

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM**

### **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE 2005 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jim O'Neill (Chair), Daniel Coffey, Gordon Cree, John Campbell, Jim Raymond, George Smith, William Menzies and Elaine Dinwoodie; Community Representatives: Billy Sullivan (Kilmarnock North Local Committee), John McIvor (Kilmarnock Central Local Committee), Joan Wark (Kilmarnock South Local Committee), Charles M Lindsay (Northern Area Local Committee), Frank Dawson (Irvine Valley Local Committee), William Lees (Cumnock Area Local Committee) and William Barr (Doon Valley Local Committee); Alex Lindsay and Brian Howie, Strathclyde Fire Brigade; Jean Smith (East Ayrshire South Forum on Disability and East Ayrshire (South) Against Crime); Jean McFarlane (East Ayrshire North Crime Prevention Panel); and Dorothy McGowan (Kilmarnock Forum on Disability).

**ATTENDING:** William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Ann Williams, Community Safety Co-ordinator; Eleanor Dewar, Environmental Health Officer; Gerald Cummins, Road Safety Training Officer; and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Brian Reeves and Harry Wilson; Chief Inspector Brown; Karen Gardiner, (Domestic Abuse Forum), Nora Solesbury (Primary Care Trust), Doug Whitton (Victim Support); and Bob Leitch.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

#### **WELCOME BY WILLIAM STAFFORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND SECRETARY TO THE FORUM**

1. William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and Secretary to the Forum welcomed those present to the meeting and spoke of the valuable work carried out by the Community Safety Forum over the last year.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

2. William Stafford invited Members to appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair and it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Jim O'Neill be appointed Chair and that Jean McFarlane be appointed Vice-Chair.

Councillor Jim O'Neill then took the Chair, expressed his pleasure in looking forward to carrying out his role over the next year, whilst welcoming John McIvor and Dorothy McGowan to their first Forum meeting.

#### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

3. There was submitted and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2005.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### **3.1 M77 Slip Roads/Emergency Access**

The Head of Protective Services reported that the Head of Roads and Transportation continued to press the Scottish Executive for a response on this matter.

### **3.2 Holmhead, Cumnock - Pedestrian Crossing**

Following a point raised by Jean Smith, it was agreed that the Road Safety Training Officer would arrange forthwith a meeting with Jean to discuss this matter.

## **ACTIVITIES OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS**

### **4.1 Strathclyde Fire Brigade**

Assistant Divisional Officer Brian Howie reported:-

- on the grass fire campaign which had taken place in January/February in the Dalmellington and Cumnock areas;
- on the Cumnock and area health event which had taken place on 7 May 2005;
- on the employment of a Youth Development Officer who would be working to establish a Youth Development Programme;
- that school visits continued;
- that the Danger Detectives Initiative would take place during August/September;
- on the digital display board at the Morrison supermarket highlighting smoke detectors; and
- on the East Ayrshire Community Safety Day on 12 June in Dean Country Park, during which a chip pan fire demonstration would be carried out.

### **4.2 East Ayrshire South Against Crime**

Jean Smith reported:

- that the loch watch initiative was ongoing, with further enquiries from Girvan and Galston;
- that the Youth Division Project was ongoing;
- that the Women's Group were making enquiries regarding personal alarms;
- on the establishment of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Patna;
- on the Drug Proof your Kids Project; and
- that the School quiz was now programmed to take place in September/October.

### **4.3 EASFOD**

Jean Smith raised a point in relation to ensuring the safety of the more vulnerable educational and social services clients who were receiving the new Home at Meals Service, particularly with regard to the use of microwave ovens.

The Chair conveyed the clear commitment which had been given by the Social Work Committee Chair that help was available for anybody who required it, whilst undertaking at the same time to pass on the concerns raised to the Social Work Service.

#### **4.4 East Ayrshire North Crime Prevention Panel**

Jean McFarlane:-

- congratulated Stewarton Academy on winning the regional final of the Speechmaking Competition for Secondary Schools which had secured their participation at national level, and whilst not winners, the team had been a worthy contender;
- reported on the successful Primary Schools Quiz which had been held;
- reported on the AGM in May when a new Constitution had been adopted, and following Jean's stepping down as the Panel Chair, on the appointment of her successor Robert Jones with Max Flemmich the Vice-Chair. Furthermore, five new members had joined the Panel; and
- on proposed panel events in the Summer months to various fetes and gala days promoting the work of the Panel.

#### **4.5 Kilmarnock South Local Committee**

Joan Wark provided an update on the successful Sky Project.

#### **4.6 Cumnock Area Local Committee**

William Lees advised that there was no report from the Local Committee on this occasion.

#### **4.7 Kilmarnock Central Local Committee**

John McIvor highlighted the problem of speeding traffic in Gatehead.

The Chair advised on a current operation by Strathclyde Police to target speeding offenders in the area.

#### **4.8 Doon Valley Local Committee**

William Barr advised that there was no report from the Local Committee on this occasion.

#### **4.9 Kilmarnock North Local Committee**

Billy Sullivan:-

- reported on the recent refusal of the planning application in respect of a proposal by Vodafone to erect a mast at Grassyards Road; and
- reported that the issue of the buses in the New Farm Loch area had not yet been resolved, however, he was hopeful of a more constructive meeting in the near future with the bus company, Margaret Jamieson and local Councillors.

#### **4.10 Kilmarnock Forum on Disability**

Dorothy McGowan reported that the organisation was looking for new members, and it was agreed that the representatives present might wish to convey this invitation to their relevant organisations.

#### **4.11 Irvine Valley Local Committee**

Frank Dawson advised that there was no report from the Local Committee on this occasion.

#### **4.12 Northern Area Local Committee**

Charles M Lindsay:-

- reported on attempts to set up a Mountain Bike Club in the Northern Area;
- reported that following the delivery of the new wheeled bins in the area, packaging etc had been blowing about in the street; and
- sought clarification on the waste that could be put into the brown bins.

It was noted that the Chair would take up the littering issue with the Department, and clarification was given, at the meeting, as to the items which could be put into the relevant wheelie bins, whilst highlighting the recycling facilities available at the local Safeway in Stewarton.

#### **4.13 Environmental Health**

Eleanor Dewar reported:-

- the Food Team were carrying out Raising Awareness Seminars for local businesses;
- that the Public Health and Pollution Team were putting together displays in Local Offices regarding noise pollution; and
- that a new Dog Warden Officer was in post.

Councillor D Coffey left the meeting at this point.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

5. The meeting adjourned at 1050 hours and reconvened at 1100 hours.

### **PRESENTATION**

6. The Chair welcomed a delegation of staff and pupils from St Joseph's Academy, who as part of an evaluation process, gave a presentation following their participation in the Road Runner Initiative.

The pupils following their presentation, showed a DVD on the Initiative, before taking questions from Forum participants.

The Chair then gave a vote of thanks to the staff and pupils for a very interesting and informative presentation, and noted that it was hoped that this Initiative could be rolled out to Schools throughout the district.

The delegation from St Joseph's Academy left the meeting at this point, as did Councillor Jim Raymond.

### **ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMME**

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services which informed the Forum of road safety education initiatives which were currently being carried out by the Department of Development and Property Services.

Arising from discussion of this report, it was agreed that the Road Safety Training Officer would discuss with Joan Wark after the meeting the issue which she had raised previously in respect of the possibility of converting part of a grassed area of land to the rear of a block of flats at Marchdyke Crescent for use for parking.

Councillor William Menzies left the meeting at this point.

### **SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL - WATER AND LEISURE SAFETY COMMITTEE**

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated June 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised the Forum of the business which had been dealt with at the last meeting of SAPC Water and Leisure Safety Committee which is Chaired by Janet Castro of the Royal Life Saving Society.

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR - REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES**

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised Forum Members of developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Co-ordinator.

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - LOCAL ACTION FUND**

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 May 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised the Forum of the Scottish Executive's allocation of youth justice/ASB resources 2005/2006, and the way in which the funding allocated to Community Safety Partnerships had been awarded.

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP AWARD PROGRAMME 2005-2008**

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 May 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised the Forum of the Community Safety Partnership Award Programme and the aims set out by the Community Safety Strategic Partnership Group.

### **VOLUNTARY CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFF-SALES LICENCE HOLDERS**

12. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised the Forum of the proposed use of identifiable carrier bags to be provided to off-sales licence holders in Dalmellington, Dalrymple, Mauchline and Galston as per Paragraph 7 of the Code as detailed in Appendix I to the report.

The meeting terminated at 1138 hours.