



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting held in Council Chamber,
Council Offices, Sandwick Road, Stornoway, on
Thursday 18 July 2024 at 9.30am.

PRESENT

Mr Paul Steele (Chair)
Mr Duncan Macinnes, MBE, (Vice-Chair) Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Iain M Macleod Mr Robert Mackenzie
Ms Susan Thomson Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Uisdean Robertson Mr Donald F Crichton
Mr Paul Finnegan Dr Frances Murray

APOLOGIES

Mr Norman Misty Macdonald

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Iain A MacNeil
Mr Mustapha Hocine Mr Malcolm K Macdonald
Mr Angus Morrison Mr Gordon Murray
Mr Donald Macsween Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Calum Maclean Mr Finlay M Stewart

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr
Mr Tim Langley Mr Sandy Gomez
Mrs Emma Macsween Mr Nigel Scott
Mr Dan Macphail Mr Gus Grant Lyford
Mr Derek Mackay Mrs Marina Macaulay

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded in prayer led by Mr Angus Morrison.

MINUTES

Declaration of Interest of 1

There were no declarations of interest.

It was agreed that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that exempt information in terms of Paragraphs 6, 8 & 9 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the Comhairle), the amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Comhairle under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services and any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the Comhairle in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services.

Mr Calum Maclean raised a Point of Order and asked why the item was not being considered by the Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee as well as the Policy and Resources Committee.

The Governance and Elections Manager and the Chief Executive indicated that the Report dealt with the procurement aspects of the project. Decisions impacting on the educational scope of the project would be considered by the Service Committee.

With reference to item 14 of the Minute of Meeting of 24 April 2024 the Chief Executive submitted a Report which provided an update on progress of the Barra and Vatersay Community Campus (BVCC) Project and to authorise further action to secure provision of the education and leisure elements of the Project.

The Report provided background to the matter and stated that to make progress and to minimise the risk of further abortive costs, the Comhairle must consider other options alongside "Option A". Options including developing the existing secondary site (with a view to new build) and refurbishing the existing primary school would necessitate decant but require to be explored and exhausted to demonstrate which option would be most affordable and which option represented best value.

It was agreed to recommend that the Comhairle:

- (a) notes in particular the costs, preparatory work, procurement options and risk assessments set out in the report regarding delivery of the education and leisure elements of the Barra and Vatersay Community Campus;**
- (b) notes the high-level cost exercises undertaken by hubNorth Scotland Limited and Morgan Sindall Construction and the anticipated project affordability gap associated with "Option A";**
- (c) authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Chair of Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee, and the Procurement Steering Group, to select the preferred delivery strategy, the procurement route, including appointment of professional services as noted in paragraph 6.5; and**
- (d) notes that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Project Manager, will instruct the delivery team when appointed, to progress the development of Option A as outlined in paragraph 2.2, alongside other options referred to in paragraph 2.4 and 7.2, with a view to determining which option is progressed to market testing stage in due course.**