

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2005
AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, John Campbell, Ray Murray, John Knapp, Jim Raymond, George Smith, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Neil McGhee, William Crawford, Elaine Dinwoodie and Elaine Stewart.

ATTENDING: Bill Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; Martin Rose, Head of Personnel; John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Paul Whip, Financial Services Manager; and Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor John McGhee

CHAIR: Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

REVENUE BUDGET 2005/2006 – CHARGES FOR SERVICES

1. There was submitted a report dated 6 January 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which requested that the Committee approve increased charges for services provided by the Department.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved;

- (i) that the proposed charges outlined in Appendices I to 11, attached to the report, be implemented from 1 April 2005; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report

Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor D Coffey moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that the status quo remain in respect of the charges outlined in appendices 1 to 11 attached to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 14 votes to 6.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/06 (Item 10, Page 1258, 03/07)

2. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval of the Capital Programme for Leisure and Protective Services for the financial year 2005/06.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed Capital Programme for 2005/06 for Leisure and Protective Services, as shown in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**CUMNOCK AND DISTRICT LEISURE GROUP – PROGRESS REPORT AND
REVENUE FUNDING REQUEST (Item 16, Page 985, 03/07)**

3.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Crawford declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.

3.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 3 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the progress of the Visions facility since its opening and which sought approval for revenue funding for 2004/2005.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve financial support to the Cumnock and District Leisure Group of £45,000 for the remainder of 2004/05; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

QUALITY OF LIFE FUNDING (Item 11, Pages 1258, 1259, 03/07)

4. There was submitted a report dated 10 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for the allocation of Quality of Life Funding.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals contained in the report on the distribution of the Quality of Life allocation for 2005/06;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services submit a report to a future meeting on the distribution of the funding for 2006/07 and 2007/08; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ACCESS TO DVLA DATABASE

5. There was submitted a report dated 31 January 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of a new facility for designated members of the Environmental Health Service to access the DVLA Database to identify registered owners of vehicles and, thereafter, use this information to deal with a number of environmental issues and which sought approval for a charge of £100 plus VAT being levied on the Registered Keeper of any abandoned vehicle who fails to comply with a statutory notice requiring its removal.

It was agreed:-

- (i) in terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, to note that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and the Head of Protective Services would be authorised to nominate designated Officers who will have access to the DVLA Database;
- (ii) to approve a charge of £100 plus VAT being the cost to be paid by the Registered Keeper of any vehicle found to be abandoned in a public place in East Ayrshire; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Menzies left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

**MAJOR GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS - KILMARNOCK
LEISURE CENTRE TRUST**

6.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Raymond and Macrae declared a non pecuniary interest in this item and took no part in the consideration or determination of the item.

Councillor Knapp declared a non pecuniary interest in this item and stated that it was his intention to remain and participate in the consideration and determination of the item.

6.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 3 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for the level of grant provided to the Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust for 2005/2006.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor McIntyre, moved:-

- (i) to approve a grant of £90,000 to the Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust for 2005/2006;
- (ii) to remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to monitor progress in 2005/2006; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Linton, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that the status quo remain in respect of the level of grant to be awarded to Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust as last year i.e. £130,000;
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to monitor progress in 2005/2006; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 12 votes to 6.

Councillor Menzies rejoined the meeting during discussion of the above item and before a vote took place.

INTRODUCTION OF CHARGES FOR THE UPLIFT OF WHITE GOODS

7. There was submitted a report dated 1 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which invited the Committee to consider the introduction of charges for the uplift of white goods.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved:-

- (i) to approve the introduction of a charge of £15 per unit for every item uplifted as part of the special uplift service for white goods;
- (ii) to authorise the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to waive the charge for any household where the occupants were over 65 years of age; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Weir, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment not to approve the introduction of a charge of £15 per unit for every item uplifted as part of the special uplift service.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 13 votes to 5.

Councillor Cree left the meeting during discussion of the above item and before a vote took place.

REVIEW OF STREET CLEANSING SERVICES

8. There was submitted a report dated 7 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on an ongoing review of the provisions of Street Cleansing Services and which asked the Committee to consider interim modifications.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved:-

- (i) to approve the proposals to modify weekend Street Sweeping arrangements as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report;
- (ii) to note that the review of Street Sweeping Services was ongoing; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, moved as an amendment.

- (i) to approve the proposals to modify weekend Street Sweeping arrangements as set out in paragraph 3.3 (i) and (ii) of the report;
- (ii) that the daily street washing service in Kilmarnock not be withdrawn;
- (iii) to note that the review of Street Sweeping Services was ongoing; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 14 votes to 5.

Councillor Cree rejoined the meeting during discussion of the above item and before a vote took place.

REVIEW OF GOLF COURSE PROVISION (Item 15, Page 1245, 03/07)

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which presented further information on the review of golf course provision.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

10. Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved that under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Councillor D Coffey, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment that under Section 50 (A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended the press and public be excluded from the meeting for Items 11, 12 and 14 on the Agenda and that in relation to item 13 on the Agenda "Service Review – Community Recreation " that the section of the report relating to Altonhill Community Centre be considered in public.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 14 votes to 6.

PROVISION OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES (Item 4, Page 78, 99/02)

11. There was submitted a report dated 17 January 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which invited the Committee to review the provision of public conveniences in East Ayrshire.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved:-

- (i) that the public conveniences at Glaisnock Shopping Centre, Cumnock be closed.
- (ii) to remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to investigate the possibility of Community Management of the facilities at Loudoun Street, Mauchline and report back;
- (iii) that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services arrange for the public conveniences at Glaisnock Shopping Centre, Cumnock to be declared surplus to requirements in accordance with Council Policy;
- (iv) to declare the closed facilities at Loudoun Road, Newmilns and The Cross, Hurlford surplus to requirements and that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services deal with these properties in accordance with Council Policy; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that the public conveniences at Glaisnock Shopping Centre, Cumnock be closed;
- (ii) to remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to investigate the possibility of Community Management of the facilities at Loudoun Street, Mauchline and report back;
- (iii) that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services arrange for the public conveniences at Glaisnock Shopping Centre, Cumnock to be declared surplus to requirements in accordance with Council Policy;
- (iv) to declare the closed facility at The Cross, Hurlford surplus to requirements and request the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to deal with this property in accordance with Council Policy;
- (v) that the facility at Loudoun Road, Newmilns be reinstated to a suitable standard to allow it to be open to the public; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 14 votes to 6.

SERVICE REVIEW - OUTDOOR AMENITY SERVICE (Item 15, Page 545, 03/07)

12. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for a review of the management structure and range of services provided by the Outdoor Amenities Section.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved:-

- (i) to approve the service review proposals for the Outdoor Amenities Service detailed in paragraph 3 of the report and the consequent budget savings of £99,500;
- (ii) to approve the closure of the nine hole golf course at Caprington as part of these proposals;
- (iii) to remit the staffing issues in the report to the Corporate Governance Committee as appropriate; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Linton, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) to approve the Service Review proposals for the Outdoor Amenities Service detailed in paragraph 3 of the report with the exception of the closure of the 9 hole golf course at Caprington;
- (ii) that the 9 hole golf course at Caprington not be closed as part of these proposals;
- (iii) to remit the staffing issues in the report to the Corporate Governance Committee as appropriate; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 14 votes to 6.

SERVICE REVIEW - COMMUNITY RECREATION

- 13.** There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for the review of the Community Recreation Management Structure and the range of facilities provided by that Section.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved:-

- (i) to approve the closure of Altonhill Community Centre and the deletion of a Caretaker's post;
- (ii) to declare the Community Centre facility surplus to requirements;
- (iii) to approve the freezing of the vacant Assistant Manager's post in the Community Recreation Service;
- (iv) to remit the report to the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration of the staffing issues involved; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor D Coffey, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that Altonhill Community Centre not be closed;
- (ii) to approve the freezing of a vacant Assistant Manager's post in the Community Recreation Service;
- (iii) to remit the report to the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration of the staffing issue involved; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The motion by Councillor D Coffey, seconded by Councillor Wilson, that a roll call vote be taken in respect of this item, in terms of Standing Order 36, was defeated as

it failed to receive the requisite one third of the members present. (There being only 6 members for the Motion.)

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 13 votes to 6.

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting during discussion of the above item and before the votes were taken.

LOCAL OFFICE/REGISTRATION SERVICES REVIEW

- 14.** There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for the review of Local Office and Registration Services.

Having agreed to an amendment to recommendation (iv) shown below, Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Raymond, moved:-

- (i) to approve the performance monitoring of New Farm Loch Local Office and that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services report back after six months;
- (ii) to approve the adjustment of the opening hours at Darvel, Newmilns, New Cumnock and Mauchline Local Offices from full-time to part-time;
- (iii) to approve the phasing out of Local Office Services at Greenholm Street;
- (iv) to approve the withdrawal of cash collection services from the Kilmarnock Registration Office other than those relating to Registration Services;
- (v) to remit the staffing issues in this report to the Corporate Governance Committee as appropriate; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) to approve the performance monitoring of New Farm Loch Local Office and that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services report back after six months;
- (ii) to approve the adjustment of the opening hours at New Cumnock and Mauchline Local Offices from full-time to part-time;
- (iii) not to adjust the opening hours at Darvel and Newmilns Local Offices from full-time to part-time;
- (iv) to approve the phasing out of Local Office Services at Greenholm Street;
- (v) to approve the withdrawal of cash collection services from the Kilmarnock Registration Office above other than those relating to Registration Services;
- (vi) to remit the staffing issues in this report to the Corporate Governance Committee as appropriate; and
- (vii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 13 votes to 6.

The meeting terminated at 1240 hours.