

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 1997 AT 1400 HRS
IN AUCHINLECK COMMUNITY CENTRE, WELL ROAD, AUCHINLECK**

PRESENT: Councillors George Smith, Jim Kelly, David Sneller, James Boyd, Jimmy Carmichael and Eric Jackson; and Community Members: Rev William Buchan, William Crawford, William Lees, Peter Neely, Alex Currie and Jack Campbell.

ATTENDING: Ken Robinson, Principal Administrative Officer; Anne Jackson, Principal Officer (Community Education); Donal Flannery, Principal Officer - Criminal Justice (Social Work); Paul Todd, Principal Officer (Environmental Health and Waste Management); John Pickering, Area Housing Manager; David Hewet, Senior Policy Adviser (Development Services); Dot Grieve, Senior Community Education Worker; Arthur West, Service Manager - Development (Social Work); John Butler, Service Officer - Children and Families (Social Work); Valerie Walker, Pre-School Community Organiser (Education); and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Eric Ross; and Community Members: Bob Mathers, Mark Kerr and Alan Anderson.

CHAIR: Councillor George Smith, Vice-Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. There were submitted for information the Minutes of the Meeting of Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 17 September 1997 (circulated).

It was agreed to note:

- (i) the Minutes of the Meeting as submitted; and
- (ii) arising from the Minutes
 - (a) that arrangements had been made for the members of the Committee to visit the Dalsalloch Centre, Auchinleck on the afternoon of Wednesday 12 November 1997; and
 - (b) that the application for financial assistance from the Cumnock and Doon Valley Gift Furniture Scheme had been dealt with by the Policy and Resources Committee and that no funding would be made to this Group under the Community Grants heading.

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL GARDEN COMPETITION 1997 (Item 9, Page 2148)

2. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Housing advising of the results of the East Ayrshire Council Garden Competition 1997.

It was agreed to note:

- (i) that the award winners for the Committee's area were:-
 - Overall Winner - R & M Hutchison, 35 McQueen Avenue, Cumnock
 - Runner-up - Mr Robert Turnbull, 64 Arran Drive, Auchinleck

Best Hanging Basket - R & M Hutchison, 35 McQueen Avenue, Cumnock; and

- (ii) that the presentation of awards to the winners had been made by Councillor James Boyd in his capacity as Depute Provost immediately preceding this meeting.

CUMNOCK AREA COMMUNITY FORUM: NEXT MEETING

3. It was reported and noted (a) that the next meeting of the Cumnock Area Community Forum would take place on Tuesday 18 November 1997 commencing at 7pm in Muirkirk IFE Wing, Burns Avenue, Muirkirk; and (b) that the local item for the Forum meeting, as determined by this Committee would be "Community Policing/Police Response Times" and that the Council item would be "Social Work - Supporting People in the Community".

LOCAL COMMITTEES: FORWARD PLANNING 1997/98 (Item 3, Page 2626)

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 21 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of the arrangements for Forward Planning in respect of the Agenda and timescales of Local Committee meetings for 1997/98, as agreed by the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee at its meetings held on 27 May and 15 October 1997.

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL COMMITTEES (Item 3, Page 2626)

5. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 20 October 1997 (circulated) by the Directors of Education and of Social Work advising of the role of Community Work staff within the Social Work and Education Departments in relation to the provision of support for Community Representatives on Local Committees.

CONSULTATION ON THE OPERATION OF COMMUNITY FORUMS (Item 4, Page 2626)

6. There was submitted a report dated 16 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services seeking the views of the Committee on the operation of Local Community Forums with a view to considering future conduct of Local Community Forum business.

It was agreed that the Director of Support Services be advised that the views of the Local Committee are as follows, namely:-

- (a) that Community Forum meetings should continue to be held at quarterly intervals;
- (b) that the existing format of meetings featuring presentations on Council and local items followed by an Open Forum should continue;
- (c) that the topic to be discussed at meetings could relate directly to the particular community within which the meeting is taking place; and
- (d) that further consideration should be given to the means of publicising the meetings.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN EAST AYRSHIRE (Item 5, Page 2569)

7. There was submitted a report dated 10 September 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education advising on developments in the participation of young people through the Community Education Service in activities and projects within East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note:
 - (a) the developing commitment to young people's participation in youth activities within the Community Education Service; and
 - (b) the outline arrangements for Youth Work Week 1997;
- (ii) that individual members of the Local Committee would, in respect of their interest, continue to publicise and promote youth work; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education would submit a report to a future meeting of this Committee detailing the facilities and activities which were available for young people within the Committee's area.

CONSULTATION ON EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL'S CHILDREN'S SERVICE PLAN

8. There was submitted a report dated 14 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work advising of the Council's statutory duty to prepare and consult upon and publish, a Children's Service Plan, and seeking the Committee's views on the Plan.

It was agreed:

- (i) that individual members of the Committee would, if they so wished, submit comments on the draft Plan to the Director of Social Work no later than the due date of 31 October 1997;
- (ii) that the finalised draft Plan be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee for information; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

URBAN PROGRAMME: SOCIAL WORK PROJECTS (Item 4, Page 2543)

9. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the Voluntary Urban Programme Projects supervised by the Social Work Department which operated within the Committee's area and advising of the progress of the projects in meeting their identified aims and objectives.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Social Work submit a report on the Cumnock Women's Aid project to the next meeting of this Committee;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work report to Committee on an annual basis in relation to Urban Programme projects; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL SENSORY IMPAIRMENT SERVICE (Item 7, Page 1823)

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 26 September 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the Council's new Sensory Impairment Service.

**SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM:
PLANNING STATEMENT 1998/99 (Item 4, Page 2546)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 21 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work advising of the content of the 1998/99 Planning Statement for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice system.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Social Work prepare and submit to an early meeting of this Committee a detailed report on the programmes to be provided by the Social Work Department in relation to Criminal Justice services from 1998/99, with particular reference to the local perspective; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

DIFFICULT TO LET PROPERTIES (Item 2.2, Page 2378)

12.1 MUIRKIRK

There was submitted a report dated 20 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Housing highlighting the difficulties of letting single person's accommodation in Muirkirk and outlining options for the future.

It was agreed to advise the Director of Housing that the Committee was of the view that the five blocks of four two-bedroom flats at Harwood Avenue, Muirkirk be demolished as detailed in Option 3 (para 3.3) of the report, the Committee being satisfied that this was the most appropriate and realistic course of action in the light of all of the circumstances.

12.2 NEW CUMNOCK

There was submitted a report dated 20 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Housing highlighting the continuing difficulties in letting accommodation in specific areas of New Cumnock and outlining options for the future.

It was agreed to advise the Director of Housing that the Committee was of the view (a) that the most appropriate and realistic course of action in the light of all the circumstances would be for the Council to undertake the demolition of 100 houses mainly within Greenhill Avenue and Farden Avenue with other selected demolitions in Glenafton Drive and Connel View as detailed in Option 3 (para 3.3) of the report and (b) that the demolitions should be undertaken on a phased basis over a number of years, the detail of the programme to be the subject of consultation with the local Tenants Association and other appropriate local groups.

Community Member Mr William Crawford left the meeting during discussion of this item.

STREET NAMING

13.1 CUMNOCK

The Committee were asked to determine names for two new streets to be created by the development of private housing at a site to the rear of Kingsway, Barshare, Cumnock.

A list of names suggested for these streets by pupils at appropriate local primary schools was circulated to members of the Committee.

It was agreed that the new streets be named "Hemmings' Way" and "Hillview Court", the allocation of these names to the individual streets concerned to be determined by the Director of Support Services after consultation with the Chair and the Head of Contracting and Technical Services to be advised accordingly.

13.2 MAUCLINE

The Committee were asked to determine a name for a new street to be created by the development of private housing at a site at Burnsland Nursery, Mauchline.

A list of names suggested for this street by pupils at the local primary school was circulated to members of the Committee.

It was agreed that the new street be called "Grassmillees Way" and that the Head of Contracting and Technical Services to be advised accordingly.

SORN POST OFFICE: PROPOSED CHANGE OF STATUS

14. There was submitted a report dated 17 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on a proposal to change the status of Sorn Sub-Post Office to Community Post Office with a corresponding reduction in opening hours.

It was agreed:

- (i) that Councillors George Smith and Eric Jackson attend an informal meeting, involving also representatives of the Post Office and appropriate officials of the Council, in order to discuss this matter in detail;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services, following consultation with the Chair, to submit a substantive response to Post Office Counters Ltd on this matter in the light of the outcome of the informal meeting.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

15.1 AGE CONCERN GROUPS/OLD FOLK'S WELFARE ASSOCIATIONS: 2ND TRANCHE

It was agreed:

- (i) that a further Community Grant payment (2nd tranche) be made to the local Age Concern Groups and Old Folk's Welfare Associations on a per capita basis at the rate of £2 per person, according to the registered membership of each organisation;
- (ii) that, in terms of (i) above, further grants be made to the following Age Concern and Old Folk's Welfare Organisations which had made application for financial assistance, as undernoted, namely:

Sorn Old Folk's Welfare Association	£ 252
Mauchline Old Folk's Welfare Association	£1460
New Cumnock Age Concern	£1394
Cumnock Landward Age Concern	£ 962
Auchinleck Old Folk's Welfare Association	£1356
Catrine Old Folk's Welfare Association	£ 850
Cumnock Age Concern	£2114;

- (iii) that in terms of (i) above, grants of (a) £1212 (1st tranche) and £808 (2nd tranche) be made to Muirkirk Age Concern; and (b) £693 (1st tranche) and £462 (2nd tranche) be made to Lugar and Logan Age Concern, subject to submission by these groups of a satisfactory application for Community Grant, these applications to be remitted to the Director of Support Services to process in consultation with the Chair; and
- (iv) that a report be submitted to an early meeting to enable the Committee to consider the approach to be adopted in dealing with applications for financial assistance to the local Age Concern organisations and Old Folk's Welfare Associations during the financial year 1998/99.

15.2 GENERAL

There was submitted a report dated 23 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services providing a summary of information relative to applications for Community Grant received from local organisations and outlining the financial position in respect of grants awarded so far during the financial year 1997/98.

15.2.1 Applications Approved (for the purpose specified on the application), viz:-

- (a) Young Persons Groups
 - (i) Cairnhill Mothers and Toddlers, New Cumnock - £200;
- (b) Disabled/Handicapped Persons Interest Groups
 - (i) New Cumnock Disabled Club - £200; and
 - (ii) Cumnock and District Blind Club - to note that the Vice-Chair had agreed that, in respect of the grant of £1255 awarded to this Club, a sum of £500 would now be allocated towards assisting with the cost of transport for members attending the Club's meetings;
- (c) Leisure/Recreational Groups
 - (i) New Cumnock Gardening Club - £150; and
 - (ii) New Cumnock Historical Society - £100.

(d) Miscellaneous Groups

- (i) Cumnock Self Help Group - £286.

15.2.2 Applications Deferred

(a) Leisure/Recreational Groups

- (i) New Cumnock Sewing Group - that consideration of this application be continued to the next meeting pending the submission of further information.

The meeting terminated at 1615 hrs.