

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM**

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5 JUNE 2002 AT 1135 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jimmy Carmichael (Chair), Daniel Coffey and Harry Wilson; Maurice Ashbridge, Community Representative - Kilmarnock Central Local Committee; Susan Cockburn, Kilmarnock Town Centre Management Initiative; Jean McFarlane, Crime Prevention Panel (North); Isabelle Macdonald, Women's Aid; and Nicholas Cole, Health Improvement Officer - Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

**ATTENDING:** John Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Graham Haugh, Head of Personnel; Ann Williams, Acting Principal Officer (Community Safety)/Community Safety Co-ordinator; James Richmond, Police Liaison Officer; Joe Cassidy, Policy Manager - Homes and Technical Services; Gerald Cummins, Senior Road Safety Training Officer; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Brian Reeves, Iain Linton, James Raymond, George Smith, William Menzies and Elaine Dinwoodie; Elizabeth Lumsden, ROSPA; and David Mann, Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jimmy Carmichael (Chair).

#### **SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION AWARDS 2001**

##### **1.1 Report**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 May 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the outcome of the nomination of "Ayrshire and Arran Accident Prevention/Community Safety Group" in the Scottish Accident Prevention Awards.

##### **1.2 Presentation**

The Chair presented the SAPC Certificate of Commendation to Nicholas Cole, Health Improvement Officer in respect of the Ayrshire and Arran Accident Prevention/Community Safety Group's entry under Category 1 of the SAPC Awards; and extended congratulations to the Group on behalf of the Forum.

#### **PRESENTATION: MULTI-AGENCY RACIAL INCIDENTENCES MONITORING GROUP (MARIM)**

2. The Forum received a presentation from Graham Haugh, Head of Personnel, on the links between Multi-Agency Racial Incidences Monitoring Groups and Community Safety Groups.

There then followed discussion on issues raised during the presentation and the Head of Personnel answered questions put by members of the Forum.

Arising from discussion, it was agreed that the Head of Personnel would give consideration to appropriate arrangements for reporting progress and activities of the East Ayrshire MARIM Group to elected members of East Ayrshire Council.

The Chair thanked the Head of Personnel for what had been an interesting and informative presentation.

The Head of Personnel then left the meeting.

### **ADDITIONAL ITEM: MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR COUNCILS TO APPOINT HOME SAFETY OFFICERS - PROGRESS REPORT**

3. The Chair indicated that it was his intention, and this was agreed, to consider an additional report by the Director of Community Services entitled "Mandatory Requirement for Councils to Appoint Home Safety Officers: Progress Report" following the last item on the issued Agenda.

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4. There were submitted (circulated) and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting of the East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum held on 6 March 2002, subject to Item 4.1(a) below.

#### **4.1 Matters arising from Minutes**

It was agreed to note:-

- (a) that under Item 2.2, second bullet point, the words "East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability" should read "Cumnock and Doon Valley Access Panel"; and that it was anticipated that the Cumnock and Doon Valley Access Panel Roadshow in Dalmellington would now be taking place in September of this year rather than in May or June as had been proposed (these matters were reported to the Forum at the meeting by the Administrative Officer on behalf of Jean Smith, Member representing East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability);
- (b) comments by the Chair regarding progress made by the COSLA Working Group established to consider issues relating to the sale and storage of fireworks. The Chair explained that the Group had now met twice and was making progress towards the preparation of proposals for submission to the Scottish Executive within the near future. However, the Group take the view that there is a need to involve and gain the support of English local authorities to strengthen the case for the introduction of appropriate legislation; and recognise that this is a wide-ranging issue which is likely to take some time to resolve, having regard to the different aspects which influence and impact upon the issue; and
- (c) on the matter being raised by Councillor Daniel Coffey, it was agreed that Gerald Cummins, Senior Road Safety Training Officer would discuss with the Councillor after the meeting, concerns which he had expressed on the need for clear and unambiguous marking of the new cycle lanes provided within the vicinity of Hillhead School, Kilmaurs Road, Kilmarnock which had been mistaken for road crossings by schoolchildren.

The Chair welcomed Isabelle Macdonald, representative of Women's Aid, to the meeting.

## **ACTIVITIES OF FORUM MEMBERS**

### **5.1 Women's Aid**

Isabelle Macdonald, training worker, indicated that following the successful pilot scheme which had seen the distribution of information packs to pupils at Loudoun Academy, Galston, these had now been made available to pupils at senior schools in the East Ayrshire area within the personal and social development part of the school curriculum.

### **5.2 Kilmarnock Town Centre Management Initiative**

Susan Cockburn reported on:-

- Crime Prevention Initiatives within the Town Centre area;
- a programme of events to be held during the Summer period in the Town Centre, the most recent of these being the presence of street entertainers on the Golden Jubilee Holiday Monday, which had been well received by the public;
- progress towards establishing a Town Centre web site;
- progress towards introduction of a "Shopmobility" scheme within Kilmarnock Town Centre.

Arising from discussion it was agreed that the Secretary would arrange for a report to be submitted to the next meeting of the Forum on progress so far in respect of the possible introduction of a "Shopmobility" scheme within Kilmarnock Town Centre.

### **5.3 Crime Prevention Panel (North)**

Jean McFarlane reported:-

- on the cancellation of the Adult Ladies Experiential Learning Event which had been arranged to take place at the Howard Park Hotel in Kilmarnock;
- that the Crime Prevention Panel Quiz for Primary 7 pupils had been postponed until the autumn of this year;
- continuation of the Vandalism 2000 Initiative involving projects by local schools;
- the attendance of members of the Crime Prevention Panel at the launch of Kilmarnock Fire Cadets at Kilmarnock Fire Station;
- the availability of the report on the Danger Detectives 2001 Event;
- a recent meeting of the Crime Prevention Panels within Ayrshire which had taken place in Ayr and had considered issues relating to Best Practices for Crime Prevention Panels and sharing of information and knowledge on Fund Raising;
- the intended participation of the Crime Prevention Panel in the Open Day to be held by Strathclyde Police during the Summer at Kilmarnock Police Station.

### **5.4 Kilmarnock Central Local Committee**

Maurice Ashbridge drew attention to the concerns of the residents within the Grange Howard Community Council area regarding vehicles speeding in Aird Avenue, Kilmarnock, resulting in the submission of a petition to the Community Council which had subsequently been passed to East Ayrshire Council as roads authority.

Having heard the circumstances of this matter as explained by Mr Ashbridge, it was agreed: (a) that the Secretary write to the Head of Roads and Transportation indicating the Forum's concerns regarding this matter, as discussed at the meeting; and (b) that the Senior Road Safety Training Officer would report back to the next meeting on the position of the Roads and Transportation Division with regard to this particular matter and also more generally on the Division's approach to dealing with concerns highlighted by the public in relation to perceived vehicle speeding at specific locations.

### **5.5 Strathclyde Police**

Sergeant Jim Richmond reported that following two recent successful pilots in "N" and "G" Divisions, "U" Division had now established a Domestic Abuse Unit effective from Monday 27 May 2002 which is based within the Family Protection Unit at Ayr Police Office and is staffed by two experienced police officers.

The primary role of the Domestic Abuse Unit is to oversee East, North and South Ayrshire's Multi-Agency long-term response to domestic abuse and co-ordinate the actions of the individual agencies to ensure that victims of domestic abuse receive the most appropriate advice, assistance and support.

### **5.6 Road Safety**

Gerald Cummins reported on:

- the provision, in conjunction with Strathclyde Police, of information and advice to secondary school pupils on driving-related issues;
- the activities of Barbara Sutcliffe, a new member of staff recently appointed as a result of Better Neighbourhood Services funding, who had been heavily involved in organising children's road safety training in liaison with parents and in providing publicity on road issues;
- that the Mobile Information and Advice Centre of the Children's Traffic Club for Scotland would be visiting East Ayrshire in August of this year;
- Road Safety plays in secondary schools during June;
- the public consultation which is taking place in June relating to the proposals for parking within Kilmarnock Town Centre.

Arising from discussion it was agreed to request the Road Safety Training Officer to report to future meetings of the Forum, as appropriate, on matters dealt with at future meetings of the SAPC Road Safety Committee.

### **SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL: MEETING OF WATER AND LEISURE SAFETY COMMITTEE ON 27 MARCH 2002**

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 3 April 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of matters dealt with, and discussed, at the SAPC Water and Leisure Safety Committee Meeting on 27 March 2002.

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

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 May 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services, which advised of developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Co-ordinator.

**ADDITIONAL ITEM: MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR COUNCILS TO  
APPOINT HOME SAFETY OFFICERS: PROGRESS REPORT**

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 4 June 2002 (tabled) by the Director of Community Services which advised of a recent visit to the Scottish Parliament by members of the Mandatory Powers Sub-Group of the Scottish Accident Prevention Council Home Safety Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1247 hours.

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