

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2004 AT 1400 HOURS
IN BELLSBANK COMMUNITY WING, CRAIGLEA CRESCENT, BELLSBANK**

PRESENT: Councillors Elaine Stewart, Tommy Farrell and Elaine Dinwoodie; and Community Representatives Catherine Robertson, John Weir, Edward Torrance and Tony Foote.

ATTENDING: Joe Cassidy, Policy Manager, Homes and Technical Services; Anne Marie Carr, Senior Administrative Officer; Eddie O'Connor, Team Leader, Educational and Social Services; Fiona Samson, Finance Officer; and Lynn Chapman, Trainee Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Chief Inspector Robert Brown, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Community Representatives Grace Garrity and Andrew McCurdie; and Named Substitutes Bill Barr, Sandra McPheator and Kylie Filson.

CHAIR: Councillor Elaine Stewart, Chair.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1401 hours for a maximum of fifteen minutes to allow for a public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

2. The meeting reconvened at 1410 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives and Officers present and in attendance.

PRESENTATION ON RENT SETTING POLICY

3. There was received a presentation by Joe Cassidy, Policy Manager on East Ayrshire Council's proposed rent setting policy.

Elected Members and Community Representatives then had the opportunity to ask questions on the rent setting policy. Thereafter, the Chair thanked Joe Cassidy for his presentation.

Arising from discussion, it was agreed to hold a public meeting in the Doon Valley area, and that the venue be determined in consultation with the Chair.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4. There were submitted and noted for information, minutes of the Doon Valley Local Committee held on 27 January 2004 (circulated).

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2004/2005

5. There was submitted a report dated 8 March 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised the Local Committee of the outcome of the recruitment of Community Representatives and Substitutes to serve on the Doon Valley Local Committee for the period commencing 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005.

It was reported that the following nominations had been received after the issue of the agenda: East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability, Substitute, Mr Ian Russell; Dalrymple Youth Association, Community Representative Ben Squire and Substitute, James Dunn; and Pupil's Representative (Drongan), Substitute, Gemma Ruddock.

It was agreed:

- (i) having noted Patna Community Council had agreed to dissolve, that the Community Council should remain as one of the community representative organisations meantime, and in the event that any other appropriate local organisation expressed an interest in being represented on the Committee, to consider such interests at the appropriate time; and
- (ii) to approve all nominations received to date for Community Representatives and Named Substitutes by the local community organisations for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 as follows:

Community Organisation	Community Representative	Substitute Community Representative
Bellsbank Women's Project	Mrs Catherine Robertson	Mrs Nancy Murray
Dalmellington Community Council	Mr John Weir	Mrs Ann Barclay
Dalrymple Community Council	Mrs Grace Garrity	Mrs M MacLure
Drongan Community Council	Mr Edward Torrance	Mr William Barr
East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability	Mr William Frew	Mr Ian Russell
Patna Community Council	Vacant	Vacant
Dalrymple Youth Association	Ben Squire	James Dunn
Pupil's Representative (Dalmellington/Patna/Rankinston)	Miss Lynsey McCreath	Mr Andrew Filson
Pupil's Representative (Drongan)	Mr Stuart Bowman	Miss Gemma Ruddock
Rankinston Community Association/Rankinston Old People's Welfare Association	Mr Tony Foote	Mr George McCaig

LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME

LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME – ALLOCATION FOR 2004/2005

6. There was submitted a report dated 8 March 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised (i) of the grant allocation for 2004/05, and (ii) of the grant spend for the last two financial years.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Community Grant allocation for the Doon Valley Local Committee for 2004/05 was £21,471; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

DISBURSEMENT OF GRANTS TO OLDER PEOPLE'S GROUPS 2004/2005

7. There was submitted a report dated 8 March 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which set out the options available to the Local Committee to deal with applications for community grants of Older People's groups during the 2004/05 financial year.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to continue with the practice, as adopted in previous years, when applying a per capita formula to grants to Older People's organisations, including those related to Age Concern, in respect of outings and Christmas parties, the per capita maximum during the financial year to be £4;
- (ii) that applications from Older People's Groups to assist with other individual projects would be considered on their own merits; and
- (iii) that for future years the per capita be set at £4 until such times that the Committee decide to review this amount.

LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME 2003/2004

8. There was submitted a report dated 12 March 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on the financial position in respect of community grants to organisations in 2003/04, together with individual assessment reports in respect of applications received.

It was agreed as follows:-

- (i) **Applications Continued** (for the reason as stated), viz:-
 - (a) **Arts and Cultural**
Dalmellington Amateur Gardening Association - continued for consideration in the next financial year in the light of the current budgetary position of the Local Committee.
- (ii) **Applications Approved** (for the purpose as stated on the application), viz:-
 - (a) **Community Associations**
Rankinston Fun Day Committee - £641. It was agreed, in principle, that the remaining £359 be funded from the 2004/2005 financial year allocation.

(b) Social Inclusion

Rankinston Unemployed and Retired Persons Group - £350

MISCELLANEOUS

STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

9. There was submitted a report dated 8 March 2004 (circulated) by Chief Inspector Robert Brown, Strathclyde Police, which advised on crime trends over the recent period.

Chief Inspector Robert Brown, Strathclyde Police, reported on local Policing Initiatives within the Doon Valley. It was agreed to note:

- (i) that an initiative was now in place to deal with Youth Disorder and Vandalism (including underage drinking) which would target "Hotspots" within the Doon Valley;
- (ii) that the number of Grass Fires in the Doon Valley had reduced from last year and Primary 6 and 7 pupils within the Doon Valley had received presentations and demonstrations from the Fire Brigade and the Community Police Officers;
- (iii) that certain Public Houses would now be visited twice in one night instead of only once on Friday and Saturday evenings; and
- (iv) that a Parent Alert Scheme had now been introduced in the Doon Valley and was currently operating in the Dalmellington area.

LOCAL ISSUES

LOCAL ISSUES FORWARD PLANNER

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on local issues raised, and where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to this Committee.

NEW LOCAL ISSUES

11. Community Representatives were invited to raise any items of interest for inclusion on a future agenda.

No new items were identified as potential items which could become the subject of a future report to the Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1500 hours.