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## STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING - OXTON

Report by Service Director Customer and Communities

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### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

17 September 2019

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#### 1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes that the Executive Committee agree the naming of a new street in Oxton as the Developer, Local Members and Community cannot reach agreement on the preferred name.
- 1.2 In terms of section 97 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 the Council have responsibility for the naming and numbering of streets. This process is undertaken by staff in the Democratic Services Section and involves consulting with the local Members, community councillors and developers. Names of streets are usually agreed by consensus so the involvement of the Executive Committee is not required. However, in this case agreement cannot be reached so in terms of the Scheme of Administration the Executive Committee are being asked to make the final decision.
- 1.3 The developer has proposed "The Larches" as his preferred street name as he feels this best reflects the type of dwellinghouses he is constructing and the local Members and the community prefer "The Sidings" given the proximity of the development to the former railway line.

#### 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **I recommend that the Executive Committee agree the new street name for this development in Oxton as either "The Larches" or "The Sidings".**

### **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Council's power to name and number the roads in its area stems from section 97 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 which states that "a local authority may, in relation to any road in their area, give such name to it as they think fit and give each of the premises in it such distinguishing number as they think fit; alter that number when necessary; and require the owner of each of the premises, by notice served on him, to affix or paint that number on his premises so that it is readily legible from the nearest part of the public place giving access to the premises".
- 3.2 This function is carried out by staff in the Democratic Services Section within the Customer and Communities Department.
- 3.3 When a developer is constructing a new development they contact the Council to undertake the process to name the new street. The normal practice is for the local Members and the relevant Community Council to be consulted on the naming of the street. The developer can make a suggestion and this will be part of the consultation process. In the majority of cases consensus is reached and the street is named. Where consensus cannot be reached the final decision lies with the Executive Committee.

### **4 NEW DEVELOPMENT IN OXTON**

- 4.1 In July the developer of a new 5 dwellinghouse development in Oxton got in touch with the Council regarding the allocation of a name and numbering for the aforesaid development. The developer proposed that this new development be named 1-5 The Larches.
- 4.2 Contact was made with the three local Members to obtain their views on the proposed name of "The Larches". Oxton and Channelkirk Community Council is currently in abeyance so it was not possible to contact them directly. However, there was contact between the local Members and some former members of the Community Council to try and ascertain public opinion in the village. It was at this point that the suggestion of "The Sidings" was proposed as the site was located close to the former railway line and was accessed from Station Road. This name had been proposed by the community previously and there had been some consultation with residents via social media.
- 4.3 The developer of the site does not accept that this is a suitable name for his development and considers that "The Larches" would be a more appropriate name for the type of development proposed which comprises 5 large detached dwellinghouses.
- 4.4 Where agreement cannot be reached between the Local Members, local community and the developer then the Scheme of Administration requires the Executive Committee to make the final decision.



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