

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2002 AT 1130 HOURS IN MEETING ROOM 1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillor Jimmy Carmichael (Chair), Daniel Coffey, Harry Wilson, George Smith and William Menzies; Maurice Ashbridge, Kilmarnock Central Local Committee; Lorna Phillips, Cumnock Area Local Committee; Matt Donnelly, Kilmarnock North Local Committee; Margaret McWilliams, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board; Norah Solesbury, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care Trust; ADO Garry Milne and ADO Willie Houston, Strathclyde Fire Brigade; Supt James Thomson, Strathclyde Police; Susan Cockburn, Kilmarnock Town Centre Management Initiative; Jean Smith, East Ayrshire (South) Disability Forum; and Jean McFarlane, Crime Prevention Panel (North).

ATTENDING: John Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Ann Williams, Acting Principal Officer (Community Safety); Sergeant James Richmond, Police Liaison Officer; Gerald Cummins, Senior Road Safety Training Officer; Hugh Carswell, Integration Manager, Community Schools, Educational and Social Services; Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer; and Lynn Chapman, Trainee Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Brian Reeves and Iain Linton; Michael McDonnell, ROSPA; and Margaret Campbell, Safe Barshare.

CHAIR: Councillor Jimmy Carmichael (Chair).

BUSINESS

1. There was submitted (circulated) and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting of East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum held on 5 December 2001.

1.1 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

1.2 **Ayrshire and Arran Health Board**

On a matter raised by Matt Donnelly, in relation to incidences of cancer within the local area, it was agreed:-

- (i) that the Acting Principal Officer, Community Safety, provide Mr Donnelly with a copy of Ayrshire and Arran Health Board's Report on Incidences of Cancer in East Ayrshire; and
- (ii) to note that any questions or clarifications on health figures or statistics be directed towards Dr Carol Davidson, Director of Public Health, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

1.3 **Road Safety**

Councillor D Coffey requested a review of traffic flow measures at the junction of Western Road, Kilmarnock and Wardneuk Drive/Craufurdland Road due to concerns about road safety at this junction.

It was agreed that the matter be referred to the Head of Roads and Transportation.

1.4 **Storage and Sale of Fireworks**

The Chair advised and it was noted that the Community Services Committee on 6 February 2002 had agreed to remit to the Director of Community Services to write to CoSLA, Local MPs and MSPs recommending the introduction of a ban on the sale of

fireworks to the general public and the introduction of a licensing scheme for public fireworks displays.

ACTIVITIES OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS

2.1 Crime Prevention Panel (North)

Jean McFarlane reported:-

- that the Crime Prevention Panel Quiz for Primary 7 Pupils was scheduled for 11 March 2002;
- that an Adult Ladies Experiential Learning would take place at the Howard Park Hotel, Kilmarnock;
- that a visit to St Columba's Primary School, Kilmarnock resulted in a Gold Level Certificate being awarded;
- that a presentation and update had been given on the "UP2U" Bus; this Crime Prevention initiative had proved very popular with children.
- of the success of Cumnock Academy at the Andrew Nisbet Speechmaking Competition; and
- that a visit was scheduled for 6 March 2002 to the Kilmarnock Fire Station for launch of the Cadet Scheme.

2.2 East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability

Jean Smith reported:-

- that a Cumnock and Doon Valley Access Panel roadshow in Dalmellington, was proposed for May or June and hoped to have representation from the East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum;
- that the East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability Competition was still to be published in the local press.

2.3 Strathclyde Fire Brigade

ADO Garry Milne advised that ADO Willie Houston and himself were the new Strathclyde Fire Brigade Representatives on East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum, and reported on:-

- the launch of Strathclyde Fire Brigade's Cadet Scheme on 6 March 2002 at Kilmarnock Fire Station; and
- 117 Fire Damage reports and 44 malicious calls were reported since the date of the last meeting.

2.4 Interference with Fire Crews

The Chair proposed and it was agreed that the Head of Protective Services provide the Chair with sufficient information to allow the latter to write to the Firemaster deploring the incidence of fire crews being stoned or receiving threatening behaviour on their way to emergency calls and to support any reasonable action to allow crews to carry out their job.

2.5 Kilmarnock Town Centre Initiatives

Susan Cockburn made reference to:

- the increasing incidents of shoplifting in Kilmarnock and confirmed that a Retail Crime Seminar had been delivered and new initiatives to combat crime were

now being looked at with the Procurator Fiscal, Strathclyde Police and Retailers;

- the truancy problems in Kilmarnock and contact had been made with the Procurator Fiscal and contact would also be made with the Director of Educational and Social Services;
- a hopper bus service was proposed for residents linking the new developments at Queens Drive and Glencairn, Kilmarnock with the Town Centre.
- the problems of graffiti and that, in conjunction with Strathclyde Police, arrangements would be in place to prevent graffiti of the statue in The Cross occurring at the switch on of the Christmas lights.

2.6 Kilmarnock North Local Committee

Matt Donnelly reported on:-

- concerns over the safety of remaining residents within flats at Lindsay Drive and Finlayson Drive, New Farm Loch, due for demolition and to request if tenants could be re-housed to allow the demolition process to proceed.
- concerns about vandalism at playpark at Kennedy Drive, New Farm Loch, and requested the removal of planning condition requiring provision and maintenance of playpark equipment.

Arising from the discussion it was agreed:-

- (i) that the Head of Homes would be informed of the concerns at Lindsay Drive and Finlayson Drive; and
- (ii) to request the Head of Planning and Building Control to respond regarding the planning condition in relation to playpark at Kennedy Drive.

2.7 Education and Social Services

Hugh Carswell, Integration Manager, Community Schools, reported on:

- new initiatives being set up with various partners, to promote community safety in schools; and
- the provision of attendance officers and Home-School link officers to overcome the truancy problems in East Ayrshire.

2.8 Road Safety

Gerald Cummins made reference to:-

- the secondary schools pre-driving talks having finished;
- the provision of parking banners to schools, highlighting consequences of parking on zig-zag lines outside schools was proving to be quite effective;
- the promotion of cycle helmets in partnership with East Ayrshire Council, North and South Ayrshire Councils and Headway;
- that the cycle training scheme now required cycle helmets to be worn;
- the launch of "bus back" advertising campaign, encouraging drivers to leave more room between the vehicle in front, for 2002;
- the drink driving campaigns which were promoted over the Christmas period;
- the provision of new cycle shelters for schools; and

- that an additional member of staff had been appointed as a result of the Better Neighbourhood Services Funding and the officer would have a strong focus on liaison with the community in relation to Road Safety issues in the North West Kilmarnock and Shortlees/Riccarton areas.

2.9 Police Liaison Officer

Sergeant Jim Richmond made reference to:-

- the on-going provision of personal safety training to East Ayrshire employees and that it was available to any group by contacting Jim Richmond direct;
- involvement in the Retail Crime Seminar; and
- currently involved in the promotion of International Women's Week with launch at various supermarkets in East Ayrshire.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION: FORUM MEMBERSHIP

3. There was submitted a report dated 18 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of an amendment to the Constitution in response to a suggestion that Women's Aid attend meetings of the Forum.

It was agreed to approve the amendment to Section 5 of the Constitution, that one representative from Women's Aid (East Ayrshire) have a place on the Forum.

COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAMME

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 18 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the Community Safety Awards and the aims set out by the Community Safety Strategic Partnership Group.

COMMUNITY SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR: REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 16 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Co-ordinator.

2001 SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION AWARDS

6. There was submitted a report dated 18 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised that the Scottish Accident Prevention Council was currently seeking nominations in respect of the Annual Awards Scheme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to request representatives to confer with their parent organisation and to advise the Acting Principal Officer (Community Safety) by 29 March 2002 with details of nominations for category 3;
- (ii) that supporting information in respect of any nomination(s) be forwarded to Director of Community Services who will make the necessary arrangements regarding submission of completed nomination forms.

SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL (SAPC) ROAD SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE: 6 FEBRUARY 2002

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services informing of matters discussed at the most recent meeting of the Scottish Accident Prevention Council's Road Safety Sub-Committee held on 6 February 2002.

**SECONDARY SCHOOLS SPEECHMAKING COMPETITION: ANDREW NISBET
TROPHY**

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 5 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the outcome of the Secondary Schools Speechmaking Competition.

The meeting terminated at 1300 hours.

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