

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN DUNLOP PUBLIC HALL, DUNLOP**

PRESENT: Councillors James O'Neill and Kathleen Hall; and Community Representatives, Mr Ian Finlayson, Mr Watson Muirhead, Mr Hugh Hamilton, Mr William Ferguson, Mr Charles Cuthbertson, Ms Kit McLaren and Ms Lorna Fulton.

ATTENDING: John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; Helen McGhee, Assistant Divisional Manager (Social Work); Ken Robinson, Principal Administrative Officer; Anne Jackson, Principal Community Education Officer; Keith Orton, Principal Engineer (Roads); Jeannette Nightingale, Assistant Area Manager (Housing); Eddie O'Connor, Senior Community Education Worker; Jim Laing, Senior Social Worker; and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Chief Inspector James Green and Community Constable, Ronnie McLean, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Robert Beattie; and Community Representatives; Mr James McFadden, JP; Katherine Currie, Mrs May Clark and Mrs Christine Bingham.

CHAIR: Councillor James O'Neill (Chair).

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

1. There was submitted a report dated October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on the results of the 1997 Garden Competition.

It was agreed to note:-

- (i) that the award winners for the Committee's area were:-
Overall Winner - Mrs E Moore, 19 Southcraig Holdings, by Kilmarnock
Runner-Up - Mrs N Norris, 12 Glencairn Terrace, Kilmaurs
- (ii) that the presentation of awards had been made by Councillor James O'Neill, Chair of the Northern Area Local Committee.

**FORCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 1998-99
PRESENTATION BY STRATHCLYDE POLICE**

2. A video presentation was given by Chief Inspector Green in relation to Strathclyde Police - Force Goals and Objectives for the year 1998/99.

The video highlighted the support that the Chief Constable received from Central Government and other agencies. Chief Inspector Green intimated that Strathclyde Police had made a commitment to community safety and invited Committee members as individuals through their respective organisations to make representation on any aspect of the work of Strathclyde Police.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the video was available, on loan, to interested Groups and Organisations; and

- (ii) that Community Representatives would forward representations on any aspect of the work of the Police Force to Strathclyde Police.

POLICE REPORT

- 3. Community Constable Ronnie McLean. Strathclyde Police reported on local Policing matters.

It was noted:-

- (i) that there had been no incidences of house-breaking and that incidences of crime within the Northern Area had been relatively minor;
- (ii) that car thefts within the local area had been perpetrated by non-residents;
- (iii) that there had been 2 incidences of breaking and entering at business premises;
- (iv) that the problems associated with large gatherings of youths in Stewarton on Friday and Saturday nights would be addressed by the local constabulary; and
- (v) to note the remarks by Mr Watson Muirhead, Community Representative, Fenwick Community Council, that a greater police presence in Fenwick had been welcomed.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 4. There were submitted for information the Minutes of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 30 September 1997 (circulated).

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that on Page 1, Item 3 (ii) of the Minutes that the Substitute Representative on behalf of Stewarton and District Community Council, Mr James Kirkland, had resigned and that his replacement was Mr Ian Finlayson;
- (ii) to note that, on Page 1, Item 3 (v) of the Minutes that no nomination had been received from local Pre-Five's Organisations to serve as a representative on this Committee and that it would be remitted to the Director of Support Services to contact local School Boards to nominate a representative to serve on this Committee;
- (iii) to note that on Page 2, Item 5 of the Minute, that the Director of Support Services in consultation with the Chair and Stewarton and District Community Council had determined the name; "Lockhead Court" for a proposed development at Vennel Lane, Stewarton; and
- (iv) to note that, on Page 5, Item 14 (ii) of the Minute, that Dunlop Uniformed Group had withdrawn their application for grant assistance.

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

5. There was submitted a report dated 21 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on 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 on 27 May and 15 October 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Director of Support Services to contact relevant Directors of Departments to ensure items on the Forward Planning Programme 1997/98 were submitted timeously; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

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

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) to recognise the developing commitment to young people's activities within the Community Education Service;
- (ii) to note the outline arrangements for Youth Work Week 1997;
- (iii) to continue to publicise and promote youth work; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

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

7. There was submitted a joint report dated 28 October 1997 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and Education on the role of Community Work staff within Social Work and Education Departments in relation to the provision of support for Community Representatives on Local Committees.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve arrangements for support to Community Representatives on Local Committees;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to examine the potential that, in future, executive summaries of reports would be made available for Community Representatives; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

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 on the Council's statutory duty to prepare, consult upon and publish a Children's Service Plan, and seeking the Committee's views on the Draft Plan.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the arrangements for consultation and the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Children's Service Plan and on the Council's services to children and families as outlined in the report;
- (ii) that Community Representatives would consult with their parent organisations with a view to responding to the Draft Children's Service Plan and the Council's services to children and families, by 31 December 1997; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

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

9. 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)

10. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the content of the 1998/99 Planning Statement for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Community Representatives would, together with their parent organisations, consider the appropriateness of the Planning Statement for Social Work Services within the context of the Local Committee area;
- (ii) to note that responses to the Planning Statement for Social Work Services should be forwarded to the Director of Social Work, by 31 December 1997; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

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

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

It was agreed that Community Representatives in consultation with their parent organisations would respond to the Director of Development Services on the operation of Local Forums, by 31 December 1997.

NORTHERN AREA COMMUNITY FORUM - 19 AUGUST 1997

12.1 ISSUES ARISING FROM THE LOCAL AREA FORUM HELD ON 19 AUGUST 1997

There was submitted and noted a report dated 30 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on community feedback from the Local Area Forum held on 19 August 1997.

12.2 STEWARTON ACADEMY - FOOTBALL PITCH HIRE

There was submitted a report dated 5 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education on progress to date of discussions concerning football facilities following the issue being raised at the Northern Area Community Forum on 19 August 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Director of Education to submit a further report on this matter detailing the outcome of the current investigations; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

12.3 STEWARTON INSTITUTE HALL - IMPROVEMENTS TO ACCESS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

There was submitted a report dated 31 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the results of investigations into potential improvements to access arrangements for people with disabilities at Stewarton Institute Hall following the issue being raised at the Northern Area Community Forum on 19 August 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the estimated costs for improvements to access for people with disabilities at Stewarton Institute Hall were currently prohibitive and it was unlikely that the project would be carried out in the future; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

NORTHERN AREA COMMUNITY FORUM: NEXT MEETING

- 13.** The Administrative Officer reported and it was noted that the Northern Area Community Forum would take place on Thursday 17 November 1997 at 7pm at Fenwick Primary School, Fenwick; and that the "Local Item" for the Community Forum meeting, would be "Grounds Maintenance - Open Spaces, Cemeteries, etc"; and that the Council Item would be "Social Work - Supporting People in the Community".

STEWARTON - PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS

- 14.** There was submitted a report dated 30 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on proposed Stewarton Town Centre waiting restrictions and arrangements for local consultation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Community Representatives in consultation with their parent organisations would respond to the proposed Stewarton Town Centre waiting restrictions by the end of November 1997; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

15. There was submitted a report dated 4 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services providing a summary of information relevant to applications for Community Grants received from local organisations and outlining the financial position in respect of grants awarded so far during financial year 1997/98.

The Committee took the following decisions.

Applications Approved (for the purpose specified in the application):

(i) Young People

Dunlop Uniformed Group - £1,481

Rascals out of School

Dunlop Schools Out - £1,553

- (ii) It was also agreed to remit to the Director of Education and Director of Community Services in consultation with the Chair and the Local Member to investigate:-
- (a) the feasibility of Dunlop Schools Out Group having access arrangements to Dunlop Primary School for the purposes of their Organisation; and
 - (b) to examine the current cost to Dunlop Schools Out in relation to letting fees for Dunlop Public Hall.

The meeting terminated at 1615 hours.