

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH 2007 AT 1405 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors John McGhee and Jim O'Neill; Community Representatives: Jim Corson, Jean Brown, Charles Lindsay and Cathy Spicer; and Substitute Community Representatives: Mary White, Fiona Andrew, and Barbara Wiseman.

ATTENDING: Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Community Policing Inspector Derek Ireland and Sergeant Danny Stuart, both Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Stephanie Young; Community Representatives Iain Finlayson, Jim Miller and Kara Nisbet; and Substitute Community Representatives: May McMillan, Alistair Thomson, John McFadden and Alison Young.

CHAIR: Councillor John McGhee, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. Councillor McGhee commented that he considered his time as Chair of the Local Committee as being both enjoyable and worthwhile; and expressed appreciation for the support and assistance which he had received from fellow Councillors, and also Community Representatives and Officers during that time.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: TO ALLOW PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

2. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1406 hours for a maximum of 15 minutes in order to allow for a public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

3. The meeting reconvened at 1409 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and in attendance.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

PRESENTATION BY THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER ON ELECTIONS 2007

4. The Committee received a presentation by Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager on issues associated with the forthcoming Local Government Elections to be held on 3 May 2007.

Thereafter the Administration Manager responded to questions put, and issues raised, by Members of the Committee.

The Chair thanked the Administration Manager for the presentation which had been most interesting and informative.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5. There were submitted for information, and noted, the Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 11 January 2007 (circulated).
- 5.1 **Matter Arising: Presentation by the Procurator Fiscal (Item 13, Page 2619, 03/07)** - On the matter having been raised by Community Representative Jim Corson, the Administration Manager reported that Officers from the Administration Section were continuing to communicate with the Procurator Fiscal with a view to a presentation being made to a future meeting of this Local Committee.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

SAFER STREETS - STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 February 2007 (circulated) by Superintendent Elizabeth Weir, Sub Divisional Officer, East Ayrshire, on crime figures and police activity within the Northern Area.

POLICE REPORT

7. Sergeant Danny Stuart and Inspector Derek Ireland, Strathclyde Police, reported on local policing.

It was agreed to note:-

- (i) that one youth had been charged with seventeen counts of vandalism within the Lainshaw Estate, Stewarton, and that since then there had been no significant incidents of vandalism in that area;
- (ii) that the Police were aware of the misuse of children's play equipment at Springwell Place, Stewarton by youths and would monitor this location; and
- (iii) that under the "bottle marking" initiative being promoted by the Police, East Ayrshire Council and local off-sale licensees, there had been no detections of the supply of alcohol by the licensees concerned to underage persons.

Community Representative Jean Brown left the meeting at this point.

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

8. There were submitted, and noted, the minutes of the meeting of East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum held on 28 February 2007 (tabled).

LOCAL ISSUES

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 February 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support on Local Issues raised and, where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to the Local Committee.

NEW LOCAL ISSUES

10. It was noted that Community Representatives had raised no items of local interest for inclusion on a future agenda.

An issue was identified by a Community Representative which was recorded under the public question and answer session.

COMMENTS BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

11. Community Representative Jim Corson, on behalf of the Community Representatives and Substitute Community Representatives, conveyed thanks and appreciation to the Chair and Elected Members on the Local Committee, and also to the Officers involved, for their assistance in enabling Community Representatives to contribute to the work of the Local Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1510 hours.