

## EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

### CENTRAL LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING FORUM – 28 AUGUST 2007

#### QUESTIONS ARISING FROM 15 MINUTE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

<u>MATTER RAISED</u>	<u>RESPONSE/ACTION TO BE TAKEN</u>	<u>CURRENT POSITION</u>
<p>1. Community Representative Charles McGowan raised correspondence dated 17 August 2007 between the Head of Housing, Customer Liaison Team and the Thorn Terrace Better Neighbourhood Group (TTBNG) dated 23 August 2007 concerning re-registering TTBNG every two years as a Tenant's Organisation and in his view this was not due until 30 November 2007.</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services advised such matters should be raised through other process in the first instance, however, noted that the matter will be referred to the Head of Housing for a response direct to the respondent.</p>	<p>Maxine McInnes, Customer Liaison Officer has confirmed receipt of a letter from Charles McGowan on 23 August 2007 and replied on 12 September 2007 indicating that the return date for the Registered Tenants Organisation status review information had been extended further.</p>
<p>2. Community Representative Charles McGowan highlighted that the cleaning of the public waste paper bins at Thorn Terrace playpark, Kilmarnock had not been carried out in the last three weeks.</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services advised that the matter will be referred to Linda Hume, Area Operations Manager, Outdoor Amenities, Neighbourhood Services for a response direct to the respondent.</p>	<p>Gordon Crockatt, Assistant Area Operations Manager, Outdoor Amenities confirmed on 18 September 2007 that the playpark litter bins had been emptied and a copy of the response has been emailed to the respondent.</p>
<p>3. Community Representative Maurice Ashbridge asked if there were any plans for the Community Learning and Development Teams to assist Community Groups (such as the Elderly Forum Groups within East Ayrshire) to give more of an understanding of the review in relation to interim arrangements for the three Local Community Planning Forums and the consultation exercise.</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services advised that responses to the consultation exercise were to be made by 30 November 2007 and indicated that Community Learning and Development supported the series of consultation meetings held recently (to which all existing representatives and substitutes on the Local Committees had been invited to attend). Following these meetings a series of information leaflets were circulated to all Community Representatives with additional copies provided to each representative organisation. In addition, the Head of Democratic Services offered to meet with the Elderly Forum Groups to discuss the</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services replied on 27 September 2007, providing details of the circulation of the information leaflets including the contact addresses used and a check being made on their accuracy; confirmed that a reminder letter had been issued on 3 September 2007 to all Community Representatives and relevant organisations and re-affirming the offer made at the meeting to meet with Elderly Forum Groups to further discuss the interim proposals and the consultation exercise if this is of further assistance.</p>

	<p>proposals. Further, in response, that some Community Representatives were not aware of the information leaflets, the Head of Democratic Services indicated that a further reminder letter would be issued shortly to all Community Representatives on the review and that a check would be done on the distribution lists for accuracy.</p>	
<p>4. Community Representative Jane Darnbrough raised concerns about the interim structure and considered that the Local Committee structure should have been retained and at that point, consultation undertaken on its replacement.</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services indicated that the Council's Statutory meeting on 17 May 2007 had agreed interim arrangements for the decision making structure with the creation of three Local Community Planning Forums, primarily to ensure local involvement in the community grant process and to maintain links with existing Community Representatives.</p> <p>Most importantly, the Council had not made a final decision on the local decision making structure and, as such, the Council had embarked on a consultation exercise to identify how best to engage and work with local communities within the Community Planning framework.</p> <p>In particular, the key aspects to moving from the Local Committee structure was the introduction from 3 May 2007 of multi-member electoral wards. As Local Committees were based on 32 electoral ward boundaries these no longer matched the new multi-member electoral ward boundaries.</p> <p>It was confirmed that copies of the information leaflet relating to the Consultation meeting on 18 July 2007 would be sent to the Chairperson of Shortlees Community Association.</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services replied on 25 September 2007 indicating the background to the review, the reasons behind the interim local decision making structure of the 3 local Community Planning Forums, providing details of the circulation of the information leaflet, including the contact addresses used, and providing a further 15 copies of the information leaflet for Shortlees Community Association.</p>

<p>5. Community Representative Mark Hemphill raised a number of questions regarding service delivery in relation to the introduction of the new multi member electoral ward boundaries in East Ayrshire.</p>	<p>The Administrative Officer indicated that the points raised would be considered and a response made direct to the respondent in due course.</p>	<p>The Head of Democratic Services replied on 20 September 2007 providing a comprehensive response to the issues raised in relation to the new multi-member electoral ward boundaries and how services are currently planned.</p>
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1 October 2007  
RB/KS