

The Highland Council
No. 3 2015/2016

Minutes of Special Meeting of the Highland Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on Thursday, 11 June 2015 at 10.30am.

1. Calling of the Roll and Apologies for Absence
A' Gairm a' Chlàir agus Leisgeulan

Present:

Dr D Alston	Mr B Lobban
Mr R Balfour	Mrs L MacDonald
Mrs J Barclay	Mr N MacDonald
Mr A Baxter	Mr J McGillivray
Mr D Bremner	Mrs D Mackay
Mr I Brown	Mr D Mackay
Mrs C Caddick	Mr W MacKay
Mrs I Campbell	Mr G MacKenzie
Miss J Campbell	Mr A MacKinnon
Mrs H Carmichael	Ms A MacLean
Mr A Christie	Mr T MacLennan
Mr B Clark	Mr K MacLeod
Dr I Cockburn	Mr H Morrison
Mrs G Coghill	Ms L Munro
Mr J Crawford	Mr B Murphy
Mrs M Davidson	Mr F Parr
Mr N Donald	Mr G Phillips
Ms J Douglas	Mr T Prag
Mr A Duffy	Mr M Rattray
Mr D Fallows	Mr I Renwick
Mr G Farlow	Mr A Rhind
Mr B Fernie	Mr G Rimell
Mr M Finlayson	Mrs F Robertson
Mr C Fraser	Mr J Rosie
Mr H Fraser	Ms G Ross
Mr L Fraser	Mr G Ross
Mr S Fuller	Mr R Saxon
Mr J Gordon	Dr A Sinclair
Mr B Gormley	Ms G Sinclair
Mr K Gowans	Mrs J Slater
Mr A Graham	Ms M Smith
Mr J Gray	Ms K Stephen
Mr M Green	Mr J Stone
Mr R Greene	Mr B Thompson
Mr A Henderson	Mrs C Wilson
Mr D Kerr	Mr H Wood
Mr R Laird	

In Attendance:

Chief Executive	Director of Care and Learning
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Development	Director of Finance
Director of Development & Infrastructure	Director of Community Services

Mr J Gray in the Chair

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr J Ford, Mr D Hendry, Mrs B McAllister, Mrs I McCallum, Mr D Millar, Mrs M Paterson and Mr M Reiss.

2. **Declarations of Interest** **Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt**

There were no declarations of interest.

Tributes to the late Charles Kennedy

Prior to commencement of the formal business, the Convener and Group Leaders paid warm tribute to the late Charles Kennedy who had been the Member of Parliament for Ross, Skye and Lochaber from 1983 to 2015.

In this regard, it was confirmed that Mr Kennedy had been very highly regarded as a committed internationalist, a global citizen, a passionate European, a compassionate and principled British politician, a great Scot and a respected and much loved Highlander.

The thoughts and prayers of the whole Council went out to his family and friends, especially his son Donald, and also to the people of Lochaber who were grieving for a much loved son who had never lost touch with his roots in the community and would always be remembered.

3. **Notice of Motion** **Brathan Glusaid**

Nominations for the following Senior Member posts were moved and **AGREED** at the meeting –

Leader of the Council – Mrs M Davidson

Chair of Resources Committee – Mr B Fernie

Chair of Education, Children and Adult Services Committee – Mr D Millar

Chair of Planning, Development and Infrastructure Committee and Planning Review Body – Dr A Sinclair

Chair of Community Services Committee – Mr A Henderson

Chair of Community Safety, Public Engagement and Equalities Committee – Mr H Fraser

Chair of Highland Licensing Committee – Dr I Cockburn

Chair of Audit and Scrutiny Committee – Mr R Laird

Vice Chair of Audit and Scrutiny Committee – Mr G Phillips

Leader of the Opposition – Ms M Smith

At this point, the Leader of the Council thanked the previous Chairs of the respective Committees for the work which had been undertaken to date.

**4. Membership of the Council
Ballrachd na Comhairle**

It was **NOTED** that the political make-up of the Council was now as follows –

Independent – 32/ SNP – 21/ Liberal Democrat – 11/ Labour – 8
Highland Alliance – 5/ Non Aligned - 3

It was also **NOTED** that the formula in respect of the number of places on Strategic Committees remained as 9/6/3/2/2 and that revised Committee membership lists would be circulated for the next meeting on 25 June 2015.

**5. Convener of the Council
Neach-gairm**

Following nomination, it was **AGREED** that Mrs I McCallum should become Convener of the Council.

Thereafter, the Leader of the Council thanked Mr J Gray for the work which he had undertaken for the Council during his time in the role of Convener.

The meeting ended at 11.00am