

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2004 AT 1400 HRS  
IN KILMAURS COMMUNITY CENTRE, EAST PARK DRIVE, KILMAURS**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Maureen McKay and Jim O'Neill; and Community Representatives: Ashley Bell, Iain Finlayson, Charles Lindsay, Jim Miller, Cathy Spicer, Jean Brown and Suzanne Legatte; and Named Substitutes Mary White, Barbara Wiseman, Alistair Thomson, Moya Farrell and Jerry Lee.

**ATTENDING:** Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager; Anneke Freel, Access Officer, Community Services; John Spooner, Business Development Manager; Fiona Samson, Finance Officer; Joe Cassidy, Policy Manager, Homes and Technical Services; Brian Moultrie, Team Leader, Community Learning and Development; and Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Ian Haynes, Strathclyde Police.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors John McGhee and Stephanie Young; Community Representative Fiona Andrew; and Named Substitute May McMillan.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jim O'Neill, Vice-Chair.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

1. Councillor O'Neill advised that Councillor McGhee was unable to attend the Committee as he was in hospital undergoing an operation.  
The Committee agreed to send their best wishes to Councillor McGhee for a speedy recovery.
- 1.1 Councillor O'Neill also introduced and welcomed Jerry Lee, Substitute Representative for the Disability Forum to his first meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: TO ALLOW FOR PUBLIC  
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

2. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1402 hrs to allow a 15 minute maximum public question and answer session.

**RECONVENTION OF MEETING**

3. The meeting reconvened at 1420 hrs with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and in attendance.

**PRESENTATION ON THE RENT SETTING POLICY**

4. The Committee received a presentation from Joe Cassidy, Policy Manager, Homes and Technical Services on the Council's intention to produce a Rent Setting Policy for East Ayrshire and which sought the Committee's views on the criteria which could be used.

Members of the Committee had the opportunity to ask questions of Joe. Thereafter, the Chair thanked him for the very interesting and informative presentation and discussion.

## **MINUTES**

### **5.1 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

There were submitted for information and noted, the Minutes of Meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 15 January 2004 (circulated).

### **5.2 MATTERS ARISING**

#### **5.2.1 Presentation by Anne Currie, Procurator Fiscal**

In connection with the item "Presentation by Anne Currie, Procurator Fiscal" (Item 6, Page 471, 03/07), it was agreed to write to the Procurator Fiscal to ask for feedback, at an appropriate time, on (i) outcomes of the pilot scheme introduced in Kilmarnock, Ayr and Edinburgh which involved contacting the victim of a crime to find out what effect the crime had on them. This information was then passed to the Courts before the offender was sentenced; and (ii) feedback on the alternatives to prosecution and imprisonment which were being explored.

#### **5.2.2 Recruitment of Community Representatives 2004/05**

In connection with the item "Recruitment of Community Representatives 2004/05" (Item 15, Page 474, 03/07), it was noted that Council had agreed that the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources carry out a review of Community Representative membership on Local Committees and that a report be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration as soon as possible.

In light of this review, it was agreed:

- (i) to retain the current Community Council representation on the Local Committee for 2004/05 as undernoted:-
  - Fenwick Community Council;
  - Stewarton and District Community Council;
  - Dunlop and Lugton Community Council;
  - Kilmaurs Community Council; and
  - Moscow and Waterside Community Council; and
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Administration Manager to write to the above Community Councils and also to Southcraigs and Dean Community Council to advise accordingly.

#### **5.2.3 Police Report**

In connection with the item "Police Report" (Item 12 (viii), Page 473, 03/07), it was noted that the male was from Glasgow and caught in East Ayrshire.

## LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME

### LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME - ALLOCATION FOR 2004/2005

6. There was submitted a report dated 24 February 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which (i) advised the Committee of the grant allocation for 2004/2005; and (ii) advised of the grant spend for the last two financial years.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that the Community Grant allocation for the Committee for 2004/2005 was £17,008.00;
- (ii) to record the Community Representatives' dissatisfaction with the Policy and Resources Committee's decision at its meeting on 19 February 2004 (Item 11, Page 576, 03/07) to reduce, significantly, the Northern Area's allocation of funding for the Local Committee Community Grant Scheme for 2004/2005; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME 2003/04

7. There was submitted an updated report dated 5 March 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on the financial position in respect of Community Grants to local organisations in 2003/04, together with individual assessment reports (circulated) in respect of the applications received.

Having noted that the application from Southcraigs and Dean Community Council had been withdrawn from the Agenda, it was agreed as follows:-

#### 7.1 **Applications Approved** (for the purpose identified on the application), viz:-

(a) Community Councils

- (i) Stewarton and District Community Council - £360.00;

(b) Early Education and Childcare

- (i) Dunlop Babies and Toddlers - £500;
- (ii) Rascals - £471.94 to be paid from the 2003/2004 budget and £1,028.06 to be paid from the 2004/2005 budget;

(c) Tenants/Residents Groups

- (i) Lainshaw Residents Association - £1,700. It was also agreed to attach an additional condition to the award to read, viz:- "That future responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the computer, printer and scanner will lie with Lainshaw Residents Association and that the Group must ensure that appropriate insurance is in place;

(d) Social Inclusion

- (i) Onthank Men's Club - £126;

(e) Sport

- (i) Caprington Junior Golf Club - £208;

(f) Women's Issues

- (i) Dunlop Women's Rural Institute - £1,050;

**7.2 PEACE (Dunlop)**

There was submitted a report dated 8 March 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which (i) advised the Local Committee that PEACE (Dunlop) had spent £288.96 of the grant awarded for their Summer Playscheme on activities associated with the October Playscheme, which was contrary to the Conditions of Grant; and (ii) outlined the options available to the Local Committee for dealing with this.

It was agreed, having considered the application on its merits and due to the similar nature of the event in October to retrospectively approve the use of the balance of £288.96 from the grant awarded to PEACE (Dunlop) for the Summer Playscheme towards the costs of activities during the October Playscheme.

**LAND REFORM (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003**

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which provided an update on outdoor access as it related to the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

Community Representative Ashley Bell left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

**CUNNINGHAM-WATT PARK**

9. There was submitted a report dated 24 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which provided an update on the future of Cunningham-Watt Park.

It was agreed to recommend to Council:-

- (i) that initial work takes place to reinstate the remaining two bridges within the park;
- (ii) that the Director of Community Services be requested to bring forward detailed proposals for a consultation initiative in respect of the future proposals for the development of the park in due course; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**SAFER STREETS POLICING REPORT 'U' DIVISION**

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the nature and results of Policing issues, operations and localised crime figures for the preceding period.

**MISCELLANEOUS****POLICE REPORT**

11. Sergeant Iain Haynes, Strathclyde Police, reported on local Policing.

It was agreed to note that during the January/February period:-

- (i) 150 hours of additional patrols had been dedicated to the Northern Area concentrating on peak times;
- (ii) there had been 95 stop searches;
- (iii) 62 licensed premises had been visited;
- (iv) 9 people had been arrested for acts of street disorder;
- (v) 31 young people had been warned for drinking in public places;
- (vi) acts of vandalism were causing concern with Lainshaw Primary School, Kilmaurs Primary School, Kilmaurs Church and Kilmaurs Community Centre being targeted;
- (vii) there had been a fire-raising incident at Cockliebie Park in Stewarton;
- (viii) one male had been stopped and searched on 18 February in Stewarton and was found in possession of a quantity of drugs. Further searches to his car and dwelling found a quantity of money and the male was charged with possession and possible intention to supply;
- (ix) road safety issues were still high on the agenda with schools and thoroughfares being highlighted;
- (x) excluding the A77, 25 road traffic offences had occurred with 5 people being caught drink driving; and
- (xi) youths had been causing annoyance in Kilmaurs, Dunlop and Stewarton. Additional foot patrols had been deployed to deal with this resulting in some youths being taken home, warned in the presence of their parents and follow-up letters from the Police being issued to parents in some cases.

Sergeant Haynes also updated the Committee on the implications of the introduction of the Scottish Crime Recording Standards, to come into effect on 1 April 2004, which would standardise crime recording throughout Scotland.

## **DECENTRALISATION ISSUES**

### **RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2004/05**

12. There was submitted a report dated 24 February 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on the outcome of recruitment of Community Representatives and Substitutes to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee for the period commencing 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the nominations received to date for Community Representatives and Named Substitutes made by the Local Committee organisations for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 and to note the position in respect of those organisations which had not submitted nominations for Community Representatives and Named Substitutes as follows:-

<u>Community Organisation</u>	<u>Community Representative</u>	<u>Substitute Community Representative</u>
Church Forum	Catherine Spicer	Ismay McKenzie
Community/Residents Associations	Charles Lindsay	Alistair Thomson
Disability Forum	Fiona Andrews	Jerry Lee

- (ii) that it be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate the submission of outstanding nominations for Community Representatives and Named Substitutes for the Northern Area Local Committee.

## **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **PROVISION OF ADSL BROADBAND SERVICES**

13. There was submitted a report dated 19 February 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised of progress in securing the provision of Broadband technology and services for Stewarton.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that Fenwick had also now achieved the “trigger” level required but that the “ready for service” date was still to be confirmed; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **LOCAL ISSUES**

- 14.1 There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 February 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescale for reporting back to this Local Committee.

#### **14.2 NEW LOCAL ISSUES**

Community Representatives were invited to raise any items of local interest for inclusion on a future Agenda,

It was agreed to incorporate into the forward planner of Local Committee business a presentation by Scottish Water on their proposals for improvements to water services in the Northern Area.

The meeting terminated at 1552 hrs.