

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE 2006 AT 1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill (Chair), Brian Reeves, Gordon Cree, Harry Wilson, Jim Raymond, Robert McDill, William Menzies and Elaine Dinwoodie; Community Representatives: Billy Sullivan (Kilmarnock North Local Committee), John McIvor (Kilmarnock Central Local Committee), Charles M Lindsay (Northern Area Local Committee), Frank Dawson (Irvine Valley Local Committee) and William Lees (Cumnock Area Local Committee); Eamon Lyons, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue; Superintendent Liz Weir, Inspector Jim Richmond and PC Kerri Martin, Strathclyde Police; Dorothy McGowan, Kilmarnock Forum on Disability; Jean Smith, East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability and East Ayrshire (South) Against Crime; Jean McFarlane, East Ayrshire (North) Crime Prevention Panel; Mary Fraser, East Ayrshire Elderly Forum; and Doug Whitton, Victim Support.

ATTENDING: William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and Secretary to the Forum; David Arnot, Analyst (Community Safety); Sandy Gillatt, Chief Engineer (Roads); Ann Williams, Community Safety Co-ordinator; Eleanor Dewar, Environmental Health Officer; and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors John Campbell and George Smith; Joan Wark, Kilmarnock South Local Committee; Bill Barr, Doon Valley Local Committee; and Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

WELCOME BY WILLIAM STAFFORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND SECRETARY TO THE FORUM

1. William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and Secretary to the Forum welcomed those present to the meeting and spoke of the valuable work carried out by the Community Safety Forum throughout the year.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

2. William Stafford invited members to appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair and it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Jim O'Neill be appointed Chair, and that Jean McFarlane be appointed Vice-Chair.

Councillor Jim O'Neill then took the Chair and requested that the Forum give consideration to receiving at the next meeting a presentation from Chief Superintendent John Carnochan of the Scottish Executive Violence Reduction Unit.

Due to the anticipated duration of this presentation, it was agreed that this and the activities reports by the Forum members would be the only Agenda items at the next meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There was submitted and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 March 2006 (circulated).

ACTIVITIES OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS

4.1 STRATHCLYDE FIRE AND RESCUE

Eamon Lyons reported:

- (i) on new initiatives to promote home fire safety visits, one of which was the “hot” scheme which was being piloted in Shortlees Primary School; and
- (ii) on a Community Safety pilot project in Cumnock.

4.2 EAST AYRSHIRE SOUTH AGAINST CRIME

Jean Smith reported:

- (i) that the Group’s new Secretary was PC Sandy Brown;
- (ii) details of the Primary School competition which was in the form of a wordsearch;
- (iii) that travel pass holders had now been supplied for the whole of the Cumnock/Doon Valley area carrying a crime prevention message;
- (iv) that funding was now in place for production of ASBO information leaflets;
- (v) that the Panel intended to attend the Cumnock Highland Games;
- (vi) that a car security information day was planned at a local supermarket; and
- (vii) an issue in relation to the access road to Glaisnock Bowling Club. It was agreed to remit to the Forum Secretary to arrange a meeting with the various interested parties to discuss the matter and report the outcome to a future meeting.

4.3 EASFOD

Jean Smith reported:

- (i) on wheelie bins left on footways, as well as cars parked on pavements causing difficulties for wheelchair users etc;
- (ii) on a 20mph speed limit and speed bump request for New Cumnock;
- (iii) a request that two grass verges at Shawlands Street, Catrine be made over to car parking; and
- (iv) that some Stagecoach drivers continued not to use the new bus stops making it difficult for disabled/vulnerable persons to use them properly.

It was agreed that the above matters be delegated to the appropriate Council Officers to investigate and take action as necessary with progress reports being submitted to the next meeting.

4.4 EAST AYRSHIRE (NORTH) CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

Jean MacFarlane:

- (i) reported on the successful Primary 7 pupils quiz with Crosshouse Primary the winners, together with details of the sponsorship obtained;
- (ii) that the new Panel Chair was Mhairi Fulton, with Max Flemmich the Vice-Chair;

- (iii) that the Panel would again offer financial support to the “Danger Detectives” initiative;
- (iv) on forthcoming plans for Panel members to support local community events, eg Darvel Gala Day in June;
- (v) that the Panel wanted to recruit new members, particularly younger members; and
- (vi) that personal alarms continued to be available for purchase through the Community Policing Section at Kilmarnock Police Station.

4.5 KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE

John McIvor reported that he had been requested to raise cycling on footpaths as a problem by both Grange/Howard Community Council and the Elderly Forum.

It was agreed that Superintendent Weir would get full details of the areas in question from Mr McIvor after the meeting.

The Chair reminded members that Local Committees and Community Councils could raise any such problems in their own areas and pass directly to their local Community Police Officers.

4.6 EAST AYRSHIRE ELDERLY FORUM

The Chair welcomed Mary Fraser to her first meeting, and it was noted that there was no report on this occasion.

4.7 KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

Billy Sullivan:

- (i) passed on the thanks of Councillors Willie and Helen Coffey for the support shown by the Forum on the death of Forum member Councillor Daniel Coffey;
- (ii) reported that the rerouting of the buses had now been resolved satisfactorily in New Farm Loch;
- (iii) reported on complaints received about dangerous car parking at the Scout Hall at Mackellar Place. It was agreed that appropriate Officers would investigate and report to the next meeting on this issue.

4.8 VICTIM SUPPORT

Doug Whitton reported:

- (i) that discussions continued towards provision of a suitable facility in Cumnock;
- (ii) on the funding arrangements in place from the Scottish Executive; and
- (iii) on an awareness raising initiative for 12-16 year olds.

4.9 STRATHCLYDE POLICE

Councillor O'Neill welcomed Superintendent Weir, Inspector Richmond and PC Martin to their first meeting.

Superintendent Elizabeth Weir reported that whilst crime figures would not be released until the near future she could say that overall East Ayrshire crime was down by over 10% this year, and she attributed this to good work between partnership agencies.

Superintendent Weir then spoke about local events in the community which Strathclyde Police were involved with.

There then followed a general discussion about the Police control room, and Superintendent Weir agreed that local Community Councils be provided with the e-mail contact details of their local Community Police Officer.

4.10 CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

It was noted that Sandy Gillat would contact Mr Lees regarding the start date for the next phase of roadworks in New Cumnock.

Councillor Gordon Cree left the meeting at this point.

4.11 IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE

It was agreed that Inspector Jim Richmond would discuss with Frank Dawson after the meeting the problem with indiscriminate parking in Galston town centre.

It was noted that the 20s Plenty in Gauchalland was being ignored, and a request was made for speed bumps.

John McIvor left the meeting at this point.

4.12 NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

Charles M Lindsay raised several matters relative to the Cleansing Section and it was agreed that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services take these up with the Cleansing Manager.

It was also agreed that the Executive Director of Development and Property Services again be asked to look at the dust being left by the contractors at the Travis Homes site in Stewarton.

Councillor Gordon Cree rejoined the meeting at this point.

4.13 KILMARNOCK FORUM ON DISABILITY

Dorothy McGowan reported that KFOD had recruited a new member following assistance from the Kilmarnock Standard.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMPOSITE REPORT - REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised Members of

developments and initiatives which had been undertaken by the various Sections within Protective Services.

Jean Smith left the meeting at this point.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR -
REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES**

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised Members of the developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Co-ordinator.

Councillor Brian Reeves left the meeting at this point.

IMPROVING COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

7. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 19 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and Superintendent Elizabeth Weir, Strathclyde Police 'UC' Sub-Division which advised of the outcome of the Improving Community Safety Implementation Group: Community Planning - Improving Community Safety Action Plan.

Jean Smith and John McIvor rejoined the meeting at this point.

SAFER FAMILIES SEMINAR

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised Forum Members of the Safer Families Seminar which had taken place on 22 February 2006 at the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock.

ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMME

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 23 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services which informed of road safety education initiatives which were currently being carried out by the Department of Development and Property Services.

VOLUNTARY CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFF-SALES LICENCE HOLDERS

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the progress of the voluntary Code of Conduct for off-sale licence holders and the provision of carrier bags to be provided to off-sale licence holders in Dalmellington, Dalrymple, Patna, Mauchline and Galston and elsewhere in due course.

SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL - HOME SAFETY COMMITTEE

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised the Forum of the business dealt with at the last meeting of the Scottish Accident Prevention Council Home Safety Committee.

**SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL - WATER AND LEISURE
SAFETY COMMITTEE**

12. There was submitted and noted a report dated May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the business dealt with at the last meeting of the Scottish Accident Prevention Council Water and Leisure Safety Committee.

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - LOCAL ACTION FUND

13. There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the distribution of the East Ayrshire Community Safety Partnership Local Action Fund which had been established by the Scottish Executive to support localised action and initiatives to divert young people away from crime.

The meeting terminated at 1135 hrs.