        | - | Safe use of bus services – promotion by Council members  |
| Councillor Rae           | - | Leithers Don't Litter Campaign – thanks to <a href="#">Zsuzsa and Gerry Farrell for their work in setting up and promoting this campaign</a> |
| Councillor Doggart       | - | Spaces for People Programme – complaints received regarding temporary proposals on Comiston Road   |
| Councillor Kate Campbell | - | Welcoming news of Edindex re-instatement   |

#### **4 Senior Councillor Remuneration July 2020 and Appointments to Committees and Outside Organisations etc**

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The Council had agreed senior councillor remuneration to Councillor Main as co-leader of the Green Group with effect from 29 December 2019. Details were provided on a proposal that this be allocated to Councillor Staniforth to take effect from 28 July 2020.

A number of Councillors had also resigned from their positions on various Committees and organisations and the Council was required to appoint members in their place.

#### **Motion**

- 1) To agree that Councillor Staniforth receive the Group Leader's Senior Councillor Remuneration with effect from 28 July 2020.
- 2) To appoint Councillor Day in place of Councillor Henderson on the Merchant Company Endowment Trust.

- 3) To appoint Councillor Day in place of Councillor Henderson on the Board of Life Care (Edinburgh) Ltd) (on a division)
- 4) To appoint Councillor Miller in place of Councillor Mary Campbell as the Green Group representative on COSLA.

- moved by Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Fullerton

#### **Amendment**

- 1) To agree that Councillor Staniforth receive the Group Leader's Senior Councillor Remuneration with effect from 28 July 2020.
- 2) To appoint Councillor Barrie in place of Councillor Henderson on the Merchant Company Endowment Trust.
- 3) To appoint Councillor Day in place of Councillor Henderson on the Board of Life Care (Edinburgh) Ltd) (on a division)
- 4) To appoint Councillor Miller in place of Councillor Mary Campbell as the Green Group representative on COSLA.

- moved by Councillor Aldridge, seconded by Councillor Mowat

#### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	33 votes
For the amendment	-	25 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rae, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson and Work.

For the amendment: Councillors Aldridge, Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Daggart, Douglas, Gloyer, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, Lang, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Osler, Rose, Neil Ross, Rust, Smith, Webber, Whyte and Young.)

#### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor Doran.

(Reference - report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

## **5 Supporting Local Businesses in Edinburgh – Report by the Executive Director of Place**

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In response to motions by Councillors Lezley Marion Cameron and Cook, an overview of the activities which the Council was currently or planned to progress to support local businesses in Edinburgh in response to Covid-19 and as part of the Adaptation and Renewal programme was presented.

**Motion**

- 1) To note the ongoing work to support local businesses across the city.
- 2) To note that an application had been submitted to the Scotland's Town Partnership's 'Towns and Business Improvement Districts Resilience and Recovery Fund' to support the Shop Local campaign.
- 3) To note that a local Champions network would be established with individuals from local businesses, Traders Associations and/or Community Council to enable the Council to consult directly with local businesses on the additional action which they would like the Council to take to provide further support within the Spaces for People and other economic recovery programmes.
- 4) To ask that Officers engage immediately with trade bodies and work with the Local Champions network to quickly agree a policy proposal regarding licencing of outdoor spaces for eating, drinking and other similar activities; including exploring deferral of fees and discount for small businesses.
- 5) In the event that a policy was proposed which had a financial impact beyond the existing Spaces for People budget, that the proposed policy be brought to the next Policy and Sustainability Committee for consideration.
- 6) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cook, as approved at the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020.
- 7) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cameron, as approved at the City of Edinburgh Council of 30 June 2020.

- moved by Councillor Kate Campbell, seconded by Councillor Watt

**Amendment 1**

- 1) To note the ongoing work to support local businesses across the city.
  - a) But expresses concern that feedback from businesses is that the Council is not moving quickly enough to support them or to meaningfully act on their concerns; recognises that the challenges faced by businesses in local high streets are different to those in the city centre and therefore require distinct solutions.
  - b) Many local high streets have seen encouraging footfall as lockdown has eased, thus far largely trading in an environment safe for staff and customers alike. Therefore, agrees it is essential that Spaces for People (SfP) measures recognise that traders know their client base better than the

Council and that SfP measures assist rather than hinder their trading environment.

- c) Notes statements by the Transport Convenor on the supposed value of customers travelling to businesses by bicycle rather than vehicle; Considers that this evidence fails to fully take account of Edinburgh's suburban demographics and unknown changes in consumer behaviour post-Covid.
  - d) Notes City Centre businesses are suffering from severely reduced footfall because of the absence of both tourists and office workers who amounted to 25 – 30,000 incoming visitors per day and there is currently a reduction of 85 – 90% in footfall; notes that this is unlikely to change until Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance changes but recognises that there is an urgent need to support these businesses in the immediate term, Therefore, requests that officers further review the speed and costs of licensing outdoor spaces in order to deliver animation to the City Centre to support it through this very difficult trading time.
- 2) To note that an application had been submitted to the Scotland's Town Partnership's 'Towns and Business Improvement Districts Resilience and Recovery Fund' to support the Shop Local campaign.
  - 3) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cook, as approved at the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020.
  - 4) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cameron, as approved at the City of Edinburgh Council of 30 June 2020.

- moved by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor McLellan

## **Amendment 2**

- 1) To note the ongoing work to support local businesses across the city.
- 2) To note that an application had been submitted to the Scotland's Town Partnership's 'Towns and Business Improvement Districts Resilience and Recovery Fund' to support the Shop Local campaign.
- 3) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cook, as approved at the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020.
- 4) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cameron, as approved at the City of Edinburgh Council of 30 June 2020.
- 5) To accept and endorse the Edinburgh Climate Commission recommendations on a 20-minute walking principle in place-making design and supporting neighbourhood economies; and recognise that applying such principles consistently would provide enormous benefit to local businesses.

- 6) To note that community support for local shops and businesses had an important part to play in adaption and renewal across the city, and therefore request that local residents be included in the Local Champions Network by including 2 representatives for each town centre drawn from Community Councils, residents associations, parent councils and other relevant local groups.

- moved by Councillor Main, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

### **Amendment 3**

- 1) To note the ongoing work to support local businesses across the city.
- 2) To note that an application had been submitted to the Scotland's Town Partnership's 'Towns and Business Improvement Districts Resilience and Recovery Fund' to support the Shop Local campaign.
- 3) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cook, as approved at the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020.
- 4) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cameron, as approved at the City of Edinburgh Council of 30 June 2020.
- 5) To agree that a six month update report on the Council's support for local businesses should be submitted to the first Policy and Sustainability Committee meeting of 2021.
- 6) To agree that officers responsible for the Edinburgh Economy Watch should consider how the quarterly briefing could be amended to include trends in small business numbers in the city.

- moved by Councillor Lang, seconded by Councillor Aldridge

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Part (d) of Amendment 1 and all of Amendments 2 and 3 were accepted as addendums to the motion.

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	41 votes
For the Amendment 1	-	17 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Bridgeman, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rae, Neil Ross, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work and Young.

For the amendment: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Daggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.)

## **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Kate Campbell:

- 1) To note the ongoing work to support local businesses across the city and that City Centre businesses were suffering from severely reduced footfall because of the absence of both tourists and office workers who amounted to 25 – 30,000 incoming visitors per day and there was currently a reduction of 85 – 90% in footfall; to note that this was unlikely to change until Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance changed but recognise that there was an urgent need to support these businesses in the immediate term, Therefore, request that officers further review the speed and costs of licensing outdoor spaces in order to deliver animation to the City Centre to support it through this very difficult trading time.
- 2) To note that an application had been submitted to the Scotland's Town Partnership's 'Towns and Business Improvement Districts Resilience and Recovery Fund' to support the Shop Local campaign.
- 3) To note that a local Champions network would be established with individuals from local businesses, Traders Associations and/or Community Council to enable the Council to consult directly with local businesses on the additional action which they would like the Council to take to provide further support within the Spaces for People and other economic recovery programmes.
- 4) To ask that Officers engage immediately with trade bodies and work with the Local Champions network to quickly agree a policy proposal regarding licencing of outdoor spaces for eating, drinking and other similar activities; including exploring deferral of fees and discount for small businesses.
- 5) In the event that a policy was proposed which had a financial impact beyond the existing Spaces for People budget, that the proposed policy be brought to the next Policy and Sustainability Committee for consideration.
- 6) To accept and endorse the Edinburgh Climate Commission recommendations on a 20-minute walking principle in place-making design and supporting neighbourhood economies; and recognise that applying such principles consistently would provide enormous benefit to local businesses.
- 7) To note that community support for local shops and businesses had an important part to play in adaption and renewal across the city, and therefore request that local residents be included in the Local Champions Network by including 2 representatives for each town centre drawn from Community Councils, residents associations, parent councils and other relevant local groups.



- 8) To agree that a six month update report on the Council's support for local businesses should be submitted to the first Policy and Sustainability Committee meeting of 2021.
- 9) To agree that officers responsible for the Edinburgh Economy Watch should consider how the quarterly briefing could be amended to include trends in small business numbers in the city.
- 10) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cook, as approved at the Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020.
- 11) To agree to discharge the motion by Councillor Cameron, as approved at the City of Edinburgh Council of 30 June 2020.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 11 June 2020 (item 22); Act of Council No 14 of 30 June 2020; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

## **6 Rolling Actions Log - May 2015 to July 2020**

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Details were provided on the outstanding actions arising from decisions taken by the Council from May 2015 to July 2020.

### **Decision**

- 1) To agree to close the following actions:

**Action 1** – Attracting and Retaining Carers - Motion by Councillor Miller

**Action 10** – Safe Re-opening of Businesses in Edinburgh– Motion by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

- 2) To provide updates to members on the following actions:

**Action 4(b)** – Added Members and Voting Rights on the Education, Children and Families Committee – Legal Opinion

**Action 5** – Added Members and Voting Rights on the Education, Children and Families Committee

**Action 6** - Climate Change Impact and Management – motion by Councillor Macinnes.

- 3) To otherwise note the Rolling Actions Log.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log, submitted.)

## **7 Revenue Budget 2020/21 Update – referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee**

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**Tuesday, 28th July, 2020**

The Policy and Sustainability Committee had referred a report which provided an update on the estimated cost and income implications of the coronavirus pandemic on the Council and its Arm's-Length External Organisations' (ALEOs') activities to the City of Edinburgh Council for approval of the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.

## **Motion**

To approve the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives

- moved by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor McVey

## **Amendment 1**

- 1) To approve the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.
- 2) To request a report in one cycle detailing:
  - a) The range of Council employees that had been furloughed and the time frame for which job retention scheme applications were made;
  - b) The date from which council employees were unable to work due to Covid-19;
  - c) Any engagement undertaken with Dundee Council, CoSLA or any other Scottish local authorities as to their job retention scheme applications;
  - d) What consideration had been given to applying for the job retention scheme bonus from February 2021 and the current status of this work;
  - e) Whether any Council employees had been 'flexibly' furloughed since 1st July 2020 and, if so, how many and in which department(s).

- moved by Councillor Johnston, seconded by Councillor Whyte

## **Amendment 2**

- 1) To approve the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.
- 2) To note that, notwithstanding significant pressures on the core revenue budget, there remained opportunities to allocate funds which were earmarked for energy efficiency and spend to save initiatives which could be used to facilitate a Green Recovery and that a briefing note should be provided to all groups on the resources available and conditions of use within two cycles.

- moved by Councillor Corbett, seconded by Councillor Rae

### Amendment 3

- 1) To note the further update of the estimated expenditure and income impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council and its ALEOs' activities and the potential sources of funding identified to address them.
- 2) To note the significant remaining projected in-year shortfall and associated risks linked to further service disruption and/or slower-than-assumed recovery.
- 3) To note that updates on expenditure and income impacts, and the confirmed and potential means to address them, would continue to be reported to elected members on an at-least monthly basis until greater certainty was obtained in these areas.
- 4) To note that further representations would be made through COSLA regarding the need for full pass-through of Barnett Consequentials resulting from the provision of relevant additional funding in England.
- 5) To note, nonetheless, that there remained a significant risk around receiving additional funding sufficient to address the remaining deficit, particularly in the event of any further lockdown, and thus further actions on service prioritisation were urgently required.
- 6) To approve, subject to onward ratification by Council on 28 July, the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.
- 7) To request that the Council Leader write to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance to press the City of Edinburgh's case for urgent support and to call for the potential funding sources outlined in Paragraph's 4.8 to 4.11 of the report be passed on in full to Local Authorities as soon as available. The Council Leader's letter should also make the case for providing the additional financial flexibilities identified in Paragraph 4.23 of the report.
- 8) To agree to provide a briefing note with a breakdown of the £31m loss relating to Council ALEOs.

- moved by Councillor Neil Ross, seconded by Councillor Aldridge

In accordance with Standing Order 19 (12), Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to Amendment 3

## Voting

The voting was as follows:

For the motion (as adjusted)	-	33 votes
For Amendment 1	-	19 votes
For Amendment 3 (as adjusted)	-	6 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): The Lord Provost, Councillors Arthur, Bird, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Perry, Rae, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson and Work.

For Amendment 1: Councillors Barrie, Bridgman, Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.

For Amendment 3 (as adjusted): Councillors Aldridge, Gloyer, Lang, Osler, Neil Ross and Young)

## Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Griffiths:

- 1) To approve the use of up to £0.295m from the former Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to enable investment in key energy efficiency initiatives.
- 2) To note that, notwithstanding significant pressures on the core revenue budget, there remained opportunities to allocate funds which were earmarked for energy efficiency and spend to save initiatives which could be used to facilitate a Green Recovery and that a briefing note should be provided to all groups on the resources available and conditions of use within two cycles.

(Reference – Policy and Sustainability Committee of 23 July 2020 (item 9); referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee, submitted)

## 8 Edinburgh Climate Commission First Report – Motion by Councillor Burgess

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The following motion by Councillor Burgess was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.

### **Motion**

To approve the motion by Councillor Burgess

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Miller

### **Amendment**

To adjust the motion by Councillor Burgess as follows:

- 1) To change “welcomes” in clauses 1 to 2 to “notes”

2) To add to clause 3, the following paragraph:

“Instructs the Executive Director of Place to produce a report to the next Policy and Sustainability Committee highlighting:

- a) the powers the Council has available to deliver on the Commission’s proposals;
- b) the areas where work could only be undertaken alongside partners;
- c) areas where there are gaps in the Council’s powers to act;
- d) the discussions that the Council has undertaken with the financial sector to help influence delivery of these ambitions and the results of this work to date;
- e) the changes that would be required to the Council’s objectives in order to implement the Commission’s proposals.”

- moved by Councillor Doggart, seconded by Councillor Jim Campbell

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	41 votes
For the amendment	-	17 votes

(For the motion: The Lord Provost, Councillors Aldridge, Arthur, Barrie, Bird, Bridgeman, Burgess, Cameron, Kate Campbell, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Day, Dickie, Dixon, Doran, Fullerton, Gardiner, Gloyer, Gordon, Graczyk, Griffiths, Henderson, Key, Lang, Macinnes, Main, McNeese-Mechan, McVey, Miller, Munn, Munro, Osler, Perry, Rae, Neil Ross, Staniforth, Watt, Wilson, Work and Young.

For the amendment: Councillors Brown, Bruce, Jim Campbell, Cook, Doggart, Douglas, Hutchison, Johnston, Laidlaw, McLellan, Mitchell, Mowat, Rose, Rust, Smith, Webber and Whyte.)

### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor Burgess.

## 9 Commercial Short-Term Lets in Edinburgh - Motion by Councillor Staniforth

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The following motion by Councillor Staniforth was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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 proactive approach is required to achieve those aspirations.”

### **Motion**

To approve the motion by Councillor Staniforth

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Main

### **Amendment**

To add to the motion by Councillor Staniforth:

- 1) To recognise the ongoing work of officers within the cross service short term let team to tackle antisocial behaviour, using existing legislative powers across various council service areas including planning, licensing, environmental health, trading standards and housing and family support focusing on using planning enforcement and has successfully defended actions at appeal.
- 2) To note the decisions of the Policy and Sustainability Committee, based on the work of the Short Term Lets Working group, to make the case to the Scottish Government for a licensing regime that gives the council additional powers to control short term lets.



- 3) To welcome that the Scottish Government has restarted work on bringing forward the legislation required following a pause caused by Covid -19.
- 4) To agree that the STLWG and council officers will continue to work together to respond to the Scottish Government consultation, and help shape legislation that comes forward, so that it delivers the full powers that we need in Edinburgh to properly protect homes and communities.

- moved by Councillor Kate Campbell, seconded by Councillor Watt

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

## **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Staniforth:

- 1) To note the report on Commercial short term lets published by Andy Wightman MSP on 10 July 2020.
- 2) To note that, of the 477 commercial short term lets identified in the report, only one had sought and obtained planning permission; and therefore to agree to ask the chief planning officer to prepare a response for the next meeting of the Planning Committee.
- 3) To note that three-quarters of the properties identified were not registered for Non-Domestic Rates; and to agree to request that the Lothian Valuation Joint Board investigate this further, along with the tax liability issues highlighted in the report.
- 4) To note and welcome the council's aspirations to see more commercial short term lets returned to residential use, both for temporary accommodation and permanent residential purposes; but recognise that the extent to which some short term let owners had continued to trade during the restricted period; and the shortfalls in regulation and taxation frameworks highlighted means that a more proactive approach was required to achieve those aspirations.
- 5) To recognise the ongoing work of officers within the cross service short term let team to tackle antisocial behaviour, using existing legislative powers across various council service areas including planning, licensing, environmental health, trading standards and housing and family support focusing on using planning enforcement and had successfully defended actions at appeal.
- 6) To note the decisions of the Policy and Sustainability Committee, based on the work of the Short Term Lets Working group, to make the case to the Scottish Government for a licensing regime that gave the council additional powers to control short term lets.
- 7) To welcome that the Scottish Government had restarted work on bringing forward the legislation required following a pause caused by Covid -19.

- 8) To agree that the STLWG and council officers would continue to work together to respond to the Scottish Government consultation, and help shape legislation that came forward, so that it delivered the full powers that were needed in Edinburgh to properly protect homes and communities.

## **10 50th Anniversary of the Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society – Motion by Councillor McNeese-Mechan**

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The following motion by Councillor McNeese-Mechan was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.”

- moved by Councillor McNeese-Mechan, seconded by Councillor Wilson

### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor McNeese-Mechan.

## **11 Fields in Trust - Malleny Park – Motion by Councillor Gardiner**

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The following motion by Councillor Gardiner was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.”.

### **Motion**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Gardiner:

Council requests:

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

Implementing 'Fields of Trust' status for Marchbank Park has the support of both Balerno Community Council and Balerno Village Trust.

- moved by Councillor Gardiner, seconded by Councillor Henderson

### **Decision**

To approve the adjusted motion by Councillor Gardiner.

## **12 Edinburgh Leisure Wins Environmental Impact Award – Motion by Councillor Staniforth**

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The following motion by Councillor Staniforth was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.”

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Wilson

### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor Staniforth

### **Declaration of Interests**

Councillors Bruce, Cameron, Dixon, Osler and Staniforth declared a non-financial interest in the above item as Directors of Edinburgh Leisure.

### **13 Centenary of the North Merchiston Club – Motion by the Lord Provost**

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The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.”

- moved by Councillor Key, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

#### **Decision**

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost.

### **14 Commonwealth Games - Edinburgh 1970, 50th Anniversary – Motion by the Lord Provost – Commonwealth Games – Edinburgh 1970 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

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The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“Council notes that:

**Tuesday, 28th July, 2020**

- 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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."

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by the Lord Provost:

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:

- i) marks the 50th Anniversary in an appropriate way.
- ii) fund an online exhibition of people's memories of the games including photographs from the former City Councillor Sir Peter Heatly.

Pays tribute to the work of the then organisers, volunteers and athletes, including our former Lord Provosts, Sir Herbert Brechin and Sir James Wilson Mackay, 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.

- moved by Councillor McNeese-Mechan, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

## **15 IX Commonwealth Games – Motion by Councillor Jim Campbell**

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The following motion by Councillor Jim Campbell was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

Council:

Recognises the 50<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.”

## **Decision**

To note that Councillor Jim Campbell had withdrawn his motion.

## **16 Taxi Rank Spaces – Motion by Councillor Webber**

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The following motion by Councillor Webber was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.”

## **Motion**

To approve the motion by Councillor Webber.

- moved by Councillor Webber, seconded by Councillor Rose

## **Amendment 1**

To insert “non-eligible” before vehicles in point 3 in the motion by Councillor Webber, and remove text in point 3 after “vehicles.

- moved by Councillor Fullerton, seconded by Councillor Doran

## Amendment 2

To add to the end of the motion by Councillor Webber:

- 7) Welcomes the reallocation of road space as part of Spaces for People, outlined in 1. above, while recognising that taxis form part of a strategy to help people move around the city without recourse to a private car; and that therefore there is a legitimate expectation of taxi-drivers to have access to earmarked space which is convenient for passengers to be picked up and dropped off; and further therefore, to agree that review of taxi rank spaces should *come to the appropriate Committee within one cycle* and include options for reallocating space currently provided for on-street parking of private cars to taxi ranks.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Main

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Amendment 1 was accepted as an amendment and Amendment 2 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

## Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Webber:

- 1) To recognise that there had been a reduction in the number of taxi rank spaces across the city and these would be reduced further with the implementation of Spaces for People schemes.
- 2) To recognise the role taxis played in the city's public transport network.
- 3) To note that road regulations meant that only licensed taxi cabs could wait in these road spaces and tickets should be issued against a range of non-eligible vehicles.
- 4) To recognise that it was vital that the existing taxi rank network was readily and easily identifiable to passengers and that the spaces were kept for eligible vehicles only.
- 5) To request that signage and road markings for existing taxi ranks were refreshed to permit the enforcement of the road regulations and to ensure they were available for use by licensed taxi cabs and to make them more accessible for passengers.
- 6) To instruct the pending review of taxi rank spaces be expedited.
- 7) To welcome the reallocation of road space as part of Spaces for People, outlined in 1. above, while recognising that taxis formed part of a strategy to help people move around the city without recourse to a private car; and that therefore there was a legitimate expectation of taxi-drivers to have access to earmarked space which was convenient for passengers to be picked up and dropped off; and further therefore, to agree that a review of taxi rank spaces should come to the



appropriate Committee within one cycle and include options for reallocating space currently provided for on-street parking of private cars to taxi ranks.

## **17 1140 Hours Provision of Early Learning and Childcare – Motion by Councillor Laidlaw**

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The following motion by Councillor Laidlaw was submitted in terms of Standing Order 14:

“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.”

## **Motion**

To approve the motion by Councillor Laidlaw.

- moved by Councillor Laidlaw, seconded by Councillor Douglas

## **Amendment 1**

- 1) To insert a new paragraph 3 in the motion by Councillor Laidlaw and renumber all the paragraphs that follow.

“Acknowledges that prior to Covid-19 the council were on track to deliver its early years commitment by August 2020.

The announcement of the delay to statutory entitlement does not affect the commitment to expand the council’s early years provision but enables the council to manage the delay to the building programme and workforce recruitment caused by the pandemic.”

- 2) To add an additional bullet point in last paragraph of the motion as follows:

- the new timetable for the delivery of the new early year’s facilities planned for August 2020 but delayed by the pandemic.

- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

## **Amendment 2**

To add at the end of the motion by Councillor Laidlaw:

“This report to include how the use of outdoor spaces particularly forest kindergartens can be maximised for early learning and childcare as part of the 1140 hours provision.”

- moved by Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Mary Campbell

In accordance with Standing Order 19(12), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the motion

## **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Laidlaw:

- 1) To note that funded, local authority delivered early learning and childcare (ELC) was available to all three- and four-year olds and eligible two-year olds and that currently 600 free hours were provided to each child per year – and that the Scottish Government had committed to increasing this to 1140 hours from August 2020.
- 2) To note the announcement by Early Years Minister, Maree Todd MSP that released 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' would be conducted in December, suggesting that the requirement to provide the provision would not be this academic year.

- 3) To acknowledge that prior to Covid-19 the council were on track to deliver its early years commitment by August 2020.

The announcement of the delay to statutory entitlement did not affect the commitment to expand the council's early years provision but enabled the council to manage the delay to the building programme and workforce recruitment caused by the pandemic

- 4) To recognise that the previous commitment to provide high quality, flexible ELC, that was accessible and affordable for all families, was to enable improved 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.
- 5) To note the above objectives were particularly pertinent in the COVID-19 recovery phase and that much work had been done by City of Edinburgh to meet the earlier deadline including the provision of facilities and recruitment of staff.
- 6) To ask the Executive Director for Communities and Families to report back within one cycle as to what provision could 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
  - The new timetable for the delivery of the new early year's facilities planned for August 2020 but delayed by the pandemic

This report to include how the use of outdoor spaces particularly forest kindergartens could be maximised for early learning and childcare as part of the 1140 hours provision

## **Appendix 1**

**(As referred to in Act of Council No 2 of 28 July 2020)**