

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2002 AT  
1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,  
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Drew McIntyre, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Willie Coffey, Douglas Reid, David Macrae, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, Jane Darnbrough, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Robert McDill. Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillors Eric Ross and Elaine Dinwoodie.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes; Malcolm Roulston, Head of Information Technology; Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; and Julie Armstrong, Principal Administrative Officer.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

**SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

1. There were submitted and approved as correct records and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes as contained within Appendices I to V of these Minutes, viz:-
  - 1.1 **CHAIR'S SUB-COMMITTEE OF 18 DECEMBER 2001** - Appendix I.
  - 1.2 **RECRUITMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF 20 DECEMBER 2001** - Appendix II.
  - 1.3 **RECRUITMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF 17 JANUARY 2002** - Appendix III.

It was noted that in the interests of standardisation with the minuting of Appeals Sub-Committee Minutes that at paragraph 7 "It was decided" be replaced by "It was decided by majority".

Councillor Ross joined the meeting at this point.

- 1.4 **MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF 30 JANUARY 2002** - Appendix IV.
- 1.5 **CORPORATE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 12 FEBRUARY 2002** - Appendix V.

**MATTERS ARISING - DISPOSAL OF FORMER GLEBE RESOURCE CENTRE,  
GLEBE ROAD, KILMARNOCK (Item 19, Page 2421)**

A motion by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Linton, to reconsider the matter in terms of Standing Order 40, failed to receive the requisite two-thirds of the Members voting, there being 8 Members voting for the motion.

**BUDGET SCRUTINY GROUP**

2. There were submitted and noted (both circulated) the Minutes of the undernoted Budget Scrutiny Groups, viz:-

**2.1 BUDGET SCRUTINY GROUP OF 20 DECEMBER 2001.****2.2 BUDGET SCRUTINY GROUP OF 6 FEBRUARY 2002.****BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - GENERAL SERVICES  
REVENUE ACCOUNT TO 16 DECEMBER 2001 (PERIOD 9)**

3. There was submitted and noted a report dated 31 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Finance on the current budgetary control position of the General Services Revenue Account for the period ended 16 December 2001 (Period 9).

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - HOUSING REVENUE  
ACCOUNT TO 16 DECEMBER 2001 (PERIOD 9)**

4. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 5 February 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Homes and Technical Services on the current budgetary control position of the Housing Revenue Account for the period ended 16 December 2001 (Period 9).

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON REVENUE COLLECTION**

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which updated Members on the position of the Council with regard to billing and collection of local taxes as at 13 January 2002 (Period 10).

**STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2002/03 -  
DIRECTION 2001 (Item 11, Page 2098, 99/02)**

6. There was submitted a report dated February 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of the publication in terms of the Local Government Act 1992 and the Publication of Information (Standards of Performance) Direction 2001 by the Accounts Commission.

It was agreed to note:

- (i) the publication by the Accounts Commission of the Direction 2001;
- (ii) the completion of trial runs on new and amended Performance Indicators contained within the Direction 2000; and
- (iii) the planned trial run for new and amended Indicators in the Direction 2001.

**BEST VALUE SERVICE REVIEW - ROADS WORKS PROGRAMME  
PROCUREMENT (Item 9, Page 2246, 99/02)**

7. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which informed of the outcomes from a review of the roads works programme procurement arrangements and which submitted an action plan which would improve the level of service to customers.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the conclusion of the roads works programme procurement review and recommendations of the Scrutiny and Best Value Group as set out in the report and the action plan shown attached to the report;

- (ii) to endorse the proposed actions as a basis for roads works programme procurement to advance in delivering improvements in the delivery of the Unit's services;
- (iii) that the Director of Development Services continues to monitor the implementation of these actions and present a progress report to the Development Services Committee on an annual basis; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**KILMARNOCK COMMON GOOD FUND (Item 6, Page 2164, 99/02)**

8. There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which requested the Committee to consider making a grant from the Kilmarnock Common Good Fund to Kilmarnock and District Local History Group.

It was agreed:

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| C | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to recommend to Council a grant of £4,500 from the Common Good Fund to Kilmarnock and District Local History Group for the purposes outlined in the report subject to satisfactory completion of other elements of the funding package; and</li> <li>(ii) otherwise to note the report.</li> </ul> | C |
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**BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND -  
UPDATE (Item 1, Page 2235, 99/02)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided a progress report on the establishment of the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund Programme within Northwest Kilmarnock and Shortlees/Riccarton.

Having noted that briefing sessions for Local Members would be arranged to give an overview on the projects, it was agreed:

- (i) to note the additional allocation of £150,000 to the Council, as detailed in Section 3.5 of the report and that it be remitted to the Director of Finance to ensure the appropriate returns are made to the Scottish Executive;
- (ii) that a future report on the implementation of the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund Programme be submitted to this Committee in early Autumn; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**MODERNISING GOVERNMENT FUND (MGF2)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 28 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of the Modernising Government Fund (MGF2) and which sought approval to submit an outline bid to the Fund for an Information and Communications Technology project.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the second round of the Modernising Government Fund (MGF2);

- (ii) to the submission of an outline bid to develop data standards and data sharing between the Council's Departmental systems and to develop/provide secure and authenticated access to information and services;
- (iii) to note that a report would be submitted to this Committee to advise Members of the outcome of the Council's bid; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME**

11. There was submitted a report dated 28 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which proposed the allocation of funding to Local Committees in respect of the Council's Community Grants budget for 2002/03.

Councillor McIntyre, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved:

- (i) an increase in total funds available to the Local Committee Community Grants Scheme from £170,530 to £175,497 in line with inflation;
- (ii) the allocation of Local Committee Community Grants funds as detailed below based on consideration of both the existing indicators and the additional pathfinder area indicator:

<b>Local Committee</b>	<b>Revised Allocation 2002/03</b>
Northern Area	£18,875
Kilmarnock Central	£17,156
Kilmarnock North	£19,747
Kilmarnock South	£15,867
Irvine Valley	£26,065
Cumnock Area	£53,463
Doon Valley	<u>£24,324</u>
	£175,497

and;

- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Linton, moved as an amendment to continue consideration of the matter to the next Council meeting to allow further information to be provided on the indicators used.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 11 votes to 7.

#### **MATCH FUND BUDGET (Item 13, Page 2099, 99/02)**

12. There was submitted a report dated 28 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to report on the first year (2001/2002) of operation of the Match Fund, and which sought approval to fully utilise the budget and to recommend its implementation for the financial year 2002/03.

Having heard the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources who intimated an amendment to the report, being the deletion of the request for funding from the Ayrshire Electronic Community due to the project having secured match funding elsewhere, it was agreed:

- (i) to approve the allocation of £50,540 for the Match Fund 2002/03; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **DIGITAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE (Item 1, Page 2126, 99/02)**

13. There was submitted a report dated 28 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to report progress on the Council's expression of interest in nominating Muirkirk for funding as a new Digital Community.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that the Council's bid in respect of the nomination of Muirkirk as a Digital Community had been shortlisted, and consequently the Council had been invited to submit a detailed project proposal by 1 March 2002;
- (ii) to note that a report would be presented to a future meeting of this Committee to advise Members of the outcome of the Council's bid; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **THE SCOTTISH SOCIAL ATTITUDE SURVEY**

14. There was submitted a report dated 5 February 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised the Committee of a proposal by the Scottish Local Authorities Management Centre (SLAMC) and the National Centre for Social Research to conduct a survey of public attitudes towards Local Government in Scotland and which sought the Committee's approval to make a financial contribution to the cost of undertaking this research.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the purpose and focus of the proposed Scottish Social Attitude Survey;
- (ii) that the Council would contribute to the survey at a cost of £1,300 subject to there being sufficient other participating Councils to ensure its viability;
- (iii) to note the timetable for the production of the final report and that a further report on this would be brought forward to this Committee at the appropriate time; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **EAST AYRSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU CONCORDAT GROUP - FUNDING APPRAISAL REPORT (Item 15.4, Page 1600, 99/02)**

15. There was submitted a report dated 5 February 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which provided information on the work of the East Ayrshire Citizens Advice Bureau with a view to assessing the Council's contribution towards future funding.

It was agreed:

- (i) to provide core funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau of £120,000 for the financial year 2002/03;
- (ii) to provide core funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau of £122,400 for the financial year 2003/04;
- (iii) that the Director of Community Services establish a suitable Service Level Agreement between the Council and the Citizens Advice Bureau; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the terms of the report.

**JOINT DEVELOPMENTS WITH AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN  
PRIMARY CARE (NHS) TRUST**

- 16.** There was submitted a report dated 7 February 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of the outcome of the two partnership bids made by Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care (NHS) Trust in conjunction with East Ayrshire Council and other partner organisations to the Executive for funding to secure improved health care facilities in the communities of Dalrymple and Northwest Kilmarnock and to propose a programme for taking forward these projects.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the successful outcome of the Northwest Kilmarnock Primary Care Neighbourhood Services Centre bid resulting in a £2.1m healthcare investment within this community;
- (ii) that the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Primary Care Trust, develop an overarching partnership working framework to govern projects of this nature and further to develop a specific partnership agreement in relation to the proposed development in Northwest Kilmarnock;
- (iii) to note the proposed arrangements for implementation of this project to Northwest Kilmarnock as detailed in Section 5 of the report;
- (iv) that the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources examine alternative possibilities for the delivery of the proposed Dalrymple Community Campus as discussed in Section 6 of the report; and
- (v) 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 meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**CHILDREN'S PANEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEMBERSHIP (Item 15, Page 2248, 99/02)**

- 18.** There was submitted a report dated 4 February 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of nominations for a Council appointee vacancy on East Ayrshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee

(CPAC) and which sought the Committee's decision in respect of an appointment to the Committee.

It was agreed:

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- (i) to recommend to Council that Susan Paton be appointed as a Council appointee on the CPAC for a period of two years; and
  - (ii) that it be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to advise the Scottish Executive of the Council's appointment to the CPAC.
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**PANEL OF SAFEGUARDERS AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION WITHIN  
THE CHILDREN'S HEARING SYSTEM (Item 20, Page 2101, 99/02)**

- 19.** There was submitted a report dated 22 January 2002 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of new Regulations in respect of legal representation within the Children's Hearings system and, in the light of this, to request the appointment of a suitably qualified member to East Ayrshire's Panel of Safeguarders.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the introduction of new Regulations in terms of legal representation in the context of Children's Hearings;
- (ii) to note that arrangements were in hand to meet the requirements of the new Children's Hearings (Legal Representation) (Scotland) Rules 2001; and
- (iii) to augment its current Panel of Safeguarders by appointing the applicant detailed in Appendix 1 of the report until 31 December 2004 and that it be remitted to the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources to make the necessary arrangements for appointment.

The meeting terminated at 1102 hrs.

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