

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 14th SEPTEMBER 2005

ALTONHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members on the closure of Altonhill Community Centre.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Altonhill Community Centre is a facility that for a period of time suffered from low levels of usage. The Special Community Services Committee held on 23rd February 2005 approved the closure of the Centre and to declare the Centre surplus.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 All user groups have now been notified of the decision to close the Centre and were given assistance in finding alternative accommodation.
- 3.2 The Centre remained open till 28th June 2005 when Hillbank Nursery finished their term to enable them to meet their commitments.
- 3.3 Meetings were held with local groups relating to the option of them leasing the facility on a full lease from the Council but to date no further interest has been shown.
- 3.4 The closure will result in savings of £15,000 stemming from the running costs and one caretaker's post. The post holder is currently employed in another service on a temporary basis and may need to be re-deployed.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The savings from the closure of this facility will secure savings of £15,000 and will ensure that the service operates within its budget allocation for 2005/2006.

5. LEGAL/AUTHORITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil

6. POLICY/COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Staffing issues resulting from this report will be addressed through the Council's approved procedures.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/JAG/KH

22nd August 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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