

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 JANUARY 2004 AT 1400 HOURS IN JOHN FULTON HALL, MAIN ROAD, FENWICK

PRESENT: Councillors John McGhee, Maureen McKay, Jim O'Neill and Stephanie Young; and Community Representatives: Iain Finlayson, Ashley Bell, Jim Miller, Charles Lindsay, Cathy Spicer and Fiona Andrew; and Named Substitutes: Mary White, May McMillan, Barbara Wiseman and Rhoda Gourlay.

ATTENDING: Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager; Brian Weadon, Area Engineer, Roads and Transportation; Eddie O'Connor, Team Leader, Educational and Social Services; John McKenzie, Records Management Officer; and Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Ian Haynes, Strathclyde Police; Sharon Donohoe, Development Manager, Tenants Information Service; and Anne Currie, Procurator Fiscal.

APOLOGIES: Community Representatives Russel Hutcheson and Jean Brown; and Named Substitute Alistair Thomson.

CHAIR: Councillor John McGhee, Chair.

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

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1401 hours to allow a fifteen minute maximum public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

2. The meeting reconvened at 1403 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and in attendance.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

3. The Chair, at his discretion and in terms of Standing Order 19, agreed to alter the order of business and consider Items 11 and 13 on the Agenda at this point.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

**RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES/NAMED SUBSTITUTES
2003-2004**

4. There was submitted a report dated 8 December 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources advising on the outcome of the recruitment of a Substitute Representative for the Disability Forum and also for Fenwick Community Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the nomination of Jerry Lee as the Disability Forum Substitute Representative and Rhoda Gourlay as Fenwick Community Council's

Substitute Representative to serve on this Committee for the period to 31 March 2004; and

- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

2004/2005 PROGRAMME OF STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS

5. 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 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; 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.

PRESENTATION BY ANNE CURRIE, PROCURATOR FISCAL (Item 9, Page 354, 03/07)

6. The Committee received a presentation from Anne Currie, Procurator Fiscal on Procurator Fiscal Services.

Members of the Committee then had the opportunity to ask questions of Anne. Thereafter, the Chair thanked her for the very interesting and informative presentation and discussion.

TENANTS’ INFORMATION SERVICE (Item 3, Page 87, 03/07)

7. The Committee received a presentation from Sharon Donohoe, Development Manager for the Tenants’ Information Service providing an update on the work of the organisation.

Members of the Committee then had the opportunity to ask questions of Sharon. Thereafter, the Chair thanked her for the very interesting and informative presentation and discussion.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

8. There was submitted for information and noted, the Minutes of meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 22 October 2003.

LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME

LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME 2003/2004

9. There was submitted an updated report dated 22 December 2003 (circulated at the meeting) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on the financial position in respect of Community Grants to local organisations in 2003/04, together with individual assessment reports (circulated) in respect of the applications received.

There was also submitted assessment reports (circulated at the meeting) in respect of Kilmarnock Gateway Writers and Dunlop and Lugton Park Association.

It was agreed as follows:-

9.1 **Applications Approved** (for the purpose identified in the applications), viz:-

- (a) Arts and Cultural
 - (i) Kilmarnock Gateway Writers - £100.00;
- (b) Community Associations
 - (i) Dunlop and Lugton Park Association - £5,150.00;
- (c) Community Councils
 - (i) Stewarton and District Community Council - £378.00;
- (d) Disability
 - (i) ENABLE - £780.00;
- (e) Sport
 - (i) Kilmarnock Balmoral Football Club - £83.00; and
- (f) Tenants/Residents Group
 - (i) Lainshaw Residents Association (part) - £250.00 for the purchase of two picnic benches. It was also agreed to attach an additional condition to the award to read, viz:- "That future responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the picnic tables will lie with Lainshaw Residents Association and that the group must ensure that appropriate public liability insurance is in place".

9.2 **Application Refused** (for the reason as stated):-

- (a) Tenants/Residents' Groups
 - (i) Lainshaw Residents Association (part) - that the purchase of Easter eggs be refused on the grounds that this was not viewed to be a key element of the Group's purposes and did not represent value for money.

9.3 **Application Continued to Next Meeting**

- (a) Tenants/Residents' Groups
 - (i) Lainshaw Residents Association (part) - that the purchase of a computer, printer and scanner be continued to the next meeting to allow the Assessing Department to liaise with the Group to discuss the

possibility of the Group accessing computers at either the Resource Centre or the Library in Stewarton.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

10. There was submitted and noted, Minutes of meeting of the Community Safety Forum held on 3 December 2003 (circulated).

SAFER STREETS POLICING REPORT "U" DIVISION

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 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.

MISCELLANEOUS

POLICE REPORT

12. Sergeant Ian Haynes, Strathclyde Police, reported on local Policing.

It was agreed to note that during the November/December period:-

- (i) 230 hours of additional patrols had been dedicated to the Northern Area concentrating on peak times;
- (ii) there had been 123 stop searches;
- (iii) 82 licensed premises had been visited;
- (iv) there had been nine arrests for acts of dishonesty;
- (v) six people had been arrested for drugs related offences;
- (vi) ten traffic offences had occurred, not including enforcement on the A77;
- (vii) eight fixed penalty parking fines had been issued;
- (viii) one male had been arrested in Glasgow charged with the possession of drugs, possession of an offensive weapon and shoplifting offences; and
- (ix) two prolific shoplifters had been arrested, with one still in custody.

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 the Local Committee of the introduction of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002; (ii) 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 (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 Community Representatives think should be included in the draft Publication Scheme, following consultation with their respective groups, should be forwarded to John McKenzie, Records Management Officer by 10 February 2004; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

- 14.** There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2004 (circulated) by the Annual Seminar Working Party advising of 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 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 appropriate Departments.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2004/2005

- 15.** There was submitted a report dated 22 December 2003 (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 as detailed in Appendix I to the report;
- (ii) that the present community organisation representation on this Committee for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005, be as follows:-

Community/Residents Association;

Disability Forum;

Elderly Forum;

Church Forum

Youth Forum; and, that, following a request from the newly established Southcraigs and Dean Community Council expressing a desire to be represented on the Local Committee, resulting in their being six Community Councils wishing to be represented with there only being five places available, it be remitted to the Administration Manager, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee, to investigate what options are available that would provide for an additional Member for the Northern Area Local Committee to accommodate all six Community Councils; and

- (iii) to remit to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to initiate the process of 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 the process.

EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE NORTHERN AREA COMMUNITY LEARNING PLAN

- 16.** There was submitted a report dated 12 December 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the progress made in relation to the production of a Community Learning Plan for the Northern Area.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that a report on the Irvine Valley Community Learning Plan be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee as part of the Northern Area was included in that Plan; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

NAMING OF STREETS

NAMING OF STREETS BY LOCAL COMMITTEES - NEW DEVELOPMENT OFF IRVINE ROAD, KILMAURS

- 17.** There was submitted a report dated 9 December 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources requesting the Committee to consider a name for a new development off Irvine Road, Kilmaurs.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the name for the new development off Irvine Road, Kilmaurs, be Allsop Court; and
- (ii) that the Department of Homes and Technical Services be advised accordingly.

NEW LOCAL ISSUES

18.1 LOCAL ISSUES

There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 December 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources on local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to this Local Committee.

18.2 NEW LOCAL ISSUES

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

It was agreed to incorporate into the Forward Planner of Local Committee business the undernoted items:-

- (i) a report on Rights of Way in East Ayrshire, and in particular the Northern Area, and Outdoor Access as it relates to the draft Land Reform Bill; and
- (ii) a report on the future of Cunningham Watt Park.

The meeting terminated at 1605 hours.