

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29 JANUARY 2004  
AT 1402 HOURS IN AUCHINLECK COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
WELL ROAD, AUCHINLECK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors William Menzies, George Smith, Neil McGhee, William Crawford and Eric Ross; and Community Representatives: Mr James Brown, Mr James Hastie, Mr William Lees, Mrs Jean Smith and Mrs Margaret Campbell; and Substitute Community Representatives: Mr James Liddel and Mr Ian Scade.

**ATTENDING:** Graham Short, Head of Service: Quality Improvement; John Bryson, Area Engineer (Roads and Transportation); David Wotherspoon, Team Leader (Community Learning and Development); James Dunnachie, Team Leader (Waste Management); John MacKenzie, Records Management Officer; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Chief Inspector Robert Brown and Inspector Jim Thomson, Strathclyde Police.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly and Jimmy Carmichael.

**CHAIR:** Councillor William Menzies, Chair.

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

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1403 hours to allow for a 15 minute maximum public question and answer session.

**RECONVENTION OF MEETING**

2. The meeting reconvened at 1404 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and in attendance.

**HOMES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES**

**RENT SETTING POLICY**

3. The Administrative Officer reported, and it was noted, that this item had been withdrawn from the Agenda.

**MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4. There were submitted, and noted, Minutes of the Meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 6 November 2003 (circulated).

## **LOCAL ISSUES**

### **5.1 LOCAL ISSUES**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided information on local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to the Local Committee.

### **5.2 NEW LOCAL ISSUES**

It was noted that there were no local issues raised by Community Representatives.

## **DECENTRALISATION ISSUES**

### **ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: LOCAL COMMITTEE OPEN DAY**

6. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2004 (circulated) by the Annual Seminar Working Party which advised of the outcome of the Local Committee Open Day held on 22 November 2003 and identified issues arising for consideration.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the success of the 2003 Local Committee Open Day; and
- (ii) that the issues identified in paragraph 4 of the report be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to progress in consultation with the appropriate Departments.

Arising from discussion, it was noted that the Administrative Officer would arrange for information to be provided to Councillor Ross on the respective numbers of Community Representatives, Substitutes and other members of the public who had attended the Open Day.

### **RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2004/2005**

7. There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which invited the Local Committee to consider and determine certain matters in order to facilitate arrangements for the recruitment of Community Representatives to serve on the Local Committee for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the present community representation on this Committee as detailed in the appendix to the report;
- (ii) that community organisation sector representation on this Committee for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 be drawn from the following organisational sectors, this matter to be considered further at the next meeting in the light of nominations received, namely:-
  - Community Councils (two nominations to be invited);
  - East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability;
  - Older People's interest groups;

- Youth Forum (or equivalent organisation);
  - Business community;
  - Local Churches;
  - Tenants groups;
  - Sports groups;
  - School pupils; and
  - Ethnic minority groups;
- (iii) to remit to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to initiate the process for the submission of new nominations for Community Representatives and Named Substitutes by the relevant organisations to serve during the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 and to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate this process;
- (iv) that a report on progress relative to (iii) above be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee; and
- (v) to request that the number of Community Representatives' places on this Local Committee be increased to 11, in view of the nominations which have been invited as detailed in (ii) above, and to remit to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to progress this matter appropriately.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

8. The Chair, at his discretion, and in terms of Standing Order 19, agreed that Item 9 on the Agenda be considered at this point.

### **PROVISION OF DOG FOULING BINS**

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the provision of dog fouling bins within the local area.

## **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

### **CATRINE, SORN AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP (Item 10.3, Page 393, 03/07)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 13 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which invited the Committee to consider and determine how to proceed in respect of Community Grant funding awarded to Catrine, Sorn and District Local History Group, in the light of the time which had passed since approval of the application.

Robert Reardon, Chairperson of the Group, answered questions put by members of the Committee and provided clarification on issues raised.

It was agreed:

- (i) to acknowledge the work carried out by the Group under this grant application in respect of research into the history of G Reid & Son, Builders, Catrine, and in respect of research and preparations for re-printing of the Catrine Chronicle; and that the Group be allowed to retain the monies expended on these works, being £100.00 and £325.00, respectively;
- (ii) that the Group be required to repay that part of the total grant award of £650.00 which remained unexpended, being a sum of £225.00, in view of the length of time which had passed since approval of the original application and no guarantee having been given by the Group that the reprinting works would be completed within a specific period of time; and
- (iii) that the Group be advised to submit, if they so wished, an application for Community Grant funding for 2004/2005 in respect of the outstanding reprinting works.

The Chair thanked Mr Reardon for his attendance and contribution to the meeting.

Councillor McGhee left the meeting at this point.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **POLICE REPORT**

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by Chief Inspector Brown, Strathclyde Police, which advised of crime trends and Police activity within the local area over the recent period.

Arising from discussion, it was agreed that the Officers concerned investigate the possibility of information being submitted to future meetings of this Committee on the level of successful prosecutions which result from arrests made by Police within the local area.

### **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM**

12. There was submitted for information, and noted, Minutes of the Meeting of the East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum held on 3 December 2003 (circulated).

## **CORPORATE RESOURCES**

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002: DRAFT PUBLICATION SCHEME**

13. There was submitted a report dated 15 December 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which (i) advised of the introduction of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002; (ii) advised on the Council's responsibility for producing a Publication Scheme under the terms of the Act; and (iii) invited suggestions for information to be included in the Council's Publication Scheme.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that any suggestions regarding the types of information which could be included in the draft Publication Scheme should be forwarded to the Council's Records Management Officer no later than 10 February 2004; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

14. Councillor Menzies vacated the Chair in favour of Councillor Crawford, Vice-Chair, and left the meeting at this point.

#### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

##### **2004/2005 PROGRAMME OF STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS**

15. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which (i) advised of the 2004/2005 roads and footways structural maintenance programmes for "inescapable" schemes approved by the Development Services Committee; and (ii) sought the Committee's approval of the "highly desirable" schemes for structural maintenance of footways or "desirable" options.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the 2004/2005 roads and footways structural maintenance programmes for "inescapable" schemes approved by the Development Services Committee;
- (ii) to approve the "highly desirable" schemes for the structural maintenance of footways as detailed in the report; and
- (iii) to note that any reduction in the anticipated budget would be accommodated by the Head of Roads and Transportation by reducing the programmes in an equitable manner.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

16. Councillor Menzies re-joined the meeting at this point and Councillor Crawford vacated the Chair in favour of Councillor Menzies.

#### **EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

##### **INSPECTION OF STANDARDS AND QUALITY IN ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

17. There was submitted a report dated 2 December 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the outcome from the recent inspection of St Patrick's Primary School, Auchinleck, by HM Inspectors of Education (HMIE).

It was agreed:

- (i) to record congratulations to the school on the successful completion of the HMIE inspection process; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CUMNOCK AREA COMMUNITY LEARNING PLAN**

18. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the progress made in relation to the production of a Community Learning Plan for the Cumnock Area,

The meeting terminated at 1554 hours.