

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**HOUSING COMMITTEE – 21 MAY 2003**

**BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND  
TEENAGE RECREATION AREA, MEIKLEWOOD ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**Report by the Director of Homes and Technical Services**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval to the use on an interim basis by the Department of Community Services of an area of ground at Meiklewood Road, Kilmarnock (shown on the plan attached) as a teenage recreation area.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Teenage Recreation Project has been funded through the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund (BNSF) and the outline project approved at the Emergency Powers Committee of 22 November 2001.
- 2.2 The project concept is to provide informal and casual 'kick about/basket ball areas' for young people. The areas are to be for young people to use without any need for changing facilities and without the need for booking of the facility. The areas are not to be for formal competitive sport.
- 2.3 A Notice of Intention to develop the site at Meiklewood Road, Kilmarnock for this purpose was approved by the Head of Planning and Building Control in terms of his delegated powers on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2003.
- 2.4 The Community Services Committee of 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2003 approved the site at Meiklewood Road; Kilmarnock as the Council's preferred location for the teenage recreation area in Northwest Kilmarnock subject to planning approval and the consent of this Committee to the proposed land use.

**3. CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 The local Member has been consulted and is supportive of the proposals contained within this report.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Council is currently considering the wider development of the Amlaird Road/Meiklewood Road area. The interim proposed use will not impact on the wider development proposals. Consideration of the requirement for such a use in the long term will be taken into account in finalising the wider development proposals.

## **6. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Solicitor to the Council has confirmed that the land affected by this proposal is held within the Housing Account and that there are no title conditions, which would prevent this proposal proceeding.
- 6.2 In terms of Section 70(2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, land acquired for a particular purpose may be used in the short term for the purpose of any other of the Authority's functions.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 It is recommended that Committee: -

- (i) Approves the proposed interim use of the area of ground at Meiklewood Road, Kilmarnock as a teenage recreation area.

James Lavery  
**Director of Homes and Technical Services**  
May 2003

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Nil

Anyone wishing further information should contact Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes on 01563 554876.

Implementation Officer: Sam McVie, Principal Surveyor