

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 JANUARY 2004 AT 1400 HOURS IN CROSSHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, OFF PLAYINGFIELD ROAD, CROSSHOUSE**

PRESENT: Councillors Brian Reeves, Douglas Reid, Gordon Cree, Iain Linton and John Campbell; Community Representatives Tom Cook, Charles Calman, John McIvor, John Tannock, Linda Thomson, Maurice Ashbridge and John Donaldson; and Named Substitutes Jean Churchill, Ian McVey and Tom Morrison.

ATTENDING: Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager; John MacKenzie, Records Management Officer; John Trakalo, Senior Engineer (Roads and Transportation); Margaret Phelps, Team Leader (Educational and Social Services); and Melanie Anderson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Sergeant Andy McInnes, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Named Substitute Mary Fraser and Alison McCann

CHAIR: Councillor Brian Reeves, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Mr Tom Morrison to his new role a Named Substitute representing the Kilmarnock Forum on Disability.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: TO ALLOW PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

2. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1401 hours for approximately 15 minutes to allow for a public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

3. The meeting reconvened at 1419 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and in attendance, Councillors Reid and Campbell and Community Representative Linda Thompson having joined the meeting during the question and answer session.

MINUTES**4.1 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

There were submitted for information and noted the Minutes of meeting of the Kilmarnock Central Local Committee held on 29 October 2003 (circulated).

4.2 MATTERS ARISING**4.2.1 Public Question and Answer Session**

Community Representative John McIvor referred to a matter raised during the open question and answer session held at the start of the last meeting of the Local Committee on the subject of play park facilities within Gatehead.

The Administrative Officer reported, and it was noted, that a response to Mr McIvor's query had been sent by the relevant Department and undertook to ensure that a fresh copy of the correspondence in question was forwarded to Mr McIvor.

4.2.2 Local Committee Community Grant Scheme - Disbursement of Future Grant Budgets

The Administration Manager confirmed, and it was noted, that applications for grant funding in 2004/2005 would be accepted from 1 April 2004 following confirmation of the Local Committee's budget for the new financial year. The Administration Officer also confirmed that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Local Committee in March 2004 providing recommendations on categories/weightings to be applied in respect of the implementation of the new mechanism for the disbursement of grant monies.

4.2.3 Local Issues

The Administration Manager confirmed that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Local Committee on the re-development of John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock, subject to considerations of commercial confidentiality and when information was available which could be placed in the public domain.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 - DRAFT PUBLICATION SCHEME

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

It was noted that any suggestions regarding the types of information to be included in the draft Publication Scheme should be submitted to the Council's Records Management Officer no later than 10 February 2004.

SAFER STREETS POLICING REPORT "U" DIVISION

6. There was submitted a report dated 23 December 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the nature and results of policing issues, operations and localised crime figures for the preceding period.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that consideration be given to the feasibility of including information within future reports on detection rates; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

7. There were submitted, for information, and noted the Minutes of the Community Safety Forum meeting of 3 December 2003 (circulated).

ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

8. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Annual Seminar Working Party on the outcome of the Local Committee Open Day held on 22 November 2003 and which identified issues arising for consideration.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the success of the 2003 Local Committee Open Day; and
- (ii) agree 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 appropriate Departments.

DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

9. It was reported that the next meeting of the Local Committee would be held on Tuesday 16 March 2004.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the next meeting be held in Grange Academy S&R Wing, Bonnyton Community Centre or Council Headquarters, subject to availability;
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to facilitate arrangements for the meeting; and
- (iii) to note that a calendar of meetings for 2004 would be submitted to the March meeting of the Local Committee.

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2004/2005

10. There was submitted a report dated 5 January 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which invited the Local Committee to consider and determine arrangements for the recruitment of Community Representatives to serve on the Local Committee in the period from 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the present community representation as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (ii) that in addition to the four core groups determined by the Council (namely Community Councils, local elderly groups, disability groups, and young people's groups (or equivalent organisations), Community organisation representation on the Local Committee also include a Community Representative and Named Substitute from local churches and the business community.
- (iii) that it be remitted 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 from 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 and to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate this process;
- (iv) that, with particular reference to youth representation, it be remitted to the Administration Manager to make the necessary arrangements to contact not

only local schools, but also other youth representative groups, such as youth groups and YMSPs to establish if there was any interest in representation on the Local Committee; and

- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

PROPOSED CLOSURE OF LOCAL POST OFFICE - TITCHFIELD STREET, KILMARNOCK

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 16 December 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the outcome of discussions with the Post Office Limited about the proposed closure of the branch post office at 48 Titchfield Street, Kilmarnock.

Councillor Linton left the meeting during discussion of this item.

2004/2005 PROGRAMME OF STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS

12. There was submitted a report dated 5 January 2004 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the 2004/2005 Roads and Footways Structural Maintenance Programmes for “inescapable” schemes approved by the Development Services Committee and which sought the Local 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 Footway 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; 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.

LOCAL ISSUES

13. There was submitted a report dated 24 December 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescale for reporting back to the Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the submission proposals on the list of Local Committee issues as detailed within the Appendix to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

NEW LOCAL ISSUES

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

The undernoted items were identified as potential items which could become the subject of reports to the Local Committee:-

- (i) presentation or report on the subject of Kilmarnock Town Centre re-development;
- (ii) Council plans for community centre provision within the Local Committee area, particularly in the Piersland area; and
- (iii) the Council's Housing Strategy.

The meeting terminated at 1536 hours.