

**EAST AYRSHIRE**

**COMMUNITY PLANNING CORE PARTNERS' GROUP**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2007 AT 1400 HOURS  
IN MEETING ROOM 1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,  
KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT: Representing East Ayrshire Council:** Councillor Iain Linton; Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; and Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support.

**Representing Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire:** Jim Reid, Director of Business Skills and Place.

**Representing Strathclyde Fire and Rescue:** Frank Waters, Group Commander, East Ayrshire.

**Representing East Ayrshire Community Health Partnership:** Gordon Wilson, Chair of East Ayrshire Community Health Partnership.

**Representing Strathclyde Partnership for Transport:** Alan Murray, Community Planning Manager; John Walls, Community Planning Officer and Carol Gilberts, Planning and Strategy Manager.

**Community Representatives:** Graham Piggott, Convenor, North Communities Federation and Ian Smith, Chair, Coalfield Communities Federation.

**ATTENDING:** Gwen Barker, Community Planning and Partnership Manager; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Douglas Reid, East Ayrshire Council; Wai-yin Hatton, Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran; Chief Superintendent Hamish Cormack, , Strathclyde Police; and Roger Popplewell, Area Director, Communities Scotland.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Iain Linton, East Ayrshire Council.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. There was submitted, circulated and agreed as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 August 2007. It was noted that there were no matters arising.

**UPDATE FROM THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING CONFERENCE –  
27 NOVEMBER 2007**

2. The Community Planning and Partnership Manager reported and it was noted the key messages delivered by John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, Scottish Government, at the National Community Planning Conference held on 27 November 2007. In particular, the Cabinet Secretary highlighted that the Scottish Government viewed Community Planning as a model delivery vehicle, in terms of joined up public services and maximising the shared services agenda. In addition, he indicated that the move towards the production of Single Outcome

Agreements would strengthen the role of Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) compared to the previous arrangement of ringfence funding which was considered to be restrictive and an inefficient form of resource allocation.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

3. The Chair altered the business of the agenda as follows:

#### **LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING**

4. There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council which presented proposals to develop arrangements for Local Community Planning.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the development of four Local Community Planning Forums;
- (ii) to approve the operational arrangements for the Local Community Planning Forums as outlined in paragraph 5 of the report;
- (iii) to note the support and development work outlined in paragraphs 5.17 – 5.24 of the report;
- (iv) that the operation of the Local Community Planning Forums be reviewed after one year of operational experience;
- (v) that maps indicating the operational boundaries of the Local Community Planning Forums, including ward boundary information, would be circulated by the Community Planning and Partnership Manager to all Core Partners’;
- (vi) with regard to a request from Graham Piggott to re-activate the Southcraigs/Dean Community Council in order that the Federation could seek appropriate representation, it was agreed to refer this matter to the Head of Democratic Services for appropriate action;
- (vii) to note the development of the Equalities Forum and the Core Partners’ Group to participate in this activity, as appropriate; and
- (viii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

#### **FLAGSHIP PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY**

5. There was submitted a report dated 6 December 2007 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council which advised on progress in securing the sustainability of Community Regeneration Funded partner agency ‘flagship’ projects.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note that from April 2008 onwards funding decisions in respect of skills development would be the responsibility of Skills Development Scotland and the consequent necessity of ensuring that appropriate links are established would be followed up by Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire and the Community Planning and Partnership Manager;

- (ii) to note the allocation of recurring funding from NHS Ayrshire and Arran of £200,000 per annum in respect of the Healthy Living Initiative and Recreation Partnership Project;
- (iii) to note that Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire would be acting as an agent for Skills Development Scotland and that an announcement was expected to be made in January 2008 by the Scottish Government on funding of Skills Contracts. It was further noted that the Community Planning and Partnership Manager would keep in close contact with Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire with regard to funding for the EASY (East Ayrshire Strategy for Youth) project;
- (iv) to note that continued efforts would require to be made to identify mainstream funding in respect of New Sporting Futures Project; and
- (v) otherwise, note the content of the report.

### **SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

6. The Community Planning and Partnership Manager circulated a copy of the Scottish Budget Spending Review 2007, Concordat document between the Scottish Government and CoSLA, signed on 14 November 2007, which set out the terms of a new relationship between the Scottish Government and Local Government, based on mutual respect and partnership. In particular, the Concordat sets out the funding to be provided to Local Government over the period 2008/09 to 2010/11.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to welcome, in principle, the introduction of the Single Outcome Agreement and that work towards the production of a Community Planning Single Outcome Agreement should be progressed;
- (ii) to request that the Community Planning Partnership Manager make arrangements to prepare a draft Single Outcome Agreement and circulate to Core Partners for comment; and
- (iii) that the Community Planning and Partnership Manager undertakes further discussion with both Federations in 2008 to draw up a draft agreement between the Community Planning Partnership and both Federations with the purpose of formalising the relationship between the Core Partners' Group and both Federations; and to note that each Federation will require to consider the terms of the draft document.

### **PARTNERSHIP ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK**

7. There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council, which presented for consideration the draft Partnership Assessment Framework.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the draft Partnership Assessment Framework and the proposals for its implementation across the Partner agencies, subject to the adjustments that may be required in light of operational experience; and

- (ii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

### **TRANSPORT NEEDS AND ISSUES**

8. There was submitted a report dated 29 November 2007 (circulated) by John Walls, Chair of the Short Term Working Group, which advised of the progress made since the beginning of the year in respect of East Ayrshire's Transport Needs and Issues... Specifically, the report included the Short Term Working Group's recent analysis of the Thematic Action Plans in respect of those actions which are influenced by transport and made recommendations to the group on the way forward.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report on the findings of the transport matrix as detailed in the appendix to the report;
- (ii) that Community Planning Partners be consulted individually on the transport matrix as detailed in the report;
- (iii) that Thematic Groups be consulted on the attached transport matrix as detailed in the report;
- (iv) that a seminar be organised in early 2008 to discuss the issues raised by the transport matrix and that John Walls, Community Planning Officer, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, would arrange to secure appropriate participation from local bus operators;
- (v) following concerns raised by Graham Piggott, North Federation, that service users required to take two buses to access the North West Kilmarnock Area Centre, Fiona Lees, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council, indicated that the issue would be followed up by the Council, and a discussion with the local bus operators would be arranged and the result reported to a future meeting;
- (vi) in relation to Graham Piggott's proposal, it was agreed that public transport to the North West Kilmarnock Area Centre could be a potential topic for consideration by the Local Community Planning Forums and the Community Planning and Partnership Manager would progress as appropriate;
- (vii) to note that the Community Planning and Partnership Manager would assist Local Community Planning Forums to identify and prioritise the issues for consideration over the next two years; and
- (viii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

### **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS**

9. There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (copy enclosed) by the Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council, which advised of the Council's new arrangements for Governance and Scrutiny, and the potential role for Community Planning Partners within this framework.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the Council's new Governance and Scrutiny arrangements; and

- (ii) that Core Partners participate in these arrangements, as and when appropriate.

### **COMMUNITY PLANNING EUROPEAN FUNDING BID**

- 10. There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support, East Ayrshire Council, which presented the content of the Community Planning Partnership's European Regional Development Fund/European Social Fund funding application to the Lowland and Upland Scotland 2007- 2013 programme.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note and endorse the content of the European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund bids as outlined within the report, which were submitted by the deadline date of 23 November 2007; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

### **STRATHCLYDE PARTNERSHIP FOR TRANSPORT – TRANSPORT OUTCOMES FOR EAST AYRSHIRE 2007/08 – 2010/11**

- 11. There was submitted a draft report by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) (circulated) which advised that Strathclyde Partnership for Transport was focused on delivering real benefits for the travelling public of East Ayrshire across the West of Scotland and made recommendations on a number of key projects as detailed within the report.

Following discussion it was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the report required to be amended prior to extended circulation;
- (ii) that the consultation period be extended to 31 January 2008; and
- (iii) to further note that a revised report would be circulated to Core Partners and returns should be issued directly to SPT by 31 January 2008.

### **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS AGENDA**

- 12. There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council which presented proposals for addressing the issue of alcohol and drugs in East Ayrshire over the next two years.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the success of the Community Planning Alcohol and Drug Seminar held on 6 November 2007;
- (ii) to endorse the proposal to carry out a two-year intensive programme of activity to tackle growing concerns of alcohol and drugs misuse, including identifying funding sources to resource this work;
- (iii) to remit the Community Planning and Partnership Unit to work with relevant professional staff to develop the proposed Community Planning Pledge and consider this at a future meeting;

- (iv) to nominate Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support as a 'Champion' to drive forward this agenda;
- (v) that in response to some local policing issues raised by Ian Smith, Coalfield Communities Federation, it was agreed that the Community Planning Partnership Manager would arrange with Superintendent Hamish Cormack, Strathclyde Police for a presentation to be made to Core Partners at their next meeting; and
- (vi) otherwise, note the content of the report.

### **PROPOSED COMMUNITY PLANNING AWARDS CEREMONY**

- 13.** The Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council sought the views of Core Partners with regard to providing recognition of the work undertaken by voluntary organisations on behalf of the Community.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Council had experience of managing an Employee Awards Ceremony, which was considered to be a successful event and had attracted sponsorship from local companies; and
- (ii) to request that the Community Planning and Partnership Manager develop a proposal for a Community Planning Awards Ceremony for 2008 and report back to a future meeting.

### **REPORTS FOR NOTING, ENDORSEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **DUMFRIES HOUSE AND ESTATE**

- 14.** There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support, East Ayrshire Council, which (a) provided a summary of the background and current position regarding the acquisition of Dumfries House and Estate; (b) outlined the context within which the development of Dumfries Estate and its constituent projects should be set; and (c) identified proposals for the overall management and development of the agenda from a Community Planning perspective.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress regarding the acquisition of Dumfries House and Estate;
- (ii) to note the appointment of the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council to the Board of Trustees for Dumfries House;
- (iii) to ensure appropriate representation on the Core Team to allow full consideration of the issues identified within the report, prior to the Enquiry by Design session in February 2008; and
- (iv) otherwise, note the content of the report.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE AND JOINT OFFICERS' GROUP WORKPLAN  
2007/08**

15. There was submitted a report dated 30 November 2007 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council, which updated on developments in relation to Community Planning.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note progress to 30 November 2007 in respect of the Joint Officers' Group Workplan 2007/08;
- (ii) to note the initial outcome of the National Spending Review;
- (iii) to endorse the proposal to undertake the Residents' Survey on a three-yearly basis rather than four-yearly and to request Core Partners to identify potential funding sources for this activity;
- (iv) to note the planned evaluation of Residents' Panel activity; and
- (v) otherwise, note the content of the report.

**BETTER SCHOOLS: BETTER LEARNING: A STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPING THE  
SCHOOL ESTATE**

16. There were submitted consultative reports (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services on the formal public consultation for a range of proposals to strengthen the quality of learning and teaching in East Ayrshire, which invited interested parties to make written submissions for return to the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services by no later than Monday 21 January 2008. The proposals detailed in the original Appendices were:-

- Primary Schools and Nursery School provision in New Cumnock
- Crossroads Primary School
- Littlemill Primary School and Nursery Class
- Sorn Primary School
- St. Xavier's Primary School; and
- A proposed merger of Woodstock and Witchhill Schools.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note that in relation to all projects, where necessary, the report reflected that in line with the Council's financial reserve strategy, all proceeds of any sites sold would be used to enhance education provision by reinvestment in the remaining school estate;
- (ii) to invite Community Planning Partners to participate in the formal public consultation on the range of proposals to strengthen the quality of learning and teaching in East Ayrshire as set out in the individual appendices by 21 January 2008; and

- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

### **FUTURE PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS AND REPORTS**

17. The Community Planning Partnership Manager reported, and it was noted, the programme of future presentation/discussions and report as follows:-
- operating arrangements for the new Community Planning and Partnership Board;
  - Integrated Impact Assessment; and
  - Data Sharing Protocol.

### **FORWARD PLANNER FOR 2008 MEETINGS**

18. There was submitted a meeting schedule for 2008 for the new Community Planning Partnership Board. Following discussion, it was agreed to approve the undernoted meeting schedule for 2008 and to note that venues would be confirmed in due course.
- Thursday 6 March 2008 at 2.00 pm
  - Thursday 26 June 2008 at 2.00 pm
  - Thursday 18 September 2008 at 2.00 pm
  - Thursday 11 December 2008 at 2.00 pm.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

19. It was agreed to note that the next meeting will be convened on Thursday 6 March 2008 at 2.00 pm.

The meeting terminated at 1538 hours.