

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2003 AT 1405 HOURS IN LOGAN COMMUNITY WING, LOGANGATE TERRACE, LOGAN**

**PRESENT:** Councillors William Crawford, George Smith, Neil McGhee and Eric Ross; Community Representatives: Mr James Brown, Mr James Hastie, Mr William Lees, Mrs Jean Smith and Mrs Margaret Campbell; and Substitute Community Representatives: Mr James Liddell and Mr Ian Scade.

**ATTENDING:** Julie Armstrong, Assistant Administration Manager; Bill Gilchrist, Environmental Health Officer; Melvin Griffin, External Funding and Sustainability Officer; Hugh Melvin, Principal Planning Officer; David Wotherspoon, Team Leader - Community Learning and Development; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Inspector Jim Thomson, Strathclyde Police; and Sharon Donohoe, Tenants Information Service.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors William Menzies, Jimmy Kelly and Jimmy Carmichael.

**CHAIR:** Councillor William Crawford, Vice-Chair.

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

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1406 hours to allow for a 15 minute maximum public question and answer session.

**RECONVENTION OF MEETING**

2. The meeting reconvened at 1407 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Substitute Community Representatives and Officers present and in attendance.

**TENANTS INFORMATION SERVICE**

3. The Committee received a presentation by Sharon Donohoe, Development Manager with the Tenants Information Service on the work of the Service and its efforts to promote tenant participation within East Ayrshire, particularly in the light of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001.

Sharon Donohoe then answered questions put by Members of the Committee.

The Chair thanked Sharon Donohoe for the presentation which had been very interesting and informative.

Councillors George Smith and Eric Ross joined the meeting during the presentation.

**MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4. There were submitted, and noted, the Minutes of the meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 26 June 2003.

## LOCAL ISSUES

### 5.1 LOCAL ISSUES

There was submitted and noted a report dated 26 August 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided information on local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescales for reporting back to the Local Committee.

### 5.2 NEW LOCAL ISSUES

It was agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee to examine the effectiveness of the Local Committee system within East Ayrshire.

## DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

### ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

6. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2003 (circulated) by the Community Representatives Working Party which advised of arrangements to hold an Annual Seminar for Community Representatives in November 2003; sought the Committee's views thereon; and requested details of any issues in respect of the Local Committee process that Community Representatives would wish to discuss at the Seminar.

It was noted that Community Representatives would provide any comments which they might have with regard to the issues raised in the report, to the Administrative Officer, no later than Tuesday 16 September 2003.

## COMMUNITY GRANTS

### 7.1 Drongan and District Canine Society

There was submitted an assessment report (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on an application for community grant funding from Drongan and District Canine Society.

In this connection, the Administrative Officer reported that the Doon Valley Local Committee at their meeting held on 9 September 2003 had agreed to award a grant of £600.00 in respect of this application, being the full amount requested and that, therefore, it would not be appropriate for a further grant award to be considered in this case.

It was agreed to note the position.

### 7.2 Newmilns and Galston Band

There was submitted an assessment report (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on an application for community grant funding from Newmilns and Galston Band.

It was agreed to refuse this application, since the application was neither from a newly formed organisation, nor was it of an urgent nature, being the criteria which the Committee had previously agreed would be applied in respect of the determination of applications which sought funding from the balance of the allocation available for community grants for the current financial year.

### **7.3 Additional Item**

The Chair, at his discretion, and in terms of Standing Order 18, agreed that the following sub-item of business be dealt with in view of the nature of the request and the circumstances pertaining to the grant application.

### **7.4 Catrine, Sorn and District Local History Group (Item 6.2, Page 3194, 99/03)**

The Administrative Officer reported on receipt of a letter from the Secretary to Catrine, Sorn and District Local History Group which provided an update on that Group's use of the grant award of £650.00 made by this Committee in June 2000 in respect of researching and recording the history of G Reid & Son, Catrine, and reproduction of the Catrine Chronicle 1906-1908. It was explained that the Group had not yet completed the work involved in reprinting the Catrine Chronicle; and that they also now wished to alter the nature of the project such that the Chronicles would be reproduced onto CD format, to be made available for resale with income generated to fund the production of a limited run of approximately 50 deluxe paper versions, the additional overall cost to be so funded being £175.00. The Group sought the approval of the Committee to the amended proposal and to be allowed an additional period of time within which to have the reproduction works carried out and the grant monies expended.

It was agreed to continue consideration of this matter to the next meeting pending submission of further information on the project; and that an appropriate representative of the Group be invited to attend the next meeting in order to provide clarification if required.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **POLICE REPORT**

8. There was submitted a report dated 1 September 2003 (circulated) by Chief Inspector McKnight, Strathclyde Police, which advised of crime trends and Police activity within the local area over the recent period.

Inspector Thomson provided further information in response to enquiries from Members of the Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) arising from discussion, to request the Inspector to arrange for future reports of this kind to include statistical information on drinking in public places and on the outcome of searches for weapons and visits to licensed premises; and to report back on any differences of approach which there may be between East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council in dealing with drinking in public places; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

### **DOG FOULING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003 (Item 7, Page 83, 03/07)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 12 July 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of new legislation designed to deal with the problem of dog fouling, as requested by the Community Services Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Director of Community Services would be empowered to authorise suitable Officers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices to any person who has committed an offence under the Act; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

### **FLY TIPPING**

- 10.** There was submitted and noted a report dated 27 August 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of measures available to the Council to deal with fly tipping.

Arising from discussion, it was agreed to request the Criminal Justice Section of the Department of Educational and Social Services to arrange for rubbish, debris etc to be cleared from the Glaisnock Water and banking between the Box Café at the Tanyard and the Keir McTurk Memorial Bridge, Cumnock, by Community Service By Offenders.

### **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5 MARCH 2003**

- 11.** There was submitted for information, and noted, the Minutes of the meeting of the East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum held on 5 March 2003 (circulated).

Arising from discussion it was:-

- (i) noted that Councillor Ross would endeavour to ensure that a response was provided to Community Representative William Lees regarding issues which he had raised at the meeting of the Safety Forum held on 5 March 2003, regarding parking, and the provision of additional warning signs, within the vicinity of Castle Primary School, New Cumnock; and
- (ii) agreed to request the Secretary to the Forum to arrange, in cases where the Forum agrees that information be provided directly to one or more of its members outwith the meeting, for this information to be also reported to the next Forum Meeting under matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting.

### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

#### **RESTORATION OF OPENCAST COAL SITES IN EAST AYRSHIRE (Item 4.2, Page 3192, 99/03)**

- 12.** There was submitted and noted a report dated 27 August 2003 (circulated) by the Head of Planning and Building Control on the current policies for the restoration of opencast coal sites within East Ayrshire and which advised on the current restoration progress on operational sites.

The meeting terminated at 1543 hours.