

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE - 24 OCTOBER 2006

QUESTIONS ARISING FROM 15 MINUTE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

<u>MATTER RAISED</u>	<u>RESPONSE/ACTION TO BE TAKEN</u>	<u>CURRENT POSITION</u>
<p>Community Representative John Donaldson provided verbal update on the Shopmobility Scheme, which had been operating for 5 weeks with over 80 subscribers. Some sponsorship had been secured and application would be made for charitable status in association with East Ayrshire North Federation, to facilitate accessing funds for additional scooters. However, the premises had limited space for storage.</p> <p>General feedback to date was positive.</p>		
<p>Community Representative Tom Cook sought an update on the Meals at Home Services second period of consultation.</p>	<p>The Administrative Officer advised that copies of the draft Service User questionnaire were available for comment direct to the Resource Assistant at the Civic Centre by 25 September 2006.</p>	
<p>Councillor Linton requested an update on the Council's Recycling Programme.</p>	<p>The Head of Protective Services advised that the scheme was running well, at 8% ahead of target. The scheme was, in the main, supported by the public, although there had been some adverse publicity.</p> <p>It was planned to seek funds to build an In-vessel composting plant which</p>	

	<p>would allow food waste to be added to the brown bins currently used for garden waste, the overall aim being to take pressure off the green bin.</p> <p>The Real Nappy Campaign had also been largely successful.</p> <p>Special arrangements were in place for households where there were large families or medical considerations.</p> <p>Community Representative Maurice Ashbridge highlighted the problem of bins being used by others, from outside the household.</p>	
<p>Community Representative Tom Cook queried the level of recycling within Council premises.</p>	<p>The Head of Protective Services advised that the Council's Corporate Management Team were monitoring waste generated, current recycling arrangements and scope for improvement. Action Plans had been prepared for all Departments to improve their individual levels of recycling.</p>	
<p>Councillor Cree asked about plastic bottles recycling.</p>	<p>The Head of Protective Services advised that recycling banks were to hand and good prices could be obtained. Due to the positive public response, there were problems keeping up with the volume of waste. More resources were required, needing financial investment.</p>	

<p>Councillor Reid asked about recycling/landfill tax benefits.</p>	<p>The Head of Protective Services reported an excellent quality of paper, glass and cans received for recycling, which generated income for the Council. However, there was some material contamination which required to be sorted manually. An invitation to tour the Council's recycling facility was extended to Members.</p> <p>The Strategic Waste Fund was ringfenced. However, savings could be achieved centrally for income tax payers as a result of reduced landfill tax.</p>	
<p>Community Representative John Donaldson requested an update on litter uplift at King Street.</p>	<p>The Head of Protective Services advised that this was private property and the Council had no authority to intervene until land owner's permission had been secured or formal notice served.</p> <p>The land owner had been invited to an early site meeting to progress the matter.</p>	
<p>Community Representative John McIvor asked for an update on the previously reported road safety issues in Gatehead, at the road end junction to Springside.</p>	<p>The Administrative Officer advised that Officers within Roads would continue to pursue a meeting with the land owner concerned to discuss the problem.</p>	<p>The Head of Roads and Transportation has confirmed that members of staff have met with the farmer to discuss the concerns.</p> <p>It was agreed that the farmer would cut the face of the hedge more than he would normally have done in the past. He also agreed that he would cut the hedge twice per year.</p> <p>The sight line would be monitored during the course of next year to assess if the measures agreed prove successful.</p>

<p>Community Representative Tom Cook asked that the painting of the fences at Springhill Gardens, which were scheduled to be carried out in February 2007, receive early attention, this being a safety issue for elderly residents.</p>	<p>The Chair undertook to raise this with the relevant Department.</p>	<p>The Head of Housing has advised that work instructions to prepare and then paint the metal fencing was issued to Building and Works in early August and that work has started recently on site with an expected completion within the next 3-4 weeks. In addition, the local Housing Officer intends to replant a hedge bordering Springhill Place and Springhill Gardens during November 2006.</p>
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20 October 2006

GH/FM