

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2006 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill (Chair), Brian Reeves, 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), 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); Jean Smith, East Ayrshire South Forum on Disability and East Ayrshire South Against Crime; Jean McFarlane, East Ayrshire North Crime Prevention Panel; Doug Whitton, Victim Support; Dorothy McGowan, Kilmarnock Forum on Disability; Chief Inspector Andy Sweeney, Strathclyde Police; and Eric Pearson, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue.

ATTENDING: John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; David Arnott, Analyst (Community Safety); Eleanor Dewar, Environmental Health Officer; Laurie Milwain, Partnership and Regeneration Team Leader; Jim Melville, Senior Road Safety Officer; and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Harry Wilson; Joan Wark (Kilmarnock South Local Committee), M G Burinski, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board; Nora Solesbury, Primary Care Trust and Hazel Leith, RoSPA.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair spoke of the recent sad death of Councillor Danny Coffey, a Member of the Forum, and paid tribute to his commitment to community safety, both as a Member of the Forum and actively within his own community.

The Committee then observed a one minute's silence in memory of Councillor Danny Coffey.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 2.1 There were submitted and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2005 (circulated).

2.2 Matters Arising

Following a point raised, the Chair stressed the importance of informing local communities when proposed roadworks/improvements were to be carried out in an area.

It was further agreed to remind the Head of Roads and Transportation to attend to the points raised previously about the operation and graffiti in respect of the 20's Plenty signs in Stewarton.

ACTIVITIES OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS

3.1 Cumnock Area Local Committee

William Lees provided a report on the traffic management system being used during construction works at Afton Bridgend, New Cumnock.

3.2 Kilmarnock Central Local Committee

John McIvor reported that there was no report from the Local Committee on this occasion.

3.3 Doon Valley Local Committee

Bill Barr reported on an Anti-Bullying Campaign being promoted by the Drongan Health Initiative.

3.4 Strathclyde Police

Chief Inspector Andy Sweeney reported:-

- (i) on initiatives being developed at Yipworld;
- (ii) on a Licensee Seminar to be held at Lochside Hotel on Smoking in Public Places, and issues of violence; and
- (iii) on proposals to establish a quad bike park at Dalmellington.

3.5 East Ayrshire South Against Crime

Jean Smith reported:-

- (i) that the Group was due to meet with the new Local Officer PC Andy Brown the following evening; and
- (ii) on preparations for a Primary School word search in the local newspaper.

3.6 EASFOD

Jean Smith reported a perceived problem for drivers in the Cumnock area whereby customers of a local chemist were not using the nearby pedestrian crossing but stepping out onto the road.

It was noted that Councillor George Smith would take this matter up with the Head of Roads and Transportation to see whether any additional road safety measures could be implemented here.

3.7 East Ayrshire North Crime Prevention Panel

Jean McFarlane:-

- (i) paid tribute to Panel Member Mrs Jean Collins who had died suddenly;
- (ii) expressed her disappointment at the cancellation of the Speech Making Competition at Stewarton Academy;
- (iii) reported that panel initiatives had been put on hold recently due to Members' illness;
- (iv) reported on plans being made for the Primary School quiz to take place at Grange Academy in April; and
- (v) spoke of her sadness to learn of the death of Councillor Coffey, and paid tribute to Councillor Coffey's achievements and service to his local community.

3.8 Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Eric Pearson reported:-

- (i) on the 3,000 plus leaflet drops which had been made in the Kilmarnock area promoting home fire safety visits, which had resulted in 54 home visits requested and 42 fire alarms fitted;
- (ii) on a successful secondary fires leaflet campaign in King Street, Kilmarnock;
- (iii) on a very successful grass fires campaign completed recently in Cumnock and Dalmellington with all local schools visited; and
- (iv) on the Fire Cadet Scheme running in the Kilmarnock area.

It was noted that Eric Pearson would provide Jean Smith with the information requested on the success of the leaflet drop in Cumnock.

Upon receiving a report that one of the fire-fighters injured in the Kay Park Monument fire had taken up a Community Fire-fighter post in a school in Irvine, it was agreed that the Forum's best wishes be passed on to the two fire-fighters who had been injured in the fire.

3.9 Victim Support

Doug Whitton reported:-

- (i) on training being carried out for new and existing volunteers;
- (ii) that the number of referrals received was down slightly; and
- (iii) that he hoped to report to the next meeting the outcome of discussions towards the provision of a facility in Cumnock.

Councillor John Campbell joined the meeting at this point.

3.10 Kilmarnock North Local Committee

Billy Sullivan reported on the recent public meeting in New Farm Loch Community Centre, with over 100 people attending which had resulted in an offer by Stagecoach to examine the re-routing of the buses.

Councillor Cree congratulated New Farm Loch Community Council on their commitment to pursuing this issue on behalf of the local community.

3.11 Kilmarnock Forum on Disability

Dorothy McGowan again reported on problems recruiting new members.

3.12 Irvine Valley Local Committee

Frank Dawson reported that the new street lights were now operational in Galston.

3.13 Northern Area Local Committee

Charles M Lindsay reported:-

- (i) that he had recently taken part in a market research survey on behalf of NHS Scotland; and
- (ii) on the proposed traffic calming measures for the junction at David Dale Avenue, Stewarton, and the footpath linking David Dale Avenue and Lainshaw Street.

ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMME

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Development and Property Services which informed the Forum Members of road safety education initiatives which were currently being carried out by the Department of Development and Property Services.

Councillor Brian Reeves left the meeting at this point.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMPOSITE REPORT

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 15 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised Forum Members of developments and initiatives which were undertaken by the three services within Protective Services.

COMMUNITY SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR - REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 15 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised Forum Members of developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Co-ordinator.

SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL - HOME SAFETY COMMITTEE

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 February 2006 (circulated) which advised the Forum of the business dealt with at the last meeting of the SAPC Home Safety Committee.

COMMUNITY PLANNING REVIEW PROCESS AND REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING STRUCTURES

8. There was submitted a report dated 23 February 2006 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which advised the Community Safety Forum of the process for the forthcoming Community Planning four yearly review.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Forum Members present could consult their respective organisations and thereafter provide comments on the Community Plan aims and aspirations to the Community Planning and Partnership Unit by 14 April 2006;
- (ii) that where similar views were submitted by various organisations represented on the Forum, it be remitted to the Secretary of the Forum in consultation with the Chair, to submit these views in line with (i) above, as the views of the Community Safety Forum;
- (iii) to participate in stage 2 of the review process; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1120 hours.