

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of virtual meeting held at 10.00am on 9 September 2021.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)
Councillor Caroline Bamforth

Councillor Alan Lafferty
Councillor Colm Merrick

Councillor Buchanan, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Strategic Services); Andrew Corry, Head of Operations (Environment); Graeme Smith, Communications Manager; Sharon McIntyre, Committee Services Officer and Liona Allison, Assistant Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Betty Cunningham and Danny Devlin.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1751. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

KITCHEN SUPPLY CONTRACT – PROPOSED VARIATION

1752. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment seeking approval to apply a variation to the current kitchen supply contract to include installation.

The report advised that the current contract with City Building (Glasgow) LLP (RSBi) was for the manufacture and supply of kitchens only and although installation was included in the remit of the Scottish Government Framework this was not included in the final contract award as this was historically carried out internally by the Council's own Housing Maintenance Team.

Due to the backlog of works caused by COVID-19, it was now considered more efficient to include installation in the current contract. This would ensure contractor ownership for supply and install services allowing Housing Services to concentrate on the delivery of other key work packages.

Having heard the Head of Environment (Strategic Services) confirm that there was no risk of procurement challenge as the current supplier was the only supplier on the Framework that could both supply and install kitchens, and outline that the proposed approach would deliver

best value, the Cabinet in accordance with the Contract Standing Order 14 approved a variation of £895,950 to be applied to the existing kitchen supply contract with *City Building* (Glasgow) LLP (RSBI).

CROOKFUR PLAYING FIELDS – LEASE BY ST CADOC YOUTH CLUB - UPDATE

1753. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of the Cabinet of 4 March 2021 (Page 1444, Item 1562 refers), when the Cabinet considered a report on a proposal from St Cadoc's Youth club to lease and take responsibility for operating and maintaining the two grass pitches at Crookfur, the Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment providing an update.

The report reminded Members that at the meeting on 4 March the proposal to grant a 25 year lease of an area of the Crookfur Playing Fields to St Cadoc's Youth Club had been noted; and the Director of Environment instructed to undertake the necessary advertisement process in respect of the proposal and in due course to bring a further report to Cabinet advising of the terms of any objections received in response to the advertisement.

Unfortunately as a result of the impact of the pandemic advertisement and consultation by the Council had not taken place to date and following discussions with St Cadoc's Youth Club and taking into consideration all factors, it was now being proposed that the pitches be retained and operated by the Council as grass football pitches. Discussions had been underway with East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust (ERCLT) regarding operating all pitches on behalf of the Council, and should discussions progress positively then this would remove the opportunity for further approaches from other organisations. It was noted that ERCLT was a wholly owned subsidiary of East Renfrewshire Council and the ownership of the pitches would stay with the Council.

Commenting on the report, the Director of Environment outlined the factors taken into account in reaching this position and highlighted that the Council's Local Development Plan 3 would therefore need to consider the potential for supporting community based sports clubs outwith Protected Urban Greenspace areas and if possible away from existing residential development. This would require the development of a sporting facilities strategy to be inclusive to all clubs in the area and the ever growing demand for football pitches and other training facilities.

Councillor Buchanan made reference to discussions on social media about the proposed lease of football pitches at Crookfur Playing Fields to St Cadoc's Youth Club and noted that unfortunately some of these discussions had been based on misinformation. He noted that the Council had leases with similar clubs and that clubs would continue to require appropriate levels of facilities to deliver for their members. He thanked the team for engaging in discussions with St Cadoc's Youth Club and the community, and for moving forward as much as was possible on this matter during the pandemic.

Having heard from the Director of Environment, the Cabinet noted that:-

- a) no further work was required on this matter as both the Council and St Cadoc's Youth Club agreed that the site could not achieve many of the longer term aims of the club;
- b) although the proposal had not yet been advertised there had been a significant level of correspondence objecting to the proposed lease; and

- c) the Council and relevant partners would work with St Cadoc's and other sports clubs to try to identify appropriate and acceptable sites for the betterment of sporting facilities within the area.

CHAIR

