

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 29 MAY 2001 AT 1000 HOURS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Tommy Farrell, Brian McNeil, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Lilian MacLean, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, David Macrae, Alex Walsh, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Julie Faulds, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillors Eric Ross and Elaine Dinwoodie; Church Representatives, John McHugh and Matthew Sullivan; and Teacher Representative, Iain Harvey.

ATTENDING: John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; Allan McDougall, Head of Resource Support; Graham Short, Head of Schools; Fred Wildridge, Education Central Services; David Mitchell, Legal Manager; Euan Couperwhite, Finance Officer (Educational and Social Services); Hugh Carswell, Service Officer; Robin Gourlay, Contracts Manager; Anne Jackson, Principal Community Education Officer; Julie Armstrong, Principal Administrative Officer and Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer and Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Sheena Roan, Head Teacher (Hillhead Primary School); Stuart McDonald, Assistant Head Teacher (Kilmarnock Academy); Lorraine Jardine, Behaviour Co-ordinator; Kevin White, Home Link Worker (Hillhead Primary School); Daniel Kerr, Alison Seaman, Lynn McIntosh, Samantha Mackie (Hillhead Primary School) and David McGhee, Graham Crombie and Lynn Kirkwood (Kilmarnock Academy).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Willie Coffey, Iain Linton and Robert McDill.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS**(i) Schools Showcase**

The Chair extended his best wishes to the 800 East Ayrshire pupils from 21 secondary and primary schools who will take part in this year's Schools Showcase which would be staged at the Palace Theatre on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights of this week. It was hoped that those attending would enjoy the show.

(ii) Scottish Young Writer of the Year Competition 2001

The Chair advised in the Scottish Young Writer of the Year Competition 2001, organised by South Ayrshire Council, three Stewarton Academy S3 pupils had featured in the prizes: Laura Sinclair- Winner; Douglas Waugh - Highly Commended and Shona Adam - Highly Commended. Congratulations were extended to all three pupils who had been selected from over 1,000 entries.

(iii) Grange Academy

The Chair was delighted to report that Grange Academy had been successful in obtaining £20,000 through Barclays New Future Awards recently. Pupils had made a final presentation in London on 15 May at Barclays Bank and had been nominated winners. The project would ensure that Hearing Impaired pupils would have the opportunity to access Levels 1 and 2 in Sign Language. Hearing pupils would also be able to access these levels, making effective communication between the two Groups possible.

(iv) COMENIUS

It was reported that bids for funding under COMENIUS, a project which aimed to develop links between European countries, by Crosshouse Primary School and Communication Unit and Cairnhill Primary School had been successful. Grange Academy had also been awarded a COMENIUS bursary for a three year period involving schools in Ireland, Sweden and Norway.

(v) HMI Report: Good Practice on Alternatives to Exclusion

The Chair advised that in the recently published HMI Report: Good Practice on Alternatives to Exclusion, East Ayrshire had been mentioned on a number of occasions for their good practice through: Youth Strategy, Link with Rathbone Community Industry, Use of outdoor education for young people and Circle time training focused on personal and social development. In addition, Tom Williams, Principal Psychologist and Maggie Fallon, Youth Strategy Manager had attended a meeting of the Ministerial review group on discipline in schools recently and had spoken about the good practice in this area in East Ayrshire.

(vi) St Joseph's Academy School Board - Children in Need Appeal

Congratulations were extended to St Joseph's Academy School Board who had been delighted with their successful application to the Children in Need Appeal for funding for a mini-bus. The amount awarded of £15,000, together with additional funds from the School Board would enable the School Board to purchase a mini-bus to be used by the school, in particular for extra-curricular activities and for use by associated groups ie scouts, guides etc and by the wider parish community.

(vii) Stewarton Academy - Under 15's

The Chair extended the Committee's congratulations to Stewarton Academy under-15's who had won the Taylor and Henderson Ayrshire Schools Under 15 Cup last Wednesday. They had beaten Ayr's Queen Margaret Academy 2-1 in the final at Dam Park Stadium.

(viii) Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care Trust

The Chair was pleased to report that the bid submitted by Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care Trust, which aimed to increase the availability and consumption of fruit and vegetables among low income communities, particularly among children and young people had been successful. This initiative would be taken forward in East Ayrshire through the New Community Schools projects and Community Education.

Matthew Sullivan joined the meeting at this point.

NEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT

2. There was submitted a report dated 3 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the second annual report on the New Community Schools Initiative for Kilmarnock.

Thereafter, the Committee received a presentation from school pupils from Kilmarnock Academy and Hillhead Primary School in respect of their involvement in the New Community Schools Initiative generally and specific projects such as the Early Bird Club, the Dinner Monitor Scheme, the Student Council and Smoking Cessation Activities.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the second annual report for Kilmarnock's new Community Schools;
- (ii) to record the Committee's thanks to the young people, parents and staff involved in the new Community Schools Initiative for the work undertaken to make it a success; and
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services keep the Committee informed of future development in New Community Schools.

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (TEACHERS) - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2001

3. There was submitted and approved, both as a correct record and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of the Joint Consultative Committee (Teachers) of 27 March 2001 - Appendix I.

AWARDING OF TENDERS

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 May 2001 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted in respect of the Education Service.

CONTRACT	SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
Removal of Asbestos Textured Ceilings and Associated Works, Patna Primary School, Carnshalloch Avenue, Patna	Angus (Asbestos Removals) Ltd, Johnstone	£79,975.88
Replacement of Boiler Plant - Mount Carmel Primary School, Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council Building & Works, Kilmarnock	£94,860.00

EVALUATION OF GAELIC MEDIUM EDUCATION AT ONTHANK PRIMARY SCHOOL (Item 5, Page 1537)

5. There was submitted a report dated 19 April 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the conclusions and

recommendations of an independent evaluation of Gaelic Medium Teaching in East Ayrshire Gaelic Classes at Onthank Primary School.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services implement, where appropriate, the recommendations of the report on Gaelic Medium Education at Onthank Primary School; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATION
(Item 14, Page 1243)**

6. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the progress made by the Education Service in relation to the "Quality Management in Education" (QMIE) Initiative.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the strengths of the service and recognise the contribution of all staff to the service;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services provide an opportunity for Members to participate in a workshop in September as part of the Initiative; and
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services provide further reports as required.

CONSULTATION WITHIN THE EDUCATION SERVICE (Item 13, Page 787)

7. There was submitted a report dated 2 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a strategy on consultation within the Education Service of East Ayrshire Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services establish a Forum for children and young people to be consulted on aspects related to educational improvement in the Authority;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services develop consultative methods to promote the further involvement of parents and other groups in the decision-making of the service;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services in consultation with the Head of Personnel Services establish an informal group to consult staff other than teachers employed in schools;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services establish a Group composed of teacher and headteacher representatives to consider the issues raised by the National Agreement "A Teaching Profession for the 21st Century";
- (v) that Heads of Establishment be required to bring forward plans on how pupils would be consulted; and

- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

COMMUNICATION WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES (Item 13, Page 787)

8. There was submitted a report dated 2 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a strategy on communication within the Department of Educational and Social Services of East Ayrshire Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the report be approved as the Communication Strategy for the Educational and Social Services Department;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services invite Heads of Establishment and Services to design their own communication strategies taking account of the advice contained in the report;
- (iii) to approve the development of a departmental web-site from within existing financial resources; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

BYE-LAWS ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

9. There was submitted a report dated 8 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a change in the Council's bye-laws on the employment of children.

It was agreed:-

- | | | |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| C | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to recommend to Council that the proposed changes to the East Ayrshire Council Bye-laws on the Employment of Children 2001 be approved; (ii) to authorise the Director of Educational and Social Services to allow a one month period of public inspection of the bye-laws once approved in terms of (i) above, and thereafter to remit the bye-laws for confirmation by the Scottish Ministers; (iii) subject to Council approval, that the Director of Educational and Social Services be authorised to disseminate any necessary publicity and documentation in relation to the bye-laws to schools, employers or other relevant groups and individuals; and (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report. | C |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|

NEWMILNS DRY SKI SLOPE (Item 13, Page 913)

10. There was submitted a report dated 19 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the outcome of the feasibility study and consultation which had been undertaken with regard to Newmilns Dry Ski Slope and which requested consideration of the future of the slope.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Knapp moved:-

- (i) to approve, in principle to transfer management of the ski slope to a community based management committee with funding from the Council phased out over a three year period;

- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services assist the community and other stakeholders in the development of a community based management committee to take forward the management of the ski slope; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor F MacLean, seconded by Councillor L MacLean moved as an amendment:-

- (i) to transfer management of the ski slope to a community based management committee with funding from the Council phased out over a five year period to enable a greater opportunity to become more financially viable with an option to withdraw after a three year period;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services assist the community and other stakeholders in the development of a community based management committee to take forward the management of the ski slope; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 11 votes to 5.

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF GROUND AT THE FORMER TECHNICAL BLOCK, KILMARNOCK ACADEMY

11. There was submitted a report dated 14 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which requested that the Committee declare surplus to requirements an area of ground at Kilmarnock Academy, Elmbank Drive, Kilmarnock and which sought to authorise the Director of Development Services in conjunction with the Solicitor to the Council to agree the terms and conditions of disposal of the ground to Clyde Building Group plc.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the area of ground at Kilmarnock Academy, Elmbank Drive, Kilmarnock detailed in the report be declared surplus to requirements of the Department of Educational and Social Services; and
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services and the Solicitor to the Council to agree the terms and conditions of the disposal of the area of ground detailed to Clyde Building Group plc.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2002/2003 (Item 15, Page 1540)

12. There was submitted a report dated 9 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the consultation exercise which was carried out regarding school holiday arrangements for school session 2002/2003 and which sought agreement to implement a preferred school holiday option.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Appendix 3 detailed in the report be approved as the proposed school holiday arrangements for school session 2002/2003; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

FIFTH ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE REPORT

13. There was submitted a report dated 8 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the success of the Fifth Annual Youth Conference which had been held in Grange Academy on 11 April 2001 and which advised the Education Committee of ongoing developments resulting from the conference.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the success of the Fifth Annual Youth Conference which was held in Grange Academy on 11 April 2001;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services inform Local Committees, where appropriate, of further developments which result from the conference; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor McIntyre let the meeting during consideration of the above item.

NURSERY NURSE POSTS

14. There was submitted a report dated 10 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to establish the Nursery Nurse post at the Gaelic Nursery Class, Onthank Primary School as a permanent post and offering permanent peripatetic contracts to those temporary Nursery Nurses who had provided additional special educational needs support to children in pre-five establishments for a continuous period of over 23 months.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services remit the staffing proposals contained in the report to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS, EXPENDITURE IN 2000/2001

15. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the use of additional funds received from the Scottish Executive for improvements to schools and the action planned by the Department to meet the conditions of grant.

Councillor McIntyre rejoined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

LINKS WITH GEORGIA, USA

16. There was submitted a report dated 22 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised Members of a proposed East Ayrshire Schools band and Choir concert tour to Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the arrangements for the proposed visit to Atlanta, Georgia, USA; and

- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

17. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

REPLACEMENT OF CATERING SERVICE COUNTERS

18. There was submitted a report dated 10 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to invite tenders from the replacement of service counters at a number of Secondary Schools.

It was agreed to approve the development of the secondary school projects subject to completion of the necessary tendering and award process.

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

19.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Jackson declared a non-pecuniary interest in the above item and left the meeting.

19.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 14 May 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the proposed management structure as a consequence of bringing together the Community Education Service and Community Development Services and to remit the agreed proposals to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations regarding the proposed revised management structure for the Community Education Service and Community Development Service as detailed in the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services remit the report to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee for their consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1128 hours.

**TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE
PLEASE PRESS THE BACK BUTTON
AT THE TOP LEFT OF THE PAGE**

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (TEACHERS)

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27 MARCH 2001 AT 1007 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Danny Coffey, Lilian MacLean, Drew McIntyre, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean and Eric Jackson; Trades Union Representatives Iain Harvey, Bryce Wilson, John McCracken, Ewen MacLeod, Allan O'Mara (substitute) (representing EIS); Andrew Batton (representing SSTA); John McCallum (representing NASUWT); and Robert Vandal (representing PAT).

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Graham Short, Head of Schools; Fred Wildridge, Education Central Services; Jacky MacKinnon, Senior Administrative Officer (Educational and Social Services); James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer (Corporate Development and Communication) and Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer .

APOLOGIES: Councillors Tommy Farrell and Julie Faulds.

CHAIR: Bryce Wilson, Chair.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2001 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which sought approval for the dates and times for meetings for the Joint Consultative Committee (Teachers) during the year 2001.

It was agreed that the timetable detailed below for future meetings and the arrangements for pre-meetings for both Elected Members and Officers and Trades Union Representatives for the year 2001 be approved.

TIME OF MEETING	DATE OF MEETING	VENUE	PRE-MEETING -VENUE/TIME	
			MEMBERS/ OFFICERS	TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES
1000 hours	27 June 2001	Main Meeting Room	Main Meeting Room/0930 hrs	Meeting Room 1/0930 hrs
1000 hours	27 September 2001	Main Meeting Room	Main Meeting Room/0930 hrs	Meeting Room 1/0930 hrs
1000 hours	13 December 2001	Main Meeting Room	Main Meeting Room/0930 hrs	Meeting Room 1/0930 hrs

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1972, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There was submitted and noted the Minutes of the meeting of 27 September 2000 (circulated).

BEST VALUE UPDATE

4. There was submitted and noted a progress report dated 8 March 2001 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided an update for the Joint Consultative Committee (Teachers) on the Council's progress on Best Value.

EXAMINATION RESULTS-ANALYSIS NEW STANDARD TABLES AND CHARTS

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 13 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the results of an enquiry directed to Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) of Schools consequent from the Minute of the Education Sub-Committee of 31 October 2000.

FUNCTION OF STANDARD CIRCULARS

6. There was submitted a report dated 15 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the issue of a Standard Circular which set out the function of Standard Circulars.

It was agreed to recommend:-

- (i) that the Standard Circular on the function of Standard Circulars detailed in the Annex to the report be issued; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY AND RAISING STANDARDS WITHIN DELEGATED MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS

7. There was submitted a report dated 15 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the issue of a Standard Circular which set out guidelines to Heads of Establishment to assist them in improving the quality of delivery of service and raise standards within delegated management in schools.

It was agreed to recommend:-

- (i) that Standard Circular 74 on the Improvement and Quality and Raising Standards within Delegated Management in Schools detailed in the Annex to the report be issued; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

COMPOSITE CLASSES IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS -A GUIDE FOR PRIMARY HEADTEACHERS

8. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the issue of Standard Circular No 68 which had been updated to reflect best practice.

It was agreed to recommend:-

- (i) that Standard Circular 68 regarding Composite Classes in Primary Schools detailed in the Annex to the report be issued; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

HEADLICE: POLICY AND GUIDELINES

9. There was submitted a report dated 15 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the issue of a Standard Circular which set out a policy and guidelines for Headteachers to operate in dealing with Headlice. ,

It was agreed to recommend:-

- (i) that the Standard Circular which defines a policy and guideline for dealing with the problem of headlice detailed in the Annex to the report be issued; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2002/2003

10. There was submitted a report dated 13 March 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services regarding the proposed school holiday arrangements for 2002/2003.

It was reported and noted that the end of the consultation period would be 14 May 2001.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the appendices regarding the proposed school holiday arrangements for 2002/2003 detailed in the report which had been issued for consultation;
- (ii) to note that the Director of Educational and Social Services would submit a further report outlining the results of the consultation process to the next meeting of the Education Committee on 23 May 2001; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

GOLDEN JUBILEE HOLIDAY 2002

11. There was submitted a report dated 21 January 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the Golden Jubilee Holiday on 3 June 2002 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty the Queen to the throne.

It was agreed to recommend:-

- (i) to approve a school holiday on 3 June 2002 for the Golden Jubilee;
- (ii) to refer the report to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee, for information; and (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1020 hours.