

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10 JUNE 2004 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Drew McIntyre (Chair), Jim O'Neill, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Willie Coffey, Douglas Reid, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Harry Wilson, Provost Jane Darnbrough and Councillors John Knapp, Stuart Finlayson, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; David Mitchell, Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support; James Lavery, Executive Director of Development and Property Services; John Mulgrew, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; Alex McPhee, Executive Head of Finance; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; John Clayton, Head of Corporate Development and Communication; Malcolm Roulston, Head of Information Technology; Sam McVie, Principal Surveyor; and Anne Marie Carr, Senior Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Daniel Coffey.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There was submitted and approved as a correct record, and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes (circulated) as contained within the Appendix to these Minutes, viz:-
 - 1.1 **MEMBERS' SERVICES & CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 19 MAY 2004 - APPENDIX.**

BUDGET SCRUTINY GROUP

2. There was submitted and noted the Minutes of the Budget Scrutiny Group held on 25 March 2004 (circulated).

STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON REVENUE COLLECTION

3. There was submitted and noted a report dated 13 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance which updated Members on the position of the Council with regard to billing and collection of local taxes during 2003/04 and which reported on Council Tax collection performance as at 2 May 2004 (Period 1).

WATER BILLING AND COLLECTION ORDER CONSULTATION

4. There was submitted a report dated 29 April 2004 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which proposed a response to the Scottish Executive consultation paper on the Water Services Charges (Billing and Collection) (Scotland) Order.

It was agreed to authorise the Chief Executive to respond to the consultation paper as detailed in Paragraph 3 of the report.

SUNDRY DEBTORS WRITE-OFF

5. There was submitted a report dated 18 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance which sought authority for the write-off of a number of sundry debts for which bills had been raised prior to 31 March 2004 and which were now considered to be irrecoverable.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise to write-off in the 2004/05 financial year, the sum of £62,259.85 relating to 29 accounts; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

AWARDING OF CONTRACT

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 May 2004 (circulated) by the Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided, for information, details of a tender which had been accepted, viz:-

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Corporate Debt Recovery Services - Lot 1 Former Tenants Rent Arrears Recovery Service	George Walker & Co, Glasgow	Schedule of Rates Basis
Lot 2: Sheriff Officers' Services	Stirling Park, Kilmarnock	Schedule of Rates Basis

AFFILIATION TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATION (Item 11, Page 699, 03/07)

7. There was submitted a report dated 8 April 2004 (circulated) by the Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support which requested the Committee to consider Council affiliation to the Scottish Out-of-School Care Network.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to affiliate to the Scottish Out-of-School Care Network at a cost of £125 for the financial year 2004/05; and
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to make payment to the organisation.

SIP TRANSITION/INTEGRATION TO COMMUNITY PLANNING DRAFT STATEMENT OF READINESS (Item 18, Page 321, 03/07)

8. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2004 (circulated) by the Head of Corporate Development and Communication which presented to Members for consideration and endorsement the draft Statement of Readiness in respect of the Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) transition/Integration with Community Planning (CP) as required by Communities Scotland.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the draft Statement of Readiness as detailed in the Appendix to the report;
- (ii) to accept the comments made by Councillors W Coffey and Reid that a more balanced and integrated approach was required in progressing the Social Justice agenda in order to take full account of those areas within East Ayrshire which were not eligible for assistance under the Social Inclusion Partnership's criteria; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Weir joined the meeting during consideration of this item.

EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATE (Item 11, Page 319, 03/07)

9. There was submitted a report dated 18 May 2004 (circulated) by the Head of Corporate Development and Communication which reported on progress which had been made in securing external funding to the East Ayrshire area.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the actions taken to secure greater external funding to the East Ayrshire area and, in particular, the proposed package of support to the community and voluntary sector;
- (ii) to prioritise support to community and voluntary organisations whose proposed projects met one or more of the priorities of the Community Plan;
- (iii) to receive a further report at the next meeting of the Committee on external funding gains secured to the East Ayrshire area from Lottery Distributors on a calendar year basis and additional gains reported on a fiscal year;
- (iv) that a further Members' Seminar on External Funding be convened with the necessary arrangements being remitted to the Head of Corporate Development and Communication; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS - FIRST ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - 2003/04 (Item 7, Page 3221, 03/07)

10. There was submitted a report dated 2 June 2004 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which presented to Members the First Annual Performance Report for Community Planning in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress which had been made in respect of implementing Community Planning within East Ayrshire;
- (ii) to endorse the actions to allow for the production of the First Annual Performance Report;
- (iii) to endorse the approach which had been taken to rationalise planning structures generally;
- (iv) to remit to Officers to consolidate the information contained within the First Performance Report into the Council's Wider Public Performance Report;

- (v) to formally record the Committee's appreciation for the hard work undertaken to date by the Lead Officers identified in the report; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**2004/05 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME
(Item 2, Page 567, 03/07)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2004 (circulated) by the Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support which proposed the Information Technology capital expenditure programme for 2004/05.

It was agreed to approve the 2004/05 Information Technology Capital Expenditure Programme detailed in Appendix I of the report.

ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT (Item 6, Page 127, 03/07)

12. There was submitted a report dated 19 May 2004 (circulated) by the Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support which advised of progress being made in respect of the Council's E-Government Strategy, the achievement of Scottish Executive targets for electronic service delivery and the implementation of MGF 2 projects for which the Council had secured Scottish Executive funding.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress which had been made in respect of the Council's objectives under rounds one and two of the Modernising Government Fund;
- (ii) to note the planned objectives which had been outlined within the Council's bid for the third round funding under the Modernising Government Fund;
- (iii) to note the progress which had been made to meet the targets for the delivery of e.Government compliance within the Council; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EAST AYRSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE FORUM (Item 16, Page 2824, 99/03)

13. There was submitted a report dated 14 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised Members of the first annual report produced for the East Ayrshire Domestic Abuse Forum for 2003/04.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the East Ayrshire Domestic Abuse Forum Annual Report for 2003/04;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services submit to Committee a report on the National Training Strategy;
- (iii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report on an annual basis for Members' consideration; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

MATCH FUND APPLICATION

14. There was submitted a joint report dated 24 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and the Acting Executive Director of

Corporate Support which recommended an award from the financial year 2004/05 Match Fund budget in respect of a domestic abuse proposal.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve an award of £2,000 from the Council's Match Fund budget to match the funding awarded from the Domestic Abuse Service Development Fund; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS' SERVICE PLAN
2001/2005 (Item 17, Page 3227, 03/07)**

- 15.** There was submitted a report dated 14 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the annual review of the Children and Young Persons' Service Plan 2001/2005 and which incorporated the proposals for the changing Children's Service Fund for 2004/2005.

Arising from concerns expressed by Councillor O'Neill regarding the appropriateness of the office accommodation being used currently by the Children's Panel, bearing in mind the previous commitment from SCRA to use fit-for-purpose facilities, it was agreed that the Head of Community Support would respond directly to Councillor O'Neill on the progress being made regarding this matter.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Children and Young Persons' Service Plan Annual Review incorporating the proposals for the Changing Children's Service Fund for 2004-2005; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

CONSULTATION ON DRAFT PROTOCOL FOR MULTI-MEMBER WORKING

- 16.** There was submitted a report dated 25 May 2004 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which informed the Committee of a Scottish Executive consultative exercise on a draft protocol for multi-member working.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Reeves, moved:-

- (i) that the Council reiterate its position of opposing the introduction of the single transferable votes system for Local Government Elections in Scotland based on multi-member Wards in line with the comments contained within Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report;
- (ii) that the Chief Executive forward a copy of the report regarding this matter to the Scottish Executive as the Council's response to the consultation exercise; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Wilson, moved as an amendment to support the proposals put forward by the McIntosh Commission on Local Government and the Kerley Renewing Local Democracy Working Group for the introduction of the single transferable vote system for Local Government Election in Scotland based on Multi-Member Wards.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 15 votes to 4.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

17. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(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 Paragraph 9 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF 84 IRVINE ROAD, KILMARNOCK

18. There was submitted a report dated May 2004 (circulated) by the Solicitor to the Council which advised the Committee of the outcome of the recent marketing of the subjects at 84 Irvine Road, Kilmarnock, and which sought authority to dispose of the subjects in accordance with the terms and conditions in the report.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Solicitor to the Council to accept the offer from Alan Speirs for the sum detailed in the report; and
- (ii) that, should Missives not be successfully concluded within an acceptable timescale, that the Solicitor to the Council be authorised to revert to Happell Developments Ltd., to accept their offer, whom failing to revert to Mr and Mrs Marco Rosa to accept their offer.

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT 133/141 MAIN STREET, MUIRKIRK (Item 8, Page 746, 99/03)

19. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services which sought approval to dispose of an area of land at 133-141 Main Street, Muirkirk.

It was agreed that the Committee authorise the Solicitor to the Council to proceed with the disposal of the land at 133-141 Main Street, Muirkirk, to Mr Alexander Paterson subject to the consent of the Scottish Ministers in terms of Section 12(7) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 and, if appropriate, Section 74(2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT CARRUTHERS PARK, WELLWOOD STREET AND KIRKGREEN, MUIRKIRK

20. There was submitted a joint report dated 20 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services and of Neighbourhood Services which sought authority for the Executive Director of Development and Property Services to implement the marketing strategy detailed within the report for the disposal of land at Carruthers Park, Wellwood Street and Kirkgreen, Muirkirk.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Executive Director of Development and Property Services to implement the marketing strategy detailed in the report in respect of the subjects at Carruthers Park, Wellwood Street and Kirkgreen, Muirkirk; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT DALSALLOCH WOOD, RUNNELS ROAD,
AUCHINLECK (Item 9, Page 806, 03/07)**

21. There was submitted a report dated 20 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services which sought authority to enter into a pre-marketing agreement for the disposal of Council-owned land at Dalsalloch Wood, Runnels Road, Auchinleck, and thereafter to market for sale on a joint basis the combined subjects detailed in the report.

It was agreed to authorise the Executive Director of Development and Property Services, in conjunction with the Solicitor to the Council, to enter into a pre-marketing agreement with the parties detailed in the report and thereafter to market for sale the combined subjects in terms of that agreement, subject to inclusion of the site of the Marie Curie Field of Hope within the wider development site, provided a suitable alternative site for the Field of Hope could be identified and made available.

**PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND FORMING PART OF THE CHURCHYARD, ST
ANDREW'S GLENCAIRN CHURCH, ST ANDREW'S STREET, KILMARNOCK**

22. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services which sought authority to re-convey an area of ground forming part of the Churchyard of St Andrew's Glencairn Church, St Andrew's Street, Kilmarnock, to the Church of Scotland General Trustees.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Solicitor to the Council to accept the offer from the Church of Scotland General Trustees and to re-convey an area of ground forming part of the Churchyard at St Andrew's Glencairn Church, St Andrew's Street, Kilmarnock, for the sum detailed in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PROPOSED WAIVER OF TITLE CONDITIONS AT THE FORMER GROUGAR
PRIMARY SCHOOL, MOSCOW**

23.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Young declared a non-pecuniary interest in the undernoted item.

23.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2004 (circulated) which sought approval to the granting of a Minute of Waiver to remove title conditions affecting the use of the subjects known as and forming the former Grougar Primary School, Moscow.

It was agreed to approve the granting of a Minute of Waiver removing the restrictions associated with the former Grougar Primary School, Moscow.

**PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND ADJACENT TO GAVIN HAMILTON SPORTS
CENTRE, JAMIESON ROAD, DARVEL**

24. There was submitted a report dated 20 May 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services to lease an area of ground of land adjacent to Gavin Hamilton Sports Centre, Jamieson Road, Darvel, in accordance with the Council's Concessionary Rental Policy.

It was agreed to approve the proposal to lease land adjacent to Gavin Hamilton Sports Centre, Jamieson Road, Darvel, to the Darvel Skaters Group in accordance with the terms and conditions identified in the report and to instruct the Solicitor to the Council to conclude matters on behalf of the Council.

The meeting terminated at 1103 hours.

APPENDIX**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19 MAY 2004 AT 1050 HOURS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Jim O'Neill, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Provost Jane Darnbrough and Councillor Tommy Farrell.

ATTENDING: David Mitchell, Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support; and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Brian Reeves, Harry Wilson and Jimmy Carmichael.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

CONFERENCES AND COURSES BUDGETARY UPDATE

1. It was reported, and noted, that the balance of the Conferences and Courses budget for the financial year 2004/2005 was £19,362 as at 4 May 2004.

CONFERENCES AND COURSES

2. **CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS IN SCOTLAND: 7-10 JUNE 2004**

There was submitted a report dated 6 April 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals in Scotland (CILIPS) Conference to be held in Peebles on 7-10 June 2004.

It was agreed to authorise attendance at the above Conference by one Member of the Administration, if available, for the second day only, the name to be notified to the Chief Executive as soon as possible.

CIVIC CEREMONIAL BUDGETARY UPDATE

3. It was reported, and noted, that the balance of the Civic Ceremonial budget for the financial year 2004/2005 was £9,445 as at 4 May 2004.

CIVIC CEREMONIAL APPLICATIONS

- 4.1 **MID SUMMER MAGIC CONCERT GROUP - BREAST FOOT FORWARD**

There was submitted a report dated 21 April 2004 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which advised of a request from the concert organiser for Breast Foot Forward for the provision of refreshments for the children involved in Youth Concert to be held on 30 and 31 July 2004 in support of Breast Foot Forward.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the request from the concert organiser for the Breast Foot Forward contribution of £100.00 towards refreshments for the children involved in the concert; and
- (ii) to remit the necessary arrangements to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair.

4.2 VOLUNTEER CENTRE, EAST AYRSHIRE

There was submitted a report dated 29 April 2004 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which advised of a request from the Volunteer Centre, East Ayrshire, for the Council to host a Civic Reception on 4 June 2004 for volunteers.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the request from the Volunteer Centre, East Ayrshire, for a contribution of £415.70 towards the Civic Reception to take place on 4 June 2004;
- (ii) that the Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support seek clarification of the proposed role of the Council for the event itself, including Council representation; and
- (iii) to remit the necessary arrangements, to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair.

The meeting terminated at 1055 hours.