

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28 AUGUST 2001 AT 1003 HOURS  
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,  
KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Eric Ross, Stephanie Young, Lilian MacLean, Drew McIntyre, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, John Knapp, Jim Raymond, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Julie Faulds, Robert Taylor and Jimmy Carmichael.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Alan Neish, Head of Planning and Building Control; Jim Kane, Head of Roads and Transportation; Len Paget, Principal Engineer; Karen McLeod, Solicitor; Gillian McCann, Trainee Solicitor; Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; and Robert Beaton and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officers.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Robert McDill and Provost Jimmy Boyd.

**CHAIR:** Councillor George Smith, Chair (Item 1) and Councillor Eric Ross, Chair, thereafter.

**MONITORING REPORTS**

**1.1 UNEMPLOYMENT IN EAST AYRSHIRE - JUNE 2001**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on unemployment levels as at June 2001 for East Ayrshire and Scotland, and for Wards and Local Committee areas.

Councillor Eric Ross joined the meeting during consideration of the above Item 1.1.

**1.2 STATISTICAL RETURNS TO THE ACCOUNTS COMMISSION**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 21 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on statistical returns made to the Accounts Commission on some aspects of the performance of particular services within the Department of Development Services.

**1.3 BUSINESS GRANTS AND LOANS SCHEMES STATUS REPORT**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on companies which had received financial support under the Council's Business Grants and Loans Schemes in the period 21 May to 10 August 2001.

**THE NATIONAL WASTE STRATEGY, AREA WASTE PLANS AND  
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

2. There was submitted a joint report dated 23 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services and the Director of Community Services which outlined the statutory requirements for waste planning and the arrangements currently in place to meet those requirements; reported on progress; advised on the relationship between

waste management requirements and the statutory planning system; and clarified the steps that East Ayrshire Council, as Planning Authority, would require to take in the waste planning process.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that public consultation would be carried out as part of the Area Waste Plan procedures and that the Council would have the opportunity to approve documents to be subject to public consultation;
- (ii) to request that applicants for planning permission for new waste management facilities (other than for new recycling facilities which meet strict criteria, as outlined in Paragraph 6.2 of the report), sist their application until the Area Waste Plan had been approved by the Council; and
- (iii) to notify the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency that the Council's position, in line with NPPG 10 be that the Area Waste Strategy is not a land-use document and that these matters should properly be left to the Council.

### **M77 PROGRESS UPDATE**

3. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on current progress on the M77 project.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note progress on the implementation of the M77 project;
- (ii) to note that a further report on proposals for future treatment of the B764 Eaglesham Moor Road would be submitted to this Committee in due course; and
- (iii) that the Scottish Executive should be advised that the Northern Area Local Committee could provide an effective mechanism for liaison between the construction contractor and local communities.

### **DEPARTMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTION PLAN (Item 6, Page 1746, 99/02)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval of the Departmental Health and Safety Action Plan.

Councillor Drew McIntyre left the meeting at this point.

It was agreed to approve the Departmental Health and Safety Action Plan, as described in the Appendix to the report.

### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT FUND 2002-2003**

5. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised that the Scottish Executive had invited Local Authorities and the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority to apply to the Public Transport Fund as part of the capital allocation arrangements for projects which would commence in 2002-2003; and which sought endorsement, in principle, of proposals which form the basis of a bid for an allocation from the Public Transport Fund which had been submitted to the Scottish Executive in accordance with their timescale.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the bid for an increased capital allocation from the Public Transport Fund, as detailed in Paragraph 4 of the report; and
- (ii) to note that the details of the Scheme would be the subject of further consultation prior to implementation, if funding is approved.

Councillor Drew McIntyre re-joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

#### **MUIRKIRK UPLANDS - NOTIFICATION OF DESIGNATION OF THE AREA AS A SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSI)**

6. There was submitted a report dated 21 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought views on the Notification by Scottish Natural Heritage of the designation of the Muirkirk Uplands as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report;
- (ii) to confirm the formal response to Scottish Natural Heritage made by the Head of Planning and Building Control in respect of the Notification of Designation of the Muirkirk Uplands as a Site of Special Scientific Interest based upon the comments contained in Paragraph 4 of the report and that designations should not be confirmed until the Council and Scottish Natural Heritage be satisfied that the integrity of the Site of Special Scientific Interest would not be compromised by any of the planning applications or consents referred to, therein; and
- (iii) to authorise the Head of Planning and Building Control to forward a copy of this report to Scottish Natural Heritage in support of the formal representation.

#### **THE ENFORCEMENT OF PLANNING**

7. There was submitted a report dated 21 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on a review of the operation of the Planning Enforcement Process; and which sought agreement thereon.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) that the guidance contained within Paragraph 3.6 of the report should underpin the Planning and Building Control Division's approach to Planning Enforcement.

#### **EXPANSION OF THE EAST AYRSHIRE ACTION TEAM FOR JOBS**

8. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the expansion of the Department of Work and Pensions, Employment Service, East Ayrshire Action Team for Jobs.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to welcome the extension of the Employment Service's Pathfinder Action Team for Jobs;

- (ii) to collaborate with the Employment Service to ensure that the maximum benefit from the Scheme be achieved; and
- (iii) that the Employment Service had indicated that the Scheme may be rolled out to further areas of high unemployment once the current extension had been established.

#### **OFFICE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN KILMARNOCK TOWN CENTRE**

9. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval to commission the preparation of an integrated action plan for the north end of Kilmarnock Town Centre with a particular focus on opportunities to promote office development.

The Director of Development Services reported an addition to the topics which the study would require to consider when preparing the action plan, as described in Paragraph 7 of the report, viz:- 'Links into town centre with possibility of extending the covered area'.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the preparation of an action plan, as described in Paragraph 7 of the report, as amended; and
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services to undertake preliminary discussions, on a no commitment basis, with potential development partners and with developers which control opportunity sites within the "Top of the Town" development zone.

Councillor Drew McIntyre left the meeting at this point.

#### **NEW 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT ORDERS AT A719 LOUDOUN ACADEMY, GALSTON AND C89 RANKINSTON ROAD, RANKINSTON**

10. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval for the introduction of new 30 mph speed limits at A719 Loudoun Academy, Galston and C89 Rankinston Road, Rankinston.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) to approve the introduction of 30 mph speed limits as described in the plans attached as Appendix I to the report.

Councillor Jim Raymond left the meeting at this point.

#### **COST RECOVERY SYSTEM FOR ADDITIONAL SPEED AND RED LIGHT CAMERA ENFORCEMENT**

11. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on Government proposals to allow the fine income from speed and red light cameras to be used to fund additional cameras; and which sought approval to prepare an operational case for East Ayrshire Council's participation in such a scheme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) in principle, to participate in the joint scheme proposed by Strathclyde Police; and
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services to prepare an operational case for camera locations within East Ayrshire for inclusion in the first phase of the roll-out of the proposed programme.

### **KILMARNOCK AND CUMNOCK BUS STATIONS - ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SYSTEM**

12. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought the authorisation to an extension of an existing Strathclyde Passenger Transport contract with Tandata Limited for the provision of an electronic information display at Kilmarnock and Cumnock Bus Stations compatible with that currently being introduced at Buchanan Bus Station in Glasgow.

It was agreed to authorise the award of a contract to Tandata Limited for the provision of an electronic display system at Kilmarnock and Cumnock Bus Stations compatible with that currently being introduced at Buchanan Bus Station in Glasgow.

### **REVISED STREET LIGHTING CAPITAL PROGRAMME (Item 17, Page 1897, 99/02)**

13. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval to add London Road Phase 1, Kilmarnock, to the existing 2001/02 street lighting capital programme.

It was agreed to approve the revised street lighting capital programme as described in Paragraph 4 of the report.

### **TRUNK ROAD CONTRACT PERFORMANCE**

14. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on actions taken by the Head of Roads and Transportation to inform the Scottish Executive and Messrs Amey Highways of concerns expressed by Elected Members and the public at large on the contractor's poor performance to date in relation to the Trunk Road Maintenance Contracts.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the actions taken by the Head of Roads and Transportation in relation to complaints received from Elected Members on poor performance to date in relation to the Trunk Road Maintenance Contracts;
- (ii) to note the action taken by the Scottish Executive;
- (iii) that the Head of Roads and Transportation would continue to advise the Scottish Executive of reported faults and safety concerns; and
- (iv) that representations, which outlined the extent of dissatisfaction with the performance of Amey Highways, be made to Sarah Boyack, MSP, Minister for Transport and Planning, and CoSLA.

### **WINTER MAINTENANCE REVIEW**

15. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on a questionnaire on winter maintenance which had been issued to members of the public within East Ayrshire to gauge the public's reaction to

the Roads and Transportation Division's effectiveness in dealing with last year's Winter conditions and to identify the public's priorities for a winter maintenance service; and which sought agreement that the findings from the questionnaire be reported to a future meeting of this Committee; and that a winter maintenance review would also be undertaken with the findings reported to a future meeting of this Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that a questionnaire on winter maintenance had been issued to members of the public to comply with Best Value requirements; and
- (ii) that the report on the findings of the questionnaire and on a winter maintenance review be reported to this Committee in due course.

### **AWARDING OF CONTRACTS**

16. There was submitted and noted a report dated 10 August 2001 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided details of tenders which had been accepted in terms of the undernoted Department of Development Services' contracts:-

<u><b>CONTRACT</b></u>	<u><b>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</b></u>	<u><b>AMOUNT</b></u>
Kilmarnock - Craufurdland Road Lighting Improvement	Lightways (Contractors) Limited, Larbert	£32,948.62
Hurlford, Drumleyhill Area Phase 2/Cumnock, Glenramskill Area Lighting Improvement	Lightways (Contractors) Limited, Larbert	£40,692.48
Kilmarnock - McLelland Drive Area Lighting Improvement	Lightways (Contractors) Limited, Larbert	£46,966.46
Dalmellington - Undergrounding of Scottish Power Cables 2001/2002	Lightways (Contractors) Limited, Larbert	£64,733.81
Kilmarnock - London Road/Glencairn Square Area Ducting	John McGeady Limited, Glasgow	£42,372.00
Foregate Multi-Storey Car Park - Application of Waterproofing Sealant to Car Park Floor	J B Concrete Protection Limited, Tyne on Wear	£29,804.00
Rural Ground Maintenance - RT/OP/S/1G04	W Owen, Stirling	£25,130.66

**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 item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**FUNDING SUPPORT - EXTERNAL SUPPORTED ORGANISATION  
(Item 13, Page 1187, 99/02)**

18. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on current progress of an external supported organisation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to inform the external supported organisation that consideration would be given to future funding once the outcome of a submission for gap funding by the organisation to the Scottish Executive was known; and
- (ii) that the Director of Development Services make such further cash advance as may be necessary to meet any cash flow gap emerging up to December 2001.

The meeting terminated at 1148 hours.

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