

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2006 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill, John McGhee, Daniel Coffey, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, John Campbell, John Knapp, George Smith, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Neil McGhee, Elaine Dinwoodie and Elaine Stewart.

ATTENDING: Bill Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Paul Whip, Financial Services Manager; Donald McVicar, Local Office and Registration Manager, and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Stephanie Young, Ray Murray and Jim Raymond.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Ross Gilmour, a pupil from Grange Academy who was undertaking a work experience placement with Administrative and Legal Services.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES (LEISURE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES) TO 11 DECEMBER 2005 (PERIOD 9)

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 5 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Neighbourhood Services (Leisure and Protective Services) for the period ended 11 December 2005 (period 9).

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: OUTDOOR AMENITIES AND LEISURE MANAGEMENT TO 11 DECEMBER 2005 (PERIOD 9)

3. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 16 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Outdoor Amenities and Leisure Management for the period ended 11 December 2005 (period 9).

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: REFUSE COLLECTION AND STREET CLEANSING TO 11 DECEMBER 2005 (PERIOD 9)

4. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 16 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the

year for refuse collection and street cleansing for the period ended 11 December 2005 (period 9).

LEISURE AND CULTURE STRATEGY/THE CULTURAL COMMISSION REPORT

5. There was submitted a report dated 5 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the Leisure and Culture Strategy and the Cultural Commission's Report "Our Next Major Enterprise".

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the current position with regard to the Scottish Executive response to the recommendation of the Cultural Commission;
- (ii) to note the consequent need to delay presentation of the draft Leisure and Cultural Strategy until March 2006; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

REVIEW OF TRADING OPERATIONS

6. There was submitted a report dated 4 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval to amend the trading status of the four DSOs within the remit of the Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note a minor correction to paragraph 2.1 of the report to refer to "working practices" rather than "working parties";
- (ii) to amend the status of the four DSOs which fell within the Committee's remit, and no longer to treat them as trading operations with effect from 1 April 2006; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

LOCAL OFFICES 2005 CUSTOMER SURVEY

7. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the outcome of the Local Offices Customer Survey for 2005.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Farrell moved (i) to note the high level of public satisfaction recorded in relation to the Council's Local Office Network; (ii) to note the key role of Local Offices in support of new developments in Customer Relationship Management Systems and Customer Accounts; and (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Weir, seconded by Councillor D Coffey moved as an amendment (i) to note the high levels of public satisfaction recorded in relation to the Council's Local Office Network; (ii) to note the key role of Local Offices in support of new developments in customer relationship management systems and customer accounts; and (iii) that, while recognising that the provision of local offices met the Council's commitment to its decentralisation scheme and helped deliver services which related to the Community Plan, to recommend an immediate review of all

closed offices, and subject to that review to re-open offices with better opening hours and if necessary relocate them to more accessible local positions.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 12 votes to 5.

BEST VALUE REVIEW OF LEISURE SERVICES

8. There was submitted a report dated 4 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on progress with regard to the Best Value Review of Leisure Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the current position with regard to the progress with the Best Value Review of Leisure Services with a report being targeted for presentation to the March meeting of the Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

KILMARNOCK TOWN CENTRE STRATEGY (Item 1, page 1861, 03/07)

9. There was submitted a report dated 21 December 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which requested that the Committee consider and if acceptable, endorse the Kilmarnock Town Centre Strategy.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Farrell moved (i) endorsement of the finalised Kilmarnock Town Centre Strategy; and (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Linton, seconded by Councillor Wilson moved as an amendment to note the report.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 12 votes to 5.

STRATEGIC REVIEW OF WASTE MANAGEMENT NEEDS

10. There was submitted a report dated 27 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on progress made by the 3 Ayrshire Councils to develop a Strategic Outline Case for future residual waste management needs in Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress which had been made in developing a Strategic Outline Case for the 3 Ayrshire Authorities;
- (ii) to note that further progress reports would be submitted for Committee consideration;
- (iii) to note the joint Working Group's intention to retain the Consultants meantime for additional ad hoc work if earlier funding opportunities arose; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES – ENFORCEMENT AND STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

11. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the enforcement and staffing arrangements relative to the implementation of the prohibition of smoking in enclosed public places due to commence on 26 March 2006.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the ad hoc Working Group had prepared an Action Plan which had been submitted to the Corporate Management Team and was being implemented in accordance with the statutory timescale;
- (ii) to remit to the Corporate Governance Committee for its interest arrangements relative to staffing and enforcement of the smoke free legislation; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

12. There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2006 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted, as follows:-

Contract	Successful Contractor	Amount
River Ayr Walkway – Section 11, Failford to Stair	K Imrie Tree Care, Mossblown	£42,366.94
Supply and Delivery of 4x4 Telescopic Lift Truck	Scot JCB, Glasgow	£34,987.00
Supply and Delivery of Pest Control Van	Alistair Fleming, Citroen, Kilmarnock	£11,924.60 each £35,773.80 Total (3 vehicles)
Supply and Delivery of Car Derived Van (VS01)	Alistair Fleming, Citroen, Kilmarnock	£7,469.25

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

13. The Committee resolved that under Section 50(a) (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 9 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

LAND AT REAR OF ASSLOSS MAINS, DEAN CASTLE, KILMARNOCK

14. There was submitted a joint report dated 5 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Directors of Neighbourhood Services and of Development and Property Services which requested that the Committee declare surplus to requirements land at the rear of Assloss Mains, Dean Castle, Kilmarnock which extended to 801 square metres or thereby and to authorise disposal of same.

Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Farrell moved (i) to declare the land extending to 801 square metres or thereby at the rear of Assloss Mains, Dean Castle, Kilmarnock surplus to requirements and to authorise the disposal of same to the party identified in the report; (ii) to authorise the Executive Director of Development and Property Services to finalise negotiations for the sale; and (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Linton, seconded by Councillor D Coffey moved as an amendment not to dispose of the land in question to the party identified in the report, but to keep it in public ownership.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 12 votes to 5.

The meeting terminated at 1040 hours.