

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 31 JANUARY 2002 AT 1400 HOURS IN LOGAN COMMUNITY WING, LOGANGATE TERRACE, LOGAN

PRESENT: Councillors William Menzies, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Jimmy Kelly, Julie Faulds, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillor Jimmy Carmichael; Community Representatives: Mr William Crawford, Mr Ronnie Hamilton, Mr Kevin Dorman, Mr William Lees, Mr John McBean and Mrs Margaret Campbell and Substitute Community Representative Mr James Hastie.

ATTENDING: John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; John Bryson, Area Engineer (Roads and Transportation); John Stokes, Assistant Area Housing Manager; Robert McCulloch, Outdoor Amenities Manager (Community Services); Julie Armstrong, Principal Administrative Officer; Robert Robb, Recycling Officer (Community Services); Kerr Chalmers, Senior Engineer (Roads and Transportation); Colin McKee, Senior Planning Officer; Alan Patterson, Team Leader (Support to Communities); and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Representing Strathclyde Police: Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight, Superintendent James Thomson and Sergeant James Richmond, Local Authority Liaison Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Eric Ross.

CHAIR: Councillor William Menzies, Chair.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: TO ALLOW A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1401 hours to allow for a 15 minute (maximum) public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

2. The meeting reconvened at 1402 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives and Officers present and in attendance.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There was submitted, for information, and noted, the Minutes of the meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 8 November 2001 and of the Special Joint Meeting of the Cumnock Area and Doon Valley Local Committees held on 20 November 2001 (circulated).

LOCAL ISSUES

4.1 LOCAL ISSUES

There was submitted a report dated 8 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided information on the local

issues raised, and where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to the Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Director of Development Services now proposed to submit a monitoring report on regeneration of business in the Cumnock Area to the next meeting of this Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

4.2 NEW ISSUES

Community Representatives were invited to raise any local issues of interest for inclusion on a future Agenda.

It was agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee on the monitoring and retention of Rights of Ways, including the role and responsibilities of East Ayrshire Council.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

RESIGNATION OF SUBSTITUTE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

5. It was reported, and noted, that Mrs Mary Ferguson, who had been appointed to serve on the Local Committee as the Substitute Community Representative for Sports Groups had intimated her resignation, due to other commitments; and that the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources would be endeavouring to facilitate a new nomination as part of the process for the recruitment of Community Representatives for the 2002/2003 year, as dealt with in Item 6, below.

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2002/2003

6. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which invited the Local Committee to consider and determine certain matters in order to facilitate arrangements for the recruitment of Community Representatives to serve on the Local Committee for the period 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the present community representation on this Committee as detailed in the Appendix to the report;
- (ii) that the present community organisation representation on this Committee be continued for the period 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003, as follows:-
 - Community Councils (2 representatives);
 - East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability;
 - Older People's Interest Groups;
 - Youth Forum;
 - Business Community;
 - Local Churches;

- Tenants' Groups;
 - Sports Groups; and
 - School Pupils;
- (iii) to remit to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to initiate the process for the submission of new nominations for Community Representatives and Named Substitutes by the relevant organisations to serve during the period 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003, and to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate this process; and
- (iv) that report(s) on progress relative to (iii) above, be submitted to future meetings of this Committee.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

DISBURSEMENT OF COMMUNITY GRANTS

7. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to enable the Committee to consider arrangements for the submission of, and dealing with, applications for Community Grants during the 2002/2003 and subsequent financial years.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that, in general, the arrangements for the submission of, and dealing with, applications for Community Grants during the 2002/2003 and subsequent financial years be as undernoted, namely:-

Closing Date for Applications - local organisations will require to submit applications, irrespective of when the Group's proposed activity/event is due to take place, no later than 31 March each year, in order to enable applications received by the due date to be assessed and considered by the Local Committee at a Special Meeting to be held as soon as possible following commencement of the new financial year;

Notification of Arrangements - in order to facilitate the submission of applications by local groups, the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources will arrange (a) for those organisations which had applied for Community Grant funding during the previous year to be advised directly of the arrangements for applying for the forthcoming year and to be issued with a grant application form; (b) for posters to be displayed at Council premises advising of the arrangements; and (c) for one advertisement to be placed in the local press;

Applications from Older People's Groups for Summer and Christmas Activities -

- (a) applications will be considered from any Older People's Group; and
- (b) in cases where a grant award is to be made in respect of an application submitted, such awards will be made partly on a per capita basis according to membership numbers and, where appropriate, partly having regard to the individual merits of each application;

Hanging Basket Projects and Gala Days - applications for grant in respect of hanging basket projects and Gala Days will be dealt with each on their individual merits;

Young People's Uniformed Organisations - applications for grants from Young People's Uniformed Organisations will be dealt with as follows, namely:- (a) where appropriate, grants will be made in respect of general operating costs according to membership numbers on a formula basis to be determined; and (b) additionally, consideration will be given to awarding grants to these organisations for project specific purposes, each application in this case to be dealt with on its individual merits;

- (ii) that it be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, after consultation with the Chair, to implement the detailed arrangements each year; and
- (iii) to note that the Committee may, at any time in the future, amend the arrangements referred to in (i) and (ii) above, insofar as might be considered appropriate.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

OPERATION SPOTLIGHT

8. There was submitted a report dated 18 January 2002 (circulated) by Chief Inspector McKnight, Strathclyde Police, which advised of "Spotlight" activity and other crime trends over the recent period.

It was agreed to note the terms of the report and further information provided verbally by the Chief Inspector at the meeting.

PLAY PARK PROVISION

9. There was submitted a report dated 27 December 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the Council's proposals for the upgrading of play park provision across East Ayrshire and sought comments on proposals specifically relating to the Local Committee area.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Head of Leisure would arrange for comments and suggestions made by Members of the Committee at the meeting in connection with the proposals, to be considered by the Council's Working Group on Playparks;
- (ii) to note an invitation from the Head of Leisure Services to Community Councils through their Community Representatives, to consider the proposals at their next meetings and to submit, comments thereon for consideration by the Working Group; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

JUST BIN IT CAMPAIGN 2002

10. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the Just Bin It Campaign 2002.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Council wished to build on the success of previous clean-up campaigns;
- (ii) to support the Officer's Working Group in improving links with Community Organisations with an interest in improving the quality of their local environment; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

CUMNOCK AREA ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- 11.** There was submitted a report dated 21 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which provided an update on the progress of the Environmental Improvement Projects identified as priorities within the Cumnock Area Local Committee area; and sought the Committee's approval to reallocate any remaining funding from a Muirkirk project to alternative projects.

In this connection, the Senior Planning Officer provided updated information with regard to negotiations with the owner of the site at Main Street/Glasgow Road, Muirkirk; and confirmed that it was not necessary for the remaining balance of £6,040 from the Cumnock and Doon Valley Initiative to be expended during the current financial year.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made on the Cumnock Area Environmental Improvement Projects as detailed in the report and the further information provided by the Senior Planning Officer; and
- (ii) that, in the event that Phase II of the Environmental Improvement of the site at Main Street/Glasgow Road, Muirkirk, cannot proceed, the remaining balance of £6,040 be allocated from the Cumnock and Doon Valley Initiative to an alternative project as identified in Paragraph 4.2 of the report.

PROGRAMME OF STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS 2002/2003

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which (i) advised of the 2002/2003 roads and footways structural maintenance programmes for "inescapable" schemes approved by the Development Services Committee; and (ii) sought approval of the "highly desirable" schemes for structural maintenance of footways or "desirable" options.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the 2002/2003 roads and footways structural maintenance programmes for "inescapable" schemes approved by the Development Services Committee;
- (ii) to approve the "highly desirable" schemes for the structural maintenance of footways; and
- (iii) to note that any reduction in the anticipated budget would be accommodated by the Head of Roads and Transportation by reducing the programmes in an equitable manner.

ADVISORY 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS (TWENTY'S PLENTY)

13. There was submitted a report dated 19 December 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which (i) advised of the results of a national trial programme of advisory 20 mph speed limits in residential areas; (ii) reported that authorisation had been sought from the Scottish Executive to maintain the advisory 20 mph speed limits at the three trial sites in East Ayrshire; and (iii) sought suggestions from the Local Committee for possible 20 mph zones to be investigated and considered for future works programmes.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the findings of the national advisory 20 mph speed limit trials and that the three sites in East Ayrshire were considered a success;
- (ii) that Members of the Committee would submit any suggestions which they might have for potential advisory 20 mph sites, based upon the principles set out in Paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 of the report, directly to the Head of Roads and Transportation no later than 22 March 2002; and
- (iii) to note that the Head of Roads and Transportation would seek clarification from the Scottish Executive regarding the introduction of 20 mph speed limits on roads within the vicinity of schools; and would consider the issues relating to the introduction of variable speed limits around schools.

EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY LEARNING PLANS: PROGRESS REPORT ON PILOT INITIATIVE (Item 12, Page 1373, 99/02)

14. There was submitted a report dated 24 December 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the progress made in relation to developing Pilot Community Learning Plans in this area of the Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to ask the Director of Educational and Social Services to continue to report progress to the Local Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

COMMUNITY GRANT: CATRINE VOES TRUST

15. There was submitted a report dated 25 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to enable the Committee to consider a request from Catrine Voes Trust to utilise a Community Grant for a purpose other than that which was originally approved.

It was agreed to continue consideration of this request pending the submission of a detailed assessment in respect of the Trust's amended proposal, as set out in the report.

HOMES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

REQUEST FOR GRANTS

16.1 KEIR HARDIE HILL TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, CUMNOCK

There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services on an application for an annual operating grant by the Keir Hardie Hill Tenants and Residents Association, Cumnock.

It was agreed that an annual operating grant of £100.00 be made to the Association, the expenditure to be met from the Housing Revenue Account.

16.2 SAFE BARSHARE GROUP

There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services on an application for an annual operating grant by the Safe Barshare Group, Cumnock.

It was agreed that an annual operating grant of £100.00 be made to the Group, the expenditure to be met from the Housing Revenue Account.

16.3 UPPER BLARENE DRIVE AND ARDNITH AVENUE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services on an application for an annual operating grant by Upper Blarene Drive and Ardnith Avenue Residents Association, New Cumnock.

It was agreed that an annual operating grant of £100.00 be made to the Association, the expenditure to be met from the Housing Revenue Account.

The meeting terminated at 1520 hours.

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