

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER 1996 AT
1420 HOURS IN KILMAURS COMMUNITY CENTRE, KILMAURS**

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall and Bob Beattie; and Community Representatives Mr J McFadden, JP, Mr W Muirhead, Mr H Hamilton, Mr W Ferguson, Mrs Greta Roberts, Mrs M Clark, Mrs C Bingham and Ms E McKay.

ALSO PRESENT: Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police.

ATTENDING: Robert Paton, Head of Economic Development; Jim Kane, Chief Engineer (Roads Division); Alan Hasson, Chief Librarian; Steven Good, Area Housing Manager; Bill Anderson, Principal Officer (Community Services); Janie Allen, Principal Officer (Education); John Lilley, Principal Planner; Donal Flannery, Principal Officer (Social Work Department); Jim Laing, Senior Social Worker; Donald McVicar, Senior Administrative Officer; and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

**EAST AYRSHIRE GARDEN COMPETITION - RESULTS OF JUDGING (ITEM 10,
PAGE 1057)**

The Chair agreed to alter the order of business per the agenda issued, and to consider this item first.

1. There was submitted a report dated 22 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing which advised the Committee of the results of the East Ayrshire Garden Competition.

Thereafter the Chair presented prizes to the winners and runner-up for the East Ayrshire Garden Competition for the Northern Area.

CATEGORY	NAME	PRIZE
Overall Winner	Mrs E Moore	£50 (plus sponsorship)
Runner-up	Mrs W Stevenson	£25 (plus sponsorship)
Window Box/Planter/ Hanging Basket	Mr J McMaster	£25 (plus sponsorship)

The Committee acknowledged the generosity of the Stewarton and District Community Council in donating the Stewarton and District Community Council Trophy now renamed the Stewarton Cup which was presented to the overall winner and would be presented to future winners of the East Ayrshire Garden Competition for the Northern Area.

MEMBERSHIP OF NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

2. There was submitted a report dated 30 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised the Local Committee of the position regarding the nomination of a candidate from local Pre-five groups to be a Community Representative on the Northern Area Local Committee.

It was agreed that Joyce Fulton would be the Community Representative on behalf of Pre-five groups.

ANNUAL POLICY STATEMENT (HOUSING)

3. There was submitted a report dated 18 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing which advised the Local Committee of the background and purpose of the Annual Policy Statement and which summarised the Council's Annual Policy Statement for 1997/98.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that existing areas of work (as outlined in paragraph 11.1 within the report) be approved and form the basis of the Housing Department's Programme for 1997/98;
- (ii) that Community Representatives would identify any additional areas of work to be considered by the Housing Capital Sub-Committee;
- (iii) that a further report would be submitted to the Committee by the Director of Housing on new programmes; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

EAST AYRSHIRE ACCIDENT PREVENTION COMMITTEE (ITEM 8, PAGE 907)

4. There was submitted a report dated 16 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought one nomination for a Committee Member to serve on the East Ayrshire Accident Prevention Committee.

It was agreed that Mr Watson Muirhead would serve on the East Ayrshire Accident Prevention Committee.

ENVIRONMENT WEEK (ITEM 19, PAGE 1127)

5. There was submitted a report dated 22 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised the Committee of the positive effect of Environment Week 1996 and which provided information on community projects that may be developed in the future.

It was agreed that the Committee would liaise with Local Community Groups to develop clean-up campaigns which may be incorporated in Environment Week 1997.

DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICES (ITEM 3, PAGE 1428)

6. There was submitted a report dated 18 October 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which provided an update on progress made in respect of the development of information and advice services within East Ayrshire, particularly in relation to the provision of Local Office accommodation in the Northern Area.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the action taken by Officers following the findings of the consultation panel;

- (ii) to note that progress is being made with regard to the establishment of the Council telephone Helplines;
- (iii) to note the progress in relation to the enhancement of information services through the use of mobile libraries;
- (iv) to note the criteria for, and progress being made towards the development of a development plan for information and advice services;
- (v) to remit to the Director of Housing to inform the relevant local areas on the dates for commencement of housing surgeries in Northern Area;
- (vi) to request the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee to consider the involvement of Local Community Representatives regarding any future consultation process;
- (vii) to discuss funding of local issues that may not be addressed within the Decentralisation Sub-Committee report, at the next Local Committee Meeting; and
- (viii) that a report on further progress in respect of the development of information and advice services within East Ayrshire, particularly within the Northern Local Committee Area be submitted to an appropriate future meeting of the Committee.

**EAST AYRSHIRE LOCAL PLAN - RESPONSES TO ISSUES PAPER -
CONSULTATION EXERCISE (ITEM 6, PAGE 1018)**

7. There was submitted a report dated 8 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services to advise the Committee of a series of planning issues which related to the Northern Area which were identified through consultation procedures with the Local Committee and other local organisations, as a preliminary step in the production of the East Ayrshire Local Plan.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the issues raised through the informal consultation process in relation to the Northern Area Local Committee Area as detailed within the report;
- (ii) that the issues detailed in the report be given due consideration in the preparation in the consultative draft version of the East Ayrshire Local Plan; and
- (iii) that authorisation be given for the various courses of action suggested within each category of issues as detailed within the report.

**BUSINESS GRANTS/LOAN SCHEMES: STATUS REPORT (ITEM 1.3, PAGE
1394)**

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised the Committee of the loans and grants that had been awarded to businesses in the Northern Area Local Committee Area in the period 1 April to 30 September 1996.

**LOCAL ROADS ISSUES RAISED AT THE NORTHERN AREA FORUM -
5 SEPTEMBER 1996**

9. There was submitted a report dated 23 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which summarised the current position regarding the local roads issues raised at the Northern Area Community Forum in Dunlop Public Hall on Thursday 5 September 1996.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the steps being taken to deal with the issues raised at the Local Community Forum Meeting;
- (ii) to note that the Cutsburn/Cutstraw Road junction would benefit from a scheme for signing, white-lining and the formation of a white-lined mini-roundabout to be implemented dependant upon scheduling of works by the Department of Commercial Operations;
- (iii) that a further report would be submitted to the Committee in February 1997 on the roads issues currently under investigation; and
- (iv) that a further report on the Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT) Options would be submitted in so far as they affect Northern Area, to a future meeting of the Committee.

**EAST AYRSHIRE ROADS NETWORK: OUTCOME OF LOCAL CONSULTATION
ON AREAS OF PERCEIVED CONCERN (ITEM12, PAGE 1058)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 24 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services informing the Local Committee of Local Areas of perceived concern in relation to the Council's roads network, as identified by Community Representatives on the Northern Area Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the views and observations of Community Representatives on the issue of perceived concern in relation to the Council's roads network;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to forward these observations to the Director of Development Services;
- (iii) to remit to the Director of Development Services to provide the speed statistics collated in the Northern Area to the Northern Area Local Committee in February 1997; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

PRE-FIVE ADMISSIONS 1996/97 - SUMMARY UPDATE

11. There was submitted a report dated 16 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised the Local Committee of the current position relating to the allocation of places within Pre-five establishments in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that a further report would be submitted to the Committee by the Director of Education regarding Pre-five admissions in due course; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

12. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which advised the Committee of the planning framework set out in national objectives and standards for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System, and which identified key aims for the service and provided information on the anticipated level of demand for core parts of the service expected in the financial year 1997/98.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Mr Donal Flannery, Principal Officer (Criminal Justice) would give a presentation to the next meeting of the Committee on projects/schemes suitable for Community Service Orders;
- (ii) that Community Representatives would submit suggestions on behalf of their local communities on prospective projects/schemes for Community Service Orders; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

13. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on applications received from local organisations for grant assistance in terms of the community grants scheme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the undernoted grant payments to the organisations detailed viz:-

APPLICANT	GRANT AWARDED
Bharat	£112
Fenwick Playgroup	£485
Stewarton Sports Association	£85

- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to examine the potential of community grant assistance towards the sponsorship of events, such as Stewarton Cross-Country Event.

FUTURE DATES OF THE NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

14. There was submitted a report dated 25 October (circulated) by the Director of Support Services informing the Committee of the outcome of a consultation exercise with elected Members and Community Representatives on the preferred meeting day of the Northern Area Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the next date for the Northern Area Local Committee would be 17 December 1996; and
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services and the Chair of the Local Committee to determine the dates of the next two Local Committees in February and March 1997.

URGENT ITEM

POLICE REPORT

The Chair agreed that this item of urgent business should be considered as it provided an update on Operation Spotlight, as it affected Northern Area.

- 15.** Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police, reported on local policing matters.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that there had been several incidences of breaking and entering into isolated farmhouses in the Kilmaurs and outlying areas and the measures that Strathclyde Police had taken to tackle the problem;
- (ii) that Operation Spotlight which began at the beginning of October for a period of three months targeting quality of life issues was concentrating on transport issues at this time, particularly problems on late night buses; and
- (iii) that complaints of street disorder in Kilmaurs had decreased and that additional resources had been deployed at weekends to tackle that particular issue.

The meeting terminated at 1640 hours.