

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 5 JUNE 2001

**GALSTON ROUNDABOUT – MONUMENT PROPOSED BY
GALSTON ROTARY CLUB**

Report by Director of Development Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the Committee's view on the proposal by the Galston Rotary Club to install a monument at Galston roundabout.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Galston Rotary Club has proposed to install a monument in the centre of the roundabout at the intersection of the A719 and A71 outside Galston. They have received consent for their planning application. But they will require the approval of the Council to locate the monument on land which is owned by the Council and maintained by the Council as part of the public road network.
- 2.2 A drawing showing the proposed design is attached. A plan is also attached showing the proposed location in relation to the Council's land ownership.
- 2.3 A decision is now required on whether the Council should enter into an arrangement with the Rotary Club to allow them to erect the proposed monument on land controlled by the Council.

3 ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED

- 3.1 The monument proposed would provide a gateway feature to the Irvine Valley helping to promote its image as a distinct area with an interesting cultural heritage. This would be consistent with the Council's policy of working with local community organisations to promote the area as a "gateway valley". The monument itself is designed to echo some of the area's cultural heritage, in particular Loudoun Castle.
- 3.2 Any agreement with the Rotary Club should include provisions related to the possibility of vandalism and future maintenance. The monument should be designed to minimise the likelihood of vandalism. It should also be designed to require minimal maintenance. If a significant maintenance cost is probable the Council should expect this to be covered by a lump sum contribution for future maintenance. The Council should also reserve its right to remove the monument

if it becomes unsafe or unsightly, or removal is required in connection with roadworks.

- 3.3** The planning application was subject to normal consultation procedures, and at the time attracted no adverse comment. It was assessed from a road safety point of view and it was concluded that it would not represent an additional hazard to road vehicles. In particular it would not reduce sightlines. Features in the centre of major roundabouts which obstruct views from one side of the roundabout to the other are widespread.
- 3.4** Standard road safety assessments consider whether developments would constitute an additional physical hazard to road users. In this case it has been suggested that because the monument would be located within the line of flow of school pupils walking between Loudoun Academy and Galston some pupils may be tempted to put themselves at risk by straying into the central reservation of the roundabout, attracted by the new monument.
- 3.5** Substantial road safety measures have been introduced to the pedestrian route from Loudoun Academy to Galston in recent years. In particular a fence barrier has been installed down the western side of the A719 from the school to the roundabout down the eastern side of the A719 continuing round to a pelican crossing opposite the Co-op. The fencing acts as a practical deterrent to school pupils tempted to take a short cut across the central reservation of the roundabout or to deviate via the monument.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** An application for grant assistance has been refused by the Irvine Valley Local Committee, but the Rotary Club have indicated that they have raised funds from other sources.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** An appropriate form of agreement allowing the Rotary Club access to Council land would be required. This would require the Rotary Club to take responsibility for all regulatory, health and safety, maintenance and public liability issues relating to the construction of the proposed monument, and accept terms set by the Council for future action which may be required in connection with roadworks.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1** It is recommended that the Committee form a view on whether to agree to allow Galston Rotary Club to install a monument at the Galston roundabout, and on any conditions which should be applied if they are so minded.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services
29 May 2001
SC/JR

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

For further information on the contents of this report contact Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services, on 01563 576011.

Implementation officer: Stephen Chorley

AGENDA