

Minutes

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 15 June 2021

Present:-

Councillors Wilson (Convener), McNeese-Mechan (Vice-Convenor), Brown, Doggart, Doran, Key, Mitchell, Osler, Rae, Staniforth and Ethan Young

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Culture and Communities Committee of 16 March 2021 as a correct record.

2. Work Programme

Decision

To approve the work programme of the Culture and Communities Committee of **15 June 2021** as a correct record.

3. Rolling Actions Log

The Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log was presented.

Decision

- 1) To agree to close the following action:
 - Action 4** – Service Payment to Edinburgh Leisure.
 - Action 6** - Grounds Maintenance in the South West Locality (Transferred from the South West Locality Committee)
 - Action 15** – Motion by Councillor Doggart
- 2) To update the rolling actions log to reflect decisions taken at this meeting and otherwise note the outstanding actions.

(Reference – Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log 15 June 2021, submitted.)

4. Business Bulletin

The Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log was presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the business bulletin.
- 2) To circulate information to schools to advise parents about the availability of activities for school children during the summer school holidays.
- 3) To note that work to stabilise the slope and reopen the Dean Path, which had been caused by the landslip, would commence in July 2021 then activity would commence on the slope.

(Reference – Culture and Communities Committee Business Bulletin 15 June 2021, submitted.)

5. Petition for Consideration: Street Hockey & Skate Park

The Committee was asked to consider a petition at this meeting. A valid petition entitled 'Street Hockey & Skate Park' had been received. The petition received 422 signatures.

The petition called on the Council to provide 'safe facilities for both skating and street hockey in the city centre'. It proposed there was a space in The Meadows which may be suitable for these purposes.

Decision

- 1) To consider the terms of the petition 'Street Hockey & Skate Park' as set out in Appendix one of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To agree to request a report to determine the feasibility, need, coverage and location of skatepark and street hockey facilities.
- 3) For the skate parks and street hockey to feature on the Culture map as a category as skatepark.
- 4) To note the differentiation between the skatepark and street hockey and to have multi-functional provision to allow for activities to co-exist and the report to be clear about what was being proposed.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

6. Allotment Regulations

The report by the Executive Director of Place presented allotment regulations for approval. The draft allotment regulations were prepared by officers in association with representatives from the Federation of Edinburgh District Allotments and Gardens Associations (FEDAGA) and Scottish Allotment Gardens (SAGs).

In January 2020 Committee approved draft allotment regulations (Appendix 1 of report by the Executive Director of Place) for consultation. These were drafted in accordance with the published guidance from the Scottish Government and included mandatory requirements covering allocation of allotments, rent, cultivation, maintenance, buildings and other structures that may be erected, the keeping of livestock and landlord inspections.

Decision

- 1) To note the consultation undertaken on the draft allotment regulations
- 2) To note the feedback and analysis which resulted in the draft regulations being amended.
- 3) To approve the Allotment Regulations to regulate allotments managed by the City of Edinburgh Council.

(Reference –report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

7. Parks and Greenspace Investment

An update was provided on the asset surveys undertaken to date to assess the condition of infrastructure (walls, fences, gates, paths, roads, bridges, tunnels etc) within the Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries estate.

The survey programme identified assets that were of poor condition and set priorities for remediation. Completion of the recommended works would ensure sites remained accessible, safe, sustainable and open to the public - helping the Council meet its land management duty of care. The report by the Executive Director of Place also summarised significant urgent / priority works that had been actioned.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress of the condition surveys being undertaken across the city's Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries estate.
- 2) To note the progress on infrastructure works for immediate or urgent attention.

- 3) To approve progressing the works that had been identified as priority rated category 01 urgent (within one year) and priority category 02 (essential within one to two years), provided they could be contained within the capital budget allocation and any additional funding secured.
- 4) To agree that the Executive Director of Place would provide updates to Committee on a six-monthly basis via the Business bulletin to provide regular updates to members on parks and greenspace investment.
- 5) To agree that the Executive Director of Place, in future updates to committee, would set out the rationale for how future projects were identified, which projects were progressed, and which projects had to be deprioritised.
- 6) To agree that communications would be delivered to members of the public and ward councillors on updates concerning parks and greenspace.
- 7) To agree that The Technical Manager (Place) would clarify when work would commence on Fauldburn Park and update Councillor Brown.

(Reference –report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

9. Community Access to Secondary School Sports Facilities – Queensferry High School and Bangholm Recreation Ground

It was reported that following the completion of the new Queensferry High School and with approval now in place to construct a new school sport centre for Trinity Academy at Bangholm Recreation Ground, Edinburgh Leisure had asked for approval to transfer both venues from their core operation to their community access to secondary school sport venue operation.

Decision

To approve the transfer of Queensferry High School and Bangholm Recreation Ground from Edinburgh Leisure's core venue operation to their community access to secondary school sport venue operation from the start of the 22/23 financial year.

(Reference – report by the Interim Director of Communities and Families, submitted.)

8. Lauriston Farm, Edinburgh – Proposed Lease

It was reported that the Council owned the land known as Lauriston Farm, near Cramond, which until 2020 was leased for grazing purposes. The Council had received a proposal from Edinburgh Agroecology Co-op CIC (EAC) for a community farm to be established on the land. Committee was asked to note this lease on the terms and conditions outlined in the report.

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- 1) To note that the Finance and Resources Committee, on 20 May 2021, approved a 25-year lease of the land at Lauriston Farm to Edinburgh Agroecology Co-op CIC (EAC) on the terms outlined in this report.
- 2) To note that future reports of this nature concerning cultural or historical assets were presented initially to Culture and Communities Committee then referred onto the relevant Executive Committee.
- 3) To agree that an update would be submitted to committee on the success of the lease holder to ensure Committee had oversight of the activity underway on the Urban farm, which formed part of the wider setting of Lauriston Castle.
- 4) To agree to invite the Edinburgh Agroecology Co-op CIC to a future meeting of the Committee to give a presentation on the urban farm.

(References – the **Finance and Resources Committee, on 20 May 2021, the Planning Committee on 26 February 2020, and March 2018, the Housing and Economy Committee**; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

10. Anti-Social Behaviour Motion Report

The following report by the Head of Safer and Stronger Communities and Chief Social Work Officer was in response to a motion by Councillor Daggart with regard to an upheld complaint against the Council by the SPSO (Case Reference 201906053).

The report provided a response to the following individual questions raised as part of that motion, including:

- (a) Council policy regarding tenants against whom repeated allegations of Anti-Social Behaviour had been made.
- (b) The responsibilities within the Council for delivering Anti-Social Behaviour policies.
- (c) The reasons that contributed to a failure in this case, including the failure to keep reasonable records.
- (d) Any changes to policy or process considered in light of this case.
- (e) Reassurance that any consideration of the relocation of Council tenants would strongly favour the victims over the perpetrators of alleged Anti-Social behaviour.

Decision

- 1) To note that this report was taken to Policy and Sustainability on 20 April 2021.
- 2) To note the response to the motion as set out below.

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- 3) To approve the revised City of Edinburgh Council Anti-Social Behaviour Procedure under Appendix 1 of the report by the Head of Safer and Stronger Communities and Chief Social Work Officer.
- 4) To request the Head of Safer and Stronger Communities to provide an update report before the end of 2021 confirming adherence to the new procedure.

Note: To thank the officers for the report which was sensible and proportionate and tried to meet all the requirements.

(References: Policy and Sustainability Committee of **20 April 2021**; report by the Head of Safer and Stronger Communities and Chief Social Work Officer, submitted.)

11. Re-Drawing Edinburgh (Edinburgh Boundaries Extension and Tramways Act 1920 Centennial) Update Report

Details were provided of the success of the Re-Drawing Edinburgh online programme of events, which commemorated the 1920 boundary extension of the city. It set out the proposal to end the programme with a series of five outdoor evening events in September 2021 spread across Leith, Cramond, Corstorphine, Colinton, and Liberton, as well as the funding plan to finance it.

Decision

- 1) To note the outcomes of the Re-Drawing Edinburgh online activity programme commemorating the centennial of the city's 1920 boundary extension.
- 2) To note the intention to hold outdoor events in September to conclude the commemoration, subject to external funding, with any required contingency to be requested from the Finance and Resources Committee.

(Reference –report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

12. Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 10 February 2021 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

On the 23 March 2021 the Governance, Risk and Best Value (GRBV) Committee considered a report on Internal Audit Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 10 February 2021, which provided an overview of the status of the overdue Internal Audit (IA) findings as at 10 February 2021. A total of 115 open IA findings remained to be addressed across the Council as at 10 February 2021. This included the one remaining historic finding and excluded open and overdue Internal Audit findings for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board and the Lothian Pension Fund.

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee agreed:

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- (a) To note the status of the overdue Internal Audit (IA) findings as at 10 February 2021.
- (b) To refer the report to the relevant Council Executive committees and the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Audit and Assurance Committee for information in relation to the current Health and Social Care Partnership position.
- (c) To agree to revise the timescale on outstanding action 107 which had a 2024 close date to an earlier date.
- (d) To agree that the 30 outstanding actions which were over a year old would return to GRBV for scrutiny in May 2021 or later subject to the Chief Internal Auditor and Convenor of GRBV's discussion

Decision

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee referred the report to the Culture and Communities Committee for information and Culture and Communities committee noted the report.

(References - Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of **23 March 2021**; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)

13. Internal Audit: Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 27 April 2021 – referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee

On the 8 June 2021 the Governance, Risk and Best Value (GRBV) Committee considered a report on Internal Audit Overdue Findings and Key Performance Indicators as at 27 April 2021, which provided an overview of the status of the overdue Internal Audit (IA) findings as at 27 April 2021. A total of 100 open IA findings remained to be addressed across the Council as at 27 April 2021. This excluded open and overdue Internal Audit findings for the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board and the Lothian Pension Fund.

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee agreed:

- (a) To note the status of the overdue Internal Audit (IA) findings as at 27 April 2021.
- (b) To refer the report to the relevant Council Executive committees and the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Audit and Assurance Committee for information in relation to the current Health and Social Care Partnership position.
- (c) To agree to provide a briefing note on progress of actions 28 and 29 - the Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership (EADP) – Contract Management to Members of the Governance Risk and best Value Committee.

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Decision

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee referred the attached report to the Culture and Communities Committee for information and Culture and Communities committee noted the report.

(References - Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of **8 June 2021**; report by the Chief Executive, submitted.)