

3. REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO SCHEME FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN WEST LOTHIAN - REQUEST FOR THE FORMATION OF A SEPARATE CARMONDEAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Deputation from Jill Parton

The Provost invited Jill Parton to present to Council.

Mrs Parton commenced by explaining the background to the establishment of the former Carmondean Community Council back in 2017 and the work that had been undertaken by its then members including the painting of a number of underpasses and the installation of new bus shelters.

She continued by stating that in early 2022 she and her former colleagues felt that there was still much to be addressed in the Carmondean area and felt that the existing community council was not adequately representing the Carmondean residents. Therefore, a petition was submitted to the council to seek the reinstatement of the former Carmondean Community Council.

During the recent consultation exercise undertaken by the Council on the establishment of a separate Cardmondean Community Council Mrs Parton had submitted a number of positive comments on the matter including improved community council representation at Local Area Committee meetings.

Mrs Parton concluded by saying that by re-establishing the former Carmondean Community Council would mean that local residents would be better represented on those issues in the area that mattered most to them.

Mrs Parton then responded to questions from councillors and summed up her position..

The Provost thanked Mrs Parton for her deputation.

Report by Head of Corporate Services

The Council considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Corporate Services advising on the public consultation undertaken and to invite the Council to consider whether the community council boundary, for Carmondean & Deans Community Council, should be altered to allow the creation of two separate community councils for the areas of Carmondean and Deans, as requested in the petition signed by registered electors from Carmondean considered by Council Executive on 4 October 2022.

It was recommended that Council: -

- a) That Council noted the responses to the public consultation undertaken and considers whether to approve the alteration of the

boundaries set within the Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils in West Lothian (Scheme), to allow the creation of two separate community councils for the areas of Carmondean and Deans

- b) That if Council is minded to alter the Scheme boundaries for Carmondean and Deans, Council determines whether to adopt –
- Option 1 – separate boundaries for Carmondean and Deans as they were prior to the introduction of the 2021 Scheme as shown in Appendix 3, or
 - Option 2 - alternative Carmondean and Deans area boundaries which were suggested in comments from a Consultation respondent as shown in Appendix 4.

Motion

To note Recommendation A of the report; and to agree Recommendation B, Option 1 of the report.

- Moved by Councillor McMillan and seconded by Councillor McGuire

Decision

To unanimously agree the terms of the motion.