

North Lanarkshire Council Report

Finance and Resources Committee

approval noting

Ref CJ/PP

Date 27/11/19

Community Council Quadrennial Elections 2019

From Head of Legal and Democratic Solutions

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the outcome of the recent Quadrennial Elections for Community Councils in North Lanarkshire following the close of the nomination process on Monday, 9 September 2019.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:-

- (1) Note the current status of Community Councils in North Lanarkshire following the Quadrennial Elections;
- (2) Approve the change of name of Tannochside Community Council to Thorniewood Community Council, and
- (3) Approve that an event be arranged to recognise the service of former Community Councillors.

The Plan for North Lanarkshire

Priority Enhance participation, capacity, and empowerment across our communities

Ambition statement (19) Improve engagement with communities and develop their capacity to help themselves

1. Background

- 1.1 At the meeting of this Committee on 13 March 2019, consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the arrangements for Quadrennial Elections to establish Community Councils in North Lanarkshire, in terms of the Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils, on the basis that the current Community Council members were required to stand down on Monday, 7 October 2019.

2. Report

- 2.1 Following an extensive publicity campaign, utilising the Council's website and social media pages, libraries throughout North Lanarkshire and advertisements in the local

press, nominations were sought for sufficient numbers of Community Councillors to re-establish the 80 Community Councils throughout the Council's area.

Re-established Community Councils

- 2.2 Nominations were received for membership following the nomination process and the undernoted Community Councils were re-established:-

Allanton & Hartwood, Auchinloch, Banton & Kelvinhead, Bellshill, Cairnhill, Caldercruix, Carbrain & Hillcrest, Castlecary, Central Wishaw, Chryston, Cleland, Coltness, Condorrat, Craigmarloch, Craigneuk, Dullatur, Glenboig, Glenmavis, Greengairs, Harthill & Eastfield, Kildrum, Kilsyth, Kirkwood, Ladywell, Monkland Glen, Newarthill, Newmains & District, North Calder, Overtown & Waterloo, Plains, Queenzieburn, Salsburgh, Seafar & Ravenswood, Shotts, Stepps & District, The Village and Westerwood.

- 2.2.1 There were 37 Community Councils re-established on 8 October 2019, with their inaugural meetings taking place within 42 days of establishment.

Establishment of New Community Council

- 2.3 In addition, sufficient nominations were received to establish Tannochside Community Council. The Community Council was established on 8 October 2019 and held its inaugural meeting on 9 October.

- 2.4 Tannochside Community Council have requested that their Council be renamed Thorniewood Community Council as, in their opinion, this would better reflect the area that they represent.

Elections/Disbandment

- 2.5 There were no instances in which the number of nominations for Community Councillors exceeded the number of available vacancies, and accordingly there was no need to conduct any election.

- 2.6 There were no cases where an existing Community Council failed to attract sufficient nominations for Community Councillors which would have caused that Community Council to cease to operate.

Recognition of Service

- 2.7 Following the close of nominations, a number of former Community Councillors have stood down. By way of recognising the service and contribution these individuals have made to civic life and to their communities during their term of office, it is proposed that an event be held for them on a date to be confirmed.

3. Equality and Diversity

- 3.1 Fairer Scotland Duty

Not applicable.

3.2 Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial Impact

The funding to support the Quadrennial Elections is contained in the budget for Community Councils.

4.2 HR/Policy/Legislative Impact

There is no impact.

4.3 Environmental Impact

There is no impact.

4.4 Risk Impact

There is no impact.

5. Measures of success

5.1 To support and assist Community Councils in terms of the North Lanarkshire Council Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils.

6. Supporting documents

6.1 There are no supporting documents.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. C. C.', written in a cursive style.

Head of Legal and Democratic Solutions