

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2006 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill, John McGhee, Helen Coffey, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Harry Wilson, John Campbell, John Knapp, Jim Raymond, George Smith, William Menzies, Neil McGhee, William Crawford and Elaine Dinwoodie.

ATTENDING: John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; John Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Adam Geary, Arts and Museums Manager; Robert Pollock, Cleansing Services Manager; Jim Dunnachie, Commercial and Recycling Manager; Eleanor Dewar, Environmental Health Officer; Paul Whip, Financial Services Manager; Jason Sutcliffe, Museums Development Manager; Anneke Freel, Outdoor Access Project Manager; Robert McCulloch, Outdoor Amenities Manager; Peter Hessett, Team Leader, Litigation; and Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Stephanie Young, Iain Linton, Tommy Farrell and Elaine Stewart.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Councillor Helen Coffey to her first meeting of the Community Services Committee and also Marie Docherty who was undertaking a work placement within Administrative and Legal Services.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES (LEISURE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES) - 23 JULY 2006 (PERIOD 4)

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 9 August 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 23 July 2006 (Period 4).

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT: QUARTER 2 (APRIL 2006 - JUNE 2006)

3. There was submitted and noted a report dated 25 July 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on absence rates for Community Services, within the Department of Neighbourhood Services, for the quarterly period ending 30 June 2006.

REPORT ON STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the outcome of Statutory Performance Indicators within the Department for the period 1 April 2005 - 31 March 2006 and on performance trends over the past 5 years.

SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY (SPP) 11 - PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND OPEN SPACE: CONSULTATION DRAFT

5. There was submitted a joint report dated 22 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on a Scottish Executive publication entitled "Scottish Planning Policy, SPP 11: Physical Activity and Open Space: Consultation Draft".

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Executive Director of Development and Property Services submit a copy of this report to the Scottish Executive, as representing the view of the Committee, on the draft SPP;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Development and Property Services and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services jointly prepare an open space audit and open space strategy for East Ayrshire; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

RATIFICATION OF THE COUNCIL'S ARTS AND MUSEUMS ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL POLICY

6. There was submitted a report dated 25 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought ratification of the Arts and Museums Section's Acquisition and Disposal Policy.

It was agreed:-

- C (i) to recommend that Council ratifies the Arts and Museums Acquisition and Disposal Policy; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report. C

LEISURE AND CULTURAL STRATEGY PROGRESS AND FUTURE DIRECTION

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 June 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on progress on both the national and local Cultural Strategy and which established the future direction for both aspects of Cultural Strategy development.

AMPLIFY 06

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the development of the AMPLIFY 06 Youth Arts Festival to be held across East Ayrshire at various venues in October 2006.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 12 NOVEMBER 2006

9. There was submitted a report dated 4 July 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the arrangements made in respect of Remembrance Day Services held in East Ayrshire in 2005 and which proposed the arrangements to be made for this year's services.

It was agreed to remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to make the necessary arrangements, as detailed in the report, in relation to the Kilmarnock Service and for Elected Members' attendance at Remembrance Services throughout East Ayrshire.

**REVIEW OF URBAN GULLS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT IN SCOTLAND, A
REPORT TO THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE**

10. There was submitted a report dated 22 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the report commissioned by the Scottish Executive on the Review of Urban Gulls and their management in Scotland.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that Paragraph 7.1 of the report - Legal Implications - should have been expanded to read "except by licence to authorised persons";
- (ii) pending guidance from the Scottish Executive, to maintain the Council's current approach to the Management of Urban Gulls in East Ayrshire as the Scottish Executive report did not advance any new courses of effective actions;
- (iii) that the Chair of the Community Services Committee write to the Minister for the Environment and Rural Development supporting the additional studies and requesting that resources be made available to the Council for gull control measures; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**EAST AYRSHIRE COALFIELD SIP OUTDOOR ACCESS PROJECT - THE
COALFIELD OUTDOOR ACCESS PROJECT**

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services on the progress of the implementation of the Coalfield Outdoor Access Project and which reported on the launch of the River Ayr Way which was held from 9-11 June 2006.

CEMETERY MANAGEMENT RULES UPDATE

12. There was submitted a report dated 28 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for updated Cemetery Management Rules for public consultation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to liaise with colleagues in Legal Services to prepare and update the existing Cemetery Management Rules to address the issues relating to the decision to introduce British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM) from 1 January 2007 in line with the requirements of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

LOCAL OFFICE TRAINING

13. There was submitted a report dated 22 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for additional, temporary closure of Local Offices for essential training purposes.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that an additional day closure be granted for current essential training;
- (ii) that an additional 2 half days be granted each year for future essential training; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

RETENTION AND EXTENSION OF QUALITY ACCREDITATION - CLEANSING SERVICE

14. There was submitted and noted a report dated 23 August 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised that the Cleansing Service had been successful in retaining its existing quality accreditation and that the accreditation had been extended to the Materials Recycling Facility Operation.

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

15. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 August 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:-

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Greens Mowers	Hamilton Brothers (Engineering) Ltd, Bishopton	£20,690 each. Total: £41,380 (2 vehicles)
Design and Build of Foot Bridges (River Ayr Walk Way)	Streetlife, The Netherlands	£264,200
External Stone Work Repairs to the Dick Institute, Kilmarnock	Hunter & Clark Ltd, Glasgow	£147,078.13
Proposed Extension to Dalmellington Cemetery	W.H McClounie, New Cumnock	£38,685.36

The meeting terminated at 1107 hours.