

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 10 MARCH 2010

NAMING OF THE NEW SPECIAL SCHOOL IN KILMARNOCK

Report by Executive Director of Educational & Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members of Cabinet in respect of the name of the new Special School in Kilmarnock.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Previous reports have been presented to Cabinet in respect of the Better Schools: Better Learning Initiative.
- 2.2 In relation to the development of a new special school in Kilmarnock, Cabinet agreed on 19 March 2008 that a consultation exercise should be carried out, at an appropriate juncture, to determine a name for the new school.

3. PROCESS

- 3.1 At a full meeting of both Parent Councils, held on 25 August 2009, the process for agreeing a name for the new school was agreed.
- 3.2 As an essential first stage in the process an Interim Parent Council was established comprising representatives from both existing special schools. The two existing Parent Council Chair's are co chairs of the new Interim Parent Council and at its meeting on 19 January 2010, the co-opted members were agreed.
- 3.3 Both Parent Councils sent out questionnaires to their respective stakeholders, comprising all parent and carers of both schools about potential names. Importantly children were involved in the process, where appropriate.
- 3.4 Each Parent Council then brought forward their top three names for consideration at the Interim Parent Council meeting of 19 January 2010 to agree up to four names for further ballot.
- 3.5 The Interim Parent Council agreed three names out of the six, namely (in no priority order):
- Woodhill
 - Willowbank
 - Oak Lea

4. OUTCOME OF THE BALLOT

- 4.1 The outcome of the ballot was presented to the Interim Parent Council on Tuesday 23 February 2010. The results are set out below:

Name	Number of Votes
Willowbank	61
Oak Lea	24
Woodhill	21

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Any costs at a later date associated with a change to paperwork will be met from existing resources.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Nil

7. POLICY & LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Nil

8. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The development of a new special school in Kilmarnock is set within the context of the Lifelong Learning Theme of the Community Plan.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Nil

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Members of Cabinet are asked to:

- (i) approve the name of Willowbank for the new special school; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of the report.

Graham R Short
Executive Director of Educational & Social Services

24 February 2010
KG/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Better Schools: Better Learning – Cabinet paper of 19 March 2009

Members wishing further information should contact Kay Gilmour, Head of Service: Community Support, Tel: 01563 576104.

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: KAY GILMOUR