

EAST AYRSHIRE ACCIDENT PREVENTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER 1997 AT 1130 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors John Smith, Gordon Cree, George Smith and James Boyd; Local Committee Community Representatives: Ronald Brailsford, Peter Neely and Edward Torrance; School Board Representatives: Tom Ferguson (Shortlees Primary School Board), James Keachie (Silverwood Primary School Board), Ron Cross (Greenmill Primary School Board) and John Knapp (Bellfield Primary School Board - substitute).

ATTENDING: John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Inspector Alan Golightly, Strathclyde Police, Community Involvement Branch (R Division); Inspector Bob Pollock, Police Liaison Officer; Joe Cassidy, Principal Officer (Housing); Alison J Smith, Principal Officer - Registration and Licensing (Community Services); Eleanor G Dewar, Environmental Health Officer (Community Services); Gerald Cummings, Road Safety Officer (Development Services); Bob Sawyers, Safety Officer (Education); and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Alan Campbell, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton and James Carmichael; Joan Wells, WRVS; and School Board Representatives Anna McCall (Annanhill Primary School Board) and Stewart Imrie (Kirkstyle Primary School Board).

CHAIR: Councillor John Smith, Chair.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

1. There were submitted (circulated) and approved as a correct record the Minutes of the East Ayrshire Accident Prevention Committee of 9 September 1997.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS SPEECHMAKING COMPETITION: ANDREW NISBET TROPHY

2. There was submitted a report dated 24 November 1997 (circulated) by the Secretary advising of the detailed arrangements made in respect of the Secondary Schools Speechmaking Competition.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that a report on the outcome of the Competition be submitted to the next meeting.

PAVEMENTS ARE FOR PEOPLE: CYCLING ON FOOTPATHS

3. There was submitted a report dated 24 November 1997 (circulated) by the Secretary on the use of footpaths by cyclists.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and

- (ii) that members of the Committee would advise the Secretary directly of any areas where cycling on footpaths was perceived to be a problem.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

- 4. There was submitted a joint report dated 25 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services and the Police Liaison Officer advising of East Ayrshire Council's adoption of the draft Community Safety Strategy to improve the quality of life in East Ayrshire and make it a safer place to live, work and visit.

It was agreed:

- (i) that members of the Committee would submit any comments which they may have on the Community Safety Strategy directly to the Director of Community Services; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION AWARDS 1997

- 5. There was submitted a report dated 24 November 1997 (circulated) by the Secretary requesting the Committee to consider nominations for the Scottish Accident Prevention Awards 1997 in the categories of:- Local Accident Prevention Committees; Voluntary/Educational Sector; Commercial Organisations; and Professional Bodies.

It was agreed:

- (i) that members of the Committee would submit any nominations for the Awards, together with supporting material to the Secretary no later than Friday 9 January 1998 with a view to the subsequent submission of nominations to the Secretary to the Scottish Accident Prevention Council; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

AYRSHIRE HEALTH FOR ALL 2000: STRATEGY FOR ACCIDENT PREVENTION IN AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN

- 6. There was submitted a report dated 24 November 1997 (circulated) by the Secretary advising of the background to, and current status of, the Strategy for Accident Prevention in Ayrshire and Arran which was prepared by the Ayrshire Health for All Group.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the terms of the report which, amongst other things, explained:
 - (a) that Health for All was an initiative of the World Health Organisation which sought to bring together Local Authorities, the National Health Service and local communities to examine the effects of economic, environmental and social conditions on health, with the overall aim of improving health;
 - (b) that the Health for All Group had six sub-groups, one of these being the Accident Prevention Implementation Group which sought to implement the Strategy for Accident Prevention in Ayrshire and Arran;

- (c) that a Working Group of the Accident Prevention Implementation Group had been established in 1992 which had, following appropriate consultation, prepared a draft Strategy document;
 - (d) that it was intended that the next step would be the preparation, as soon as possible, of Action Plans which would identify and prioritise areas under this heading which may require attention; and
- (ii) that a further report on the implementation of the Strategy be submitted to the next meeting.

ACTIVITIES

7.1 Community Services

John F Crawford reported (i) on progress in respect of the initiative being pursued by Councillor George Smith to establish home safety as a statutory function and confirmed that it was hoped that at least one of the Ayrshire MPs who had all previously confirmed their support for this initiative, would agree to pursue appropriate legislation on this issue; and (ii) that the Scottish Accident Prevention Council Home Safety Committee had established a Sub-Committee (Chaired by Councillor George Smith) to examine the proposals, that (a) gas appliances should incorporate an appropriate fuel cut-off device which would operate in the event of carbon monoxide emissions exceeding safe levels; and (b) there was a need for closer harmonisation of gas and electricity installation legislation.

Eleanor G Dewar made reference to the Health at Work Scheme and highlighted activities which would be taking place within East Ayrshire Council premises in the run-up to Christmas in order to promote a "Healthy Christmas".

7.2 Housing

Joseph Cassidy confirmed that the Health and Safety Executive had undertaken a gas safety audit in respect of gas appliances installed within the Council's housing stock and explained that the Executive's findings on this matter were expected early in the New Year.

7.3 Development Services - Road Safety

Gerald Cummings made reference to the various initiatives being promoted on an ongoing basis by the Road Safety Section of the Development Services Department, often in conjunction with other agencies/organisations and which were aimed directly at young people.

7.4 Strathclyde Police

Inspector Alan Golightly, Strathclyde Police, reported that in the light of instruction from the Divisional Commander, his role and that of Inspector John Merrylees had been altered in order to provide additional support to the Local Sub-Divisional Officers and to endeavour to raise the profile of the Police Force within the community. The Inspector also confirmed that the Safety Training and Education in Primary Schools initiative was progressing along the lines reported previously and also highlighted statistics which indicate a significant reduction in rates of crime in the recent past.

7.5 Education

Bob Sawyers reported that, amongst other things, the Education Department were involved in the preparation of an educational video, for showing in schools, which it is hoped will help to discourage incidences of vandalism to schools.

The meeting terminated at 1210 hrs.