

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE – 22 MARCH 2005

LONGPARK, KILMARNOCK -- REGENERATION,

Report by Head of Housing

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the current position in regard to the regeneration proposals for Longpark.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Housing Committee at its meeting on 11 September 2002 approved the selective demolition of difficult to let houses in Longpark. It further agreed on 3 November 2004 to enter into a partnership with Cunninghame Housing Association, Communities Scotland and a developer (still to be appointed) to take forward a co-ordinated approach to the regeneration of Longpark.
- 2.2 Finally on 26 January 2005 it approved the further demolition of the remaining properties, the reacquisition of any bought properties, the re-location of any remaining existing tenants and the beginning of a consultation exercise with local residents on their views as to the layout of a new development to replace the demolished properties.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 All current tenants and owner occupiers have been visited, by housing staff, to discuss the Council's proposals and to inform the residents of the assistance the Council can offer by way of:
- Home Loss and Disturbance payments (tenants)
 - Buy back of their property (owners)
 - Temporary or permanent relocation
 - Return to the new development, if required
 - Any other issues relevant to the family
- 3.2 A public meeting was held on 14 February 2005, to which affected tenants, residents and local groups, from adjacent areas, were invited. In attendance were staff from East Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame Housing Association and the Local Member. This meeting covered the general proposals and agreed that further meetings would be held to take forward the proposals.

- 3.3 A further meeting was held on 7 March 2005, where specimen house design layouts for the properties were displayed and tenants, residents and representative of local groups were asked for their views and comments. These will be fed back to a design workshop which is scheduled for early April. This workshop will involve local residents who have agreed to be on the working group, staff from Cunninghame Housing Association, East Ayrshire staff and the Tenants Information Service (TIS), who will act as advisors to the residents. It will be this group that take forward the design layout of the new development and work in conjunction with the architect.

4. FUTURE ACTION

- 4.1 Cunninghame Housing Association will now proceed to put the development work out to tender, and once a successful contractor is appointed then a planning application will be made. It is hoped that a start on site will be achieved by April 2006.
- 4.2 It is anticipated that a further public meeting will be held once design details are further progressed by the design team.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Committee are recommended to:
- (i) note the contents of the report.

Chris McAleavey
Head of Housing
CMCA/JC/
8 March 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone 01563 576617 and ask for Joseph Cassidy, Policy and Strategy Manager. Implementation officer – chris.mcaleavey@east-ayrshire.gov.uk