

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2007 AT 1400 HRS
IN OCHILTREE COMMUNITY CENTRE, MAIN STREET, OCHILTREE**

PRESENT: Councillors Jimmy Carmichael, George Smith, William Menzies, Neil McGhee, William Crawford and Eric Ross; Community Representatives: Mr James McMillan, Mr James Brown, Mr William Lees, Mrs Jean Smith and Mr Alex Cochrane; and Substitute Community Representative Mr James Hastie.

ATTENDING: Kevan Aitken, Acting Area Roads Engineer; Julie McGarry, Assistant Administration Manager; Susan Fulton, Disability Awareness Advisor; Eleanor Bell, Environmental Health Officer; Alan Murray, Team Leader - Community Learning and Development; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Chief Inspector Alan Lawrence and Sergeant Paul Quinn, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Eric Jackson and Jimmy Kelly.

CHAIR: Councillor Jimmy Carmichael, Chair.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The Chair advised, and it was noted, that, Items 7, 11 and 12 on the Agenda would be dealt with as Items 4, 5 and 6, as undernoted.

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

2. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1402 hrs for a public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

3. The meeting reconvened at 1422 hrs with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and in attendance.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

COMMUNITY GRANTS 2006/07

4. There was submitted a report dated 24 January 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which advised of the financial position in respect of Community Grants for the 2006/07 financial year; and invited the Committee to deal with certain matters relating to individual grant applications.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that a grant award of £500 had been paid to Keir Hardie Hill Tenants and Residents Association, Cumnock, on authorisation of the Administration Manager in terms of delegated powers;

- (ii) to note the non-take up of the approved grant of £500 by Four Connections, Cumnock;
- (iii) to require Avonlea Youth Centre, Catrine to reimburse a sum of £1,200 from the grant of £1,700 paid this year, but to allow this group to retain the balance of £500 in respect of the cost of consumable items and instructor's fees relative to the proposed structured programme of instructive learning activities for young people to be introduced at the Youth Centre, in conjunction with the Council's Community Learning and Development Service;
- (iv) that the application submitted by Cumnock and Doon Valley Deaf Club be dealt with as an urgent application and that a grant award of £719 be made, subject (a) to the group making arrangements to hold future meetings, ie meetings to be held beyond the period to which this approval relates, at an established meeting venue rather than within a private residence; and (b) to clarification as to whether the group's transport costs could be reduced through use of the Coalfield Communities Transport Scheme;
- (v) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee on the difficulties which were being encountered by the Cumnock and Doon Valley Deaf Club in letting a suitable meeting venue within their local area;
- (vi) that the application submitted by Sorn Youth Group (assessment report tabled at the meeting) be dealt with as an application from a recently formed organisation and that a grant award of £885 be made;
- (vii) to note that, taking account of the above decisions, an uncommitted balance of £392.25 remained from the current year's financial allocation for grants; and
- (viii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW OF YOUTH WORK SERVICES

5. There was submitted a report dated 11 December 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services on the outcome of a review of Community Learning and Development Youth Work Services.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee to provide information on the number of young people involved in the various organised youth initiatives, activities etc, including independent organisations if possible, within the local area.

LOGAN DAY CENTRE REFURBISHMENT

6. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the refurbishment work

that had been carried out within Logan Day Centre and the subsequent developments which had taken place within the Centre.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee on the charging policy for the letting of Cumnock Town Hall to local organisations.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING COMMUNITY COUNCILS (Item 3, Page 2536, 03/07)

7. The Administrative Officer reported that the Community Councils had now nominated Mr James Brown of Ochiltree Community Council, an existing Substitute Community Representative, to fill the vacancy for a Community Representative to represent Community Councils; and that Mr Geoff Crolley, New Cumnock Community Council, had been nominated to fill the consequentially vacant Substitute Community Representative's place.

It was agreed to accept the nominations submitted by the Community Councils.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

8. There were submitted, for information and noted, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 9 November 2006 (circulated).

8.1 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Proceeds of Crime Act (Item 4.1, Page 2537, 03/07)

Noted receipt of letters from Elizabeth Weir, Sub-Divisional Officer, 'U' Division, Strathclyde Police, which advised that Strathclyde Police did not possess information on the value of assets confiscated under the Proceeds of Crime Act and suggested that this matter be pursued with the Scottish Executive; and David Harvie, Head of National Casework Division, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal's Service, Edinburgh, which advised that that Division did not hold statistics broken down to Local Authority or Sub-District level but indicated that the last national figures published in October 2006 showed that Confiscation Orders to a value of £765,892 were secured in the first half of the financial year 2006/07.

(b) Road Works on the A76 at New Cumnock (Item 6(ii), Page 2537, 03/07)

Noted receipt of a communication from the constituency office of Cathy Jamieson MSP, which advised that the matter raised by the Local Committee regarding works on the A76 had been noted by the MSP and indicated that any future issues which the Committee may have regarding maintenance on the A76 could be taken up with that office.

(c) Redeployment of Police Officers (Item 6(iii), Page 2537, 03/07)

Noted the terms of a letter (copy tabled) received by the Chief Executive from Cathy Jamieson MSP, Minister for Justice, in response to the issue raised by the Local Committee regarding the temporary redeployment of Police Officers from the Local Committee's area to the Faslane Naval Base.

DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY SERVICES**ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACCESS PANELS**

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 7 December 2006 (circulated) by the Head of Planning, Development and Building Standards on the work of the Access Panels from October 2005 to December 2006.

LOCAL ISSUES**10.1 LOCAL ISSUES**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 23 January 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided information on local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to the Local Committee.

10.2 NEW LOCAL ISSUES

It was agreed to request that reports on the following issues be submitted to future meetings of this Committee, namely:-

- (i) the promotion of sustainable economic development and employment within the local area;
- (ii) the terms of the new Parental Involvement Bill; and
- (iii) the specification for street sweeping/cleansing carried out within the local area.

In addition, Community Representatives had identified a number of issues which were recorded under the public Question and Answer Session.

Councillors Ross and N McGhee left the meeting at this point.

POLICE REPORT**SAFER STREETS: STRATHCLYDE POLICE REPORT**

11. There was submitted a report dated 8 January 2007 (circulated) by Superintendent Elizabeth Weir, Strathclyde Police, which advised of crime figures and Police activity within the local area, and afforded an opportunity for members of the Local Committee to provide feedback to Strathclyde Police on areas of concern and to have these concerns addressed.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) to note further information and points of clarification provided by Chief Inspector Lawrence and Sergeant Quinn at the meeting.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNITY GRANTS 2007/08

12. There was submitted a report dated 4 January 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which requested approval to arrangements for the administration and processing of Community Grant applications for the 2007/08 year, in light of the Local Government Elections in May 2007.

It was agreed to approve the amendment to arrangements for processing Community Grants for 2007/08, as detailed in Section 4 of the report, namely that the process would run as previously approved until finalisation of the Service Departments' reports, but that the remaining stages, which would have a direct input and involvement by Elected Members, would be held in abeyance, and detailed arrangements in this regard made following the Local Government Elections.

STREET NAMING: PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT LOCATED OFF MAIN STREET, SORN

13. There was submitted a report dated 22 January 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which requested the Committee to consider and determine a name for a new street to be created by a private housing development located off Main Street, Sorn.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the new street be named "Woolmill Place"; and
- (ii) that the Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services be advised of the decision of this Committee.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

14. There was submitted a report dated 15 December 2006 (circulated) by the Annual Seminar Working Group which advised of the outcome of the Annual Seminar for Community Representatives held on 11 November 2006.

It was agreed to note the success of the 2006 Annual Seminar for Community Representatives.

DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY SERVICES

2007/08 PROGRAMME OF STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS (Item 12, Page 2606, 03/07)

15. There was submitted a report dated 3 January 2007 (circulated) by the Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services which advised of the 2007/08 Roads and Footways Structural Maintenance Programmes for the "inescapable" schemes approved by the Development Services Committee and sought approval of the "highly desirable" schemes for structural maintenance of footways or "desirable" options.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the 2007/08 Roads and Footways Maintenance Programmes for “inescapable” schemes approved by the Development Services Committee;
- (ii) that Elected Members and Community Representatives on the Local Committee should submit any comments or suggestions which they may have with regard to the “highly desirable” or “desirable” schemes for the structural maintenance of footways to the Acting Area Roads Engineer as soon as possible, whilst noting that to promote any of the “desirable” schemes would require deletion of “highly desirable” schemes to an equivalent value in order to remain within the overall approved budget; and
- (iii) to note that any reduction in the anticipated budget would be accommodated by the Acting Head of Roads and Transportation by reducing the Programmes in an equitable manner.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

16. There were submitted, for information and noted, the Minutes of the meeting of East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum held on 14 December 2006 (circulated).

The meeting terminated at 1557 hrs.