

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CABINET****MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH 2008 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Reid, Iain Linton, John MacKay, Jim Buchanan, Hugh Ross, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Jim Roberts and Kathy Morrice; and Church Representatives: John McHugh and Dr Ivy Barclay; Teacher Representative: Iain Harvey; and Parent Representative: David Fraser.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; Alex McPhee, Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management; Jackie Donnelly, Executive Head of Social Work; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; John Clayton, Head of Corporate Development and Communication; Chris McAleavey, Head of Housing; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; Julie McGarry, Administration Manager; Dot Grieve, Principal Officer, Community Learning and Development; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer.

OBSERVER: Sergeant Danny Stuart, Liaison Officer, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Jim Todd and Church Representative: Bill McGregor.

CHAIR: Councillor Douglas Reid, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Sergeant Danny Stuart, newly appointed Liaison Officer, Strathclyde Police, as an observer to the meeting.

LIFELONG LEARNING**VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS 2008/2009**

2. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for recommendations for awards in respect of allocations of Education Voluntary Sector Grants for the year 2008/2009.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to the awards as undernoted:-

IQRAA - Asian Women's Group	-	£923.00
Childline Scotland - Bullying Project Line	-	£656.00
KULOC - Chinese Community	-	£3,500.00
Avonlea Youth Centre	-	£4,321.00; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

CHARGES FOR COMMUNITY USE OF COUNCIL PREMISES 2008/09

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 21 February 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which informed of a review which would be undertaken in respect of the Council's Letting Policy and which sought approval for the revision of charges for the use of Council accommodation by Community Groups for financial year 2008/09.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to implement the revised charges for Council premises managed through Neighbourhood Services as of 1 April 2008, as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to implement the revised charges for the use of premises managed through the Department of Educational and Social Services as of 1 August 2008, as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to request the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to report to a future meeting of Cabinet on the outcome of the review of the Letting Policy as detailed within the report; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Church Representatives: John McHugh and Dr Ivy Barclay; Teacher Representative: Iain Harvey; and Parent Representative: David Fraser, all left the meeting at this point.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND EQUALITIES

SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT (Item 3, Page 270, 07/11)

4. There was submitted a report dated 20 March 2008 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which requested consideration and endorsement of the draft East Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Single Outcome Agreement.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the draft East Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Single Outcome Agreement;
- (ii) to note that to facilitate overall 'sign-off' of the SOA by the due date of 31 March 2008, the Community Planning Partnership Board had remitted the Community Planning Joint Officers' Group to consider and sign-off the draft Single Outcome Agreement at its meeting on 31 March 2008 and submit it to the Scottish Government immediately thereafter;
- (iii) to note the intention of the Community Planning and Partnership Unit to continue engagement with community and voluntary organisations as the draft Single Outcome Agreement was taken forward;
- (iv) to note the Scottish Government's intention to have final sign-off of the Single Outcome Agreement by 30 June 2008;
- (v) to remit to Officers to work with the appointed Scottish Government Director and to make any necessary contextual changes to the draft Single Outcome Agreement;

- (vi) to request a further report towards the end of June 2008, advising on the outcome of discussions with the Scottish Government in taking our draft Single Outcome Agreement to a final agreed document; and
- (vii) to receive further update reports.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

MATCH FUND BUDGET

5.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor McDill declared a non-financial interest in this item and left the meeting.

5.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 7 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which recommended an award from the financial year 2007/2008 Match Fund Budget in respect of the following applications:-

Ayrshire Rivers Trust - a contribution to the 'Salmon in the Classroom' Project;

Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group - a contribution to the 'Ayrshire Red Squirrel Rescue Project'; and

Darvel Music Festival - a retrospective contribution to the 2007 Darvel Music Festival.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) an award of £1,200 to the Ayrshire Rivers Trust;
- (ii) an award of £3,500 to Ayrshire Red Squirrel Group;
- (iii) a retrospective award of £4,801.25 to Darvel Music Festival 2007; and
- (iv) to carry forward the remaining Match Fund Budget balance of £338.75 as part of the departmental underspend to 2008/09.

Councillor McDill re-joined the meeting at this point.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 6. The Chair altered business of the Agenda and took Item 6 at this point.

MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES

COMMERCIAL WASTE AND ADDITIONAL UPLIFT CHARGES

- 7. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised on the commercial waste and additional household waste collection service and sought approval for a proposed revised charging structure.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed commercial waste and additional uplift charging mechanism as detailed within the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION

CATRINE ENVIRONMENTAL HERITAGE PROJECT, HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND SUBMISSION (Item 13, Page 49, 07/11)

8.1 Declarations of Interest

Councillors Jim Roberts and Eric Jackson declared a non-financial interest in this item and left the meeting.

8.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 18 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which sought (i) authority for the Head of Planning and Economic Development in partnership with the Catrine Community Trust to submit a funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Catrine Environmental Heritage Project with the full support of the Council; (ii) approval, in principle, for match funding for the Project in financial years 2009/10 - 2010/11; and (iii) approval for development funding for the Stage 2 submission subject to a successful Stage 1 bid.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to fully support the Catrine Environmental Heritage Project, Heritage Lottery Fund Submission;
- (ii) to approve, in principle, match funding up to a total of £1m for the Catrine Environmental Heritage Project to be spread over financial years 2009/10 - 2010/11, subject to the approval of the Heritage Lottery Fund funding bid, and subject to the availability of resources at that time; and
- (iii) to approve up to £50,000 development funding for the development of the Stage 2 submission, subject to the approval of the Stage 1 bid.

Councillors Jim Roberts and Eric Jackson re-joined the meeting at this point.

MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES

BURIAL CHARGES 2008/09

9. There was submitted a report dated 26 February 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for the 2008/09 charges for the Council's range of burial and cemetery services.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Burial Charges proposed for 2008/09 as detailed within the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Eric Jackson, having moved an alternative proposal which failed to receive a seconder, requested that his dissent to this decision be recorded.

CHARGES FOR LEISURE SERVICES 2008/09

10. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for revised charges for a

range of Leisure Services provided by the Council for implementation from 1 April 2008.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed charges as detailed within Appendices 1 to 5 of the report, to be implemented from 1 April 2008; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

REVENUE BUDGET 2008/09 - CHARGES FOR CERTAIN SERVICES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, LICENSING AND TRADING STANDARDS

11. There was submitted a report dated 5 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which requested approval of changes in the price structure for charges for certain services in Environmental Health, Licensing and Trading Standards provided within the Department of Corporate Support.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed charges as detailed within Appendices 1 to 4 of the report, to be implemented from 1 April 2008; and
- (ii) that the report be otherwise noted.

SOCIAL WORK APPROVED RATES AND CHARGES - 2008/09

12. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for alterations to approved rates and charges for Social Work services for financial year 2008/09.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the revised charges as detailed within the report, effective from 7 April 2008; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ADOPTION OF SCOTLAND EXCEL COLLABORATIVE PROPOSAL

13. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which (i) advised of the ongoing developments in the National Procurement agenda; (ii) sought approval to join Scotland Excel for an initial three year period to assist the Council in delivering procurement savings and to meet the requirements of the McClelland Report on Public Sector Procurement and the National Policy Framework; (iii) highlighted the benefits and risks associated with becoming a member of Scotland Excel; and (iv) made recommendations to Cabinet on the Council's commitment and sign-up to the collaborative project.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the terms of the Scotland Excel proposal, which sought the Council's commitment to participate;
- (ii) to note the advantages and risks associated with the participation;
- (iii) to formally join the Scotland Excel Consortium for an initial three year period;

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- (iv) to recommend to Council to nominate Councillor Hugh Ross as the Council's Representative to the Scotland Excel Joint Board; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

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NATIONAL SHARED SERVICES DIAGNOSTICS REVIEW

14. There was submitted a report dated 20 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which advised of progress to date in respect of the Council's commitment to undertake an in-depth Diagnostic Review of both front-line and back-office services.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) to note that a further progress report would be presented to Cabinet once the outcome of the Gap Analysis stage was known.

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION

BARONY `A' FRAME REGENERATION PROJECT (Item 5, Page 2603, 03/07)

15.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Jim Roberts declared a non-financial interest in this item and left the meeting.

15.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 12 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which sought approval to allocate previously approved East Ayrshire Council funding as a contribution to the interpretation and landscaping element of the Barony `A' Frame Project rather than professional fees.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the change of usage of the previously approved funds as detailed within the report; and
- (ii) to release up to a maximum amount of £26,576 to the Barony `A' Frame Trust for the interpretation and landscaping element of the project.

Councillor Jim Roberts re-joined the meeting at this point.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION'S QUALITY OF LIFE BUDGET 2007/08 - REVOLVING FUND FOR DEMOLITIONS

16. There was submitted a report dated 10 March 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which sought agreement to re-allocate the balance of the Quality of Life funding allocated to the Revolving Fund for Demolitions to provide revenue funding for the East Ayrshire Woodlands Project and to fund in part the demolition of two properties that required to be demolished under the Building (Scotland) Act 2003.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the re-allocation of the uncommitted balance of Quality of Life Funding previously allocated to the Revolving Fund for Demolitions of £47,020;
- (ii) to provide £20,000 revenue funding for the East Ayrshire Woodlands Project; and
- (iii) to fund in part, the demolition of two properties required to be demolished under the Building (Scotland) Act 2003, these being 51 Strand Street, Kilmarnock and Aird's House, Lugar, subject to any income recouped from the owners of these two properties towards the cost of the demolition being returned to the Revolving Fund for Demolitions in future years, up to the value of the Fund's contribution.

The meeting terminated at 1203 hours.