

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2009 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Provost Stephanie Young and Councillors John MacKay, John McGhee, Helen Coffey, Willie Coffey, Maureen McKay, Tom Cook, Iain Linton, Douglas Reid, Jim Buchanan, Depute Provost John Campbell, Councillors Gordon Cree, Hugh Ross, Jim Todd, Alan Brown, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill, David Shaw, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Jim Roberts, William Crawford, Barney Menzies, Kathy Morrice, Elaine Dinwoodie and Drew Filson.

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; Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Eddie Fraser, Head of Service: Community Care; Ailie Macpherson, Organisational Development Manager; and Julie McGarry, Administration Manager.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Rose-Ann Cuninghame, Robert Keohone, Drew McIntyre, John Knapp, Eric Ross and James Sutherland.

CHAIR: Provost Stephanie Young, Chair.

ADDITIONAL ITEM

1. The Provost agreed to the consideration of an additional item in respect of membership of the Governance and Scrutiny Committee which would be considered at the end of the Agenda and welcomed Councillor Menzies as newly appointed Leader of the Opposition Group.

PROVOST'S REMARKS

2. The Provost began the Council meeting by referring to the first Provost Charity Ball held on Friday 20 March which had been a huge success raising a total of £14,566.77 for East Ayrshire Carers Centre. The Provost stated that this money would be of great use in the work the organisation carried out with people of all ages and thanked all members and staff who supported the Charity, made donations and took tables at the Ball. The Provost extended special thanks to Bill Walkinshaw, Margaret True, Christine Baillie and Julie Miller for all their hard work. On the 15th of the month, the Provost had the privilege of attending the official opening of Dalmellington House by HRH the Princess Royal. The Provost commented that the house had been transformed from a shell into a state of the art Respite Centre which would prove to be another success story for Jane Smith and her team at East Ayrshire Carers Centre. The Provost advised that HRH had commented that she wished more Authorities in the UK were as committed as East Ayrshire Council in working with the Carers.

The Provost then handed over to Jane Smith, Chief Executive Officer of East Ayrshire Carers, the cheque for £14,566.77. Jean then thanked the Council for their

support for what had been an amazing year and thanked the Council for the work that had been done to highlight Carers issues and put Carers back on the agenda.

The Provost then asked the Council to acknowledge the great loss in the tragic deaths of Robert McGill, Electrician, and Bobby Brown, Refuse Collector. The Provost stated that both employees had made a valuable contribution to the Council and would be sadly missed by colleagues and members who knew them.

The Provost intimated that her thoughts were with their families at this very difficult time.

The Provost also referred to the tragic circumstances surrounding the deaths of Diane Fallon and her 10 year old daughter Holly, who had been a pupil at St John's Primary School, Cumnock. The Provost stated that with Diane and Holly being from such a small community they would be sadly missed and that her condolences went out to family, friends and the community for this sad loss.

The Provost then advised that on Saturday 28 March, she had attended the last night of the SCDA One Part Play Festival which had been held in the Palace Theatre. The Provost stated she was delighted that Stewarton Drama Group, the current British holders of the De Walden Trophy won the heat but unfortunately had not progressed further at the recent West of Scotland heats. The Provost advised she also had had the opportunity to attend the final performance of KAOS's "The King and I" and had also attended the Creative Burns Exhibition in the Dick Institute on 27 March. The Provost stated that pupils from four local Primary Schools had given performances on dance drama and poetry and that their art work had also been on show. The Provost remarked that on all three occasions, she had been impressed by the wealth of talent within East Ayrshire.

The Provost, still on a talent theme, then expressed her delight to have attended the East Ayrshire School's Spring Spectacular in the Grand Hall on Thursday 5 March and that it had been a pleasure to present plaques to Alan Fernie, composer of the Homecoming Commission "A Sense of Place, a Sense of Time" and to pupils representing the Brass Band and the Choir.

The Provost then advised that East Ayrshire Schools Extravaganza had taken place at the Grand Hall on Wednesday 1 April. The Provost unfortunately had been unable to attend at the event but had been informed that the evening had been a resounding success and enjoyed by all in attendance.

The Provost intimated that Tuesday 10 March had been the official opening of the new Area Centre in Stewarton by the Lord Lieutenant John Duncan and stated she was sure the new Centre would build on the successes of Dalmellington, Drongan and the Northwest Area Centres.

The Provost also reported that it had been an honour to welcome distinguished guests to the Townscape Heritage launch in the Grand Hall on Wednesday 18 March and was sure that the £1.99m grant received from the Heritage Lottery Fund would support the vital work required for many of the fine buildings within the outstanding Conservation Area.

The Provost further reported that on Wednesday 8 April, she had the pleasure to welcome Piergiorgio Gozzar, Head of Delegation for the Italian Ladies Football Team along with SFA Officials to the Dower House for a presentation by Julie McConnell of

the SFA Women's Division. The Provost stated that unfortunately the football result that evening was not pleasurable as Scotland had been beaten 4-1 by the Italians.

The Provost then referred to the very first Community Planning Award Ceremony which took place at the Park Hotel on 26 March where over 30 short-listed groups had attended the ceremony which recognised excellence within the community.

The Provost stated that winners in each of the seven categories had been announced on the night, one being New Farm Loch At 40 Committee whose joint Church service she had attended on Sunday with local Members Councillors Cree, McIntyre and Campbell, where the Chair, Sandy Brown, had proudly showed off their trophy.

Finally, the Provost extended thoughts and prayers to Councillor Sutherland and his family during his illness.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

3. There were submitted and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of Council Meeting of 26 February 2009 (pages 623-629).

CABINET/COMMITTEE MINUTES

4. There was submitted, for approval as correct records and approval of any recommendations contained therein, with the exception of the Minutes of the Governance and Scrutiny Committee which were for noting only, the Minutes of the undernoted Meetings, viz:-
 - 4.1 **CABINET OF 18 FEBRUARY 2009 (pages 611-612).**
 - 4.2 **CENTRAL NORTH LOCAL GRANTS COMMITTEE OF 24 FEBRUARY 2009 (pages 613-615)**
 - 4.3 **CENTRAL SOUTH LOCAL GRANTS COMMITTEE OF 24 FEBRUARY 2009 (pages 616-619)**
 - 4.4 **SPECIAL CABINET OF 25 FEBRUARY 2009 (pages 620-621)**
 - 4.5 **NORTHERN LOCAL GRANTS COMMITTEE OF 25 FEBRUARY 2009 (page 622)**
 - 4.6 **SOUTHERN LOCAL GRANTS COMMITTEE OF 26 FEBRUARY 2009 (page 630)**
 - 4.7 **SOUTHERN LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 27 FEBRUARY 2009 (pages 631-632)**
 - 4.8 **CABINET OF 4 MARCH 2009 (pages 633-641)**
 - 4.9 **NORTHERN LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 6 MARCH 2009 (pages 642-644)**
 - 4.10 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT LICENSING PANEL OF 12 MARCH 2009 (pages 645-648)**
 - 4.11 **GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF 13 MARCH 2009 (pages 649-652) (FOR NOTING ONLY)**
 - 4.12 **CABINET OF 18 MARCH 2009 (pages 653-659)**
 - 4.13 **EDUCATION APPEALS PANEL OF 25 MARCH 2009 (page 660)**
 - 4.14 **APPEALS PANEL OF 31 MARCH 2009 (page 661)**
 - 4.15 **CABINET OF 1 APRIL 2009 (pages 662-667)**

- 4.16 NORTHERN LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 2 APRIL 2009 (pages 668-669)**
- 4.17 APPEALS PANEL OF 2 APRIL 2009 (page 670)**
- 4.18 GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF 3 APRIL 2009 (pages 671-675)
(FOR NOTING ONLY)**
- 4.19 APPEALS PANEL OF 7 APRIL 2009 (pages 676)**

ELECTED MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

- 5.** There was submitted a report dated 30 March 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which presented for Council's approval an Elected Member Learning and Development Strategy.

It was agreed, having noted that all Elected Members were supportive of the paper and the general principles contained therein, to continue consideration of the report until the Council meeting to be held in June to allow all Elected Members a further opportunity to consider the proposal and to review, with relevant Officers, the terms of the proposed Strategy.

EAST AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM - APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER

- 6.** There was submitted a report dated 25 March 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which apprised Members of an application received in respect of membership of East Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum and which recommended appointment of the applicant.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to appoint Brian Kelly to serve on East Ayrshire Local Licensing Forum; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

MOTION TO COUNCIL BY COUNCILLOR JOHN MCGHEE

- 7.** Councillor John McGhee, seconded by Councillor Menzies, moved the following motion "With the imminent introduction of the half hourly Glasgow to Kilmarnock train service, that Transport Scotland ensure that all trains stop at all unstaffed stations in East Ayrshire".

Councillor McDill, seconded by Councillor John MacKay, moved as an amendment to adopt the following motion "That East Ayrshire Council welcomes the investment of £28.5m to deliver improved rail services between Kilmarnock and Glasgow, and request Transport Scotland to issue a directive to First Scotrail to include all stations, including Kilmaurs and Dunlop, with a half hourly service in their timetable due for publication on 9 October 2009. Council Leader, Douglas Reid, will meet with Transport Scotland's Head of Rail Operations, David Binnie, on 1 May 2009, to give the Council's position on this subject, and the need for the communities of Kilmaurs and Dunlop to be included".

On a division by a show of hands, the amendment was carried by 15 votes to 10.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

8. It was agreed that, as a result of Councillor Menzies being appointed as Leader of the Opposition Group and therefore becoming a Member of Cabinet, that he be replaced by Councillor Kelly on the Governance and Scrutiny Committee.

The meeting terminated 1053 hours.