

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**HOUSING COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 2000 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Jimmy Kelly, Kathleen Hall, Ann Hay, Stephanie Young, Willie Coffey, Douglas Reid, Robert Stevenson, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, David Macrae, Jane Darnbrough, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, George Smith, Tommy Farrell, Julie Faulds, William Menzies and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; James Lavery, Director of Homes and Technical Services; Kate McVey, Solicitor to Council; Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes; Tom Wilkie, Head of Technical Services; David McLellan, Financial Services Manager; George Malone, Principal Engineer (Technical Services); Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; David Morgan, Public Relations Officer; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Jim Raymond and Provost Jimmy Boyd.

CHAIR: Councillor Jimmy Kelly, Chair.

BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORTS**1.1 HOMES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES - CENTRAL REPAIRS AND SURPLUS PROPERTY TO 19 NOVEMBER 1999 (PERIOD 8)**

There was submitted and noted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for Homes and Technical Services - Central Repairs and Surplus Property for the period ended 19 November 1999 (Period 8).

1.2 HOMES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES - PROPERTY TO 19 NOVEMBER 1999 (PERIOD 8)

There was submitted and noted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Homes and Technical Services - Property for the period ended 19 November 1999 (Period 8).

1.3 HOMES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES - TECHNICAL SERVICES TO 19 NOVEMBER 1999 (PERIOD 8)

There was submitted and noted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Homes and Technical Services - Technical Services for the period ended 19 November 1999 (Period 8).

1.4 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT TO 19 NOVEMBER 1999 (PERIOD 8)

There was submitted and noted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the current budgetary control position of the Housing Revenue Account for the period ended 19 November 1999 (Period 8).

1.5 GENERAL FUND HOUSING TO 19 NOVEMBER 1999 (PERIOD 8)

There was submitted and noted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for General Fund Housing for the period ended 19 November 1999 (Period 8).

REVIEW OF THE REPAIRS SERVICE (Item 3, Page 477, 99/02)

2. There was submitted an interim report dated 17 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of (a) the progress made to date in the various aspects of the review process; and (b) the proposed timetable for the completion of the Best Value Service Review submission and highlighted the consultation exercises currently being undertaken. The Director indicated that in addition to the stages outlined in the report, which principally focussed on the involvement of the Housing Committee, the submission of preliminary information to the Accounts Commission was imminent and the whole process of review would be overseen by the Policy and Resources Committee under Best Value arrangements.

In this connection, the Chief Executive reported that a Member/Officer Review Group would be established, in terms of the Best Value Service Review arrangements previously agreed by Council, which would consider a range of issues relating to the housing repairs service, as referred to in the report.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the comments of the Chief Executive; and
- (ii) to note the terms of the Director's interim report.

ROUGH SLEEPERS INITIATIVE

3. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of a recent submission for funding from the Scottish Executive under the Rough Sleepers Initiative for 2000/2001 and 2001/2002.

It was agreed to approve the submission to the Scottish Executive for Rough Sleepers Initiative Funding as contained within Appendix I to the report.

NATIONAL HOME IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL AWARDS: MAUCHLINE CROSS

4. There was submitted a report dated 20 December 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the National Home Improvement Council Award for the Mauchline Cross development and made recommendation for location of the Award Plaque.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Award Plaque be located in the public entrance foyer to the Library and Local Office at Mauchline Cross; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995: FIRST PROGRESS REPORT 1999

5. There was submitted a report dated 21 December 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the Council's response to its obligations under the terms of the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) in respect of its submission of the First Progress Report 1999 to the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the First Progress Report 1999, as contained within Appendix I to the report, for submission to the Scottish Executive; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

6. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

PATNA: PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF GARAGE CENTRE AND ADJACENT LAND AT WHITEHILL AVENUE (Item 10, page 479, 99/02) (PARA 9)

7. The Committee agreed in terms of Standing Order 51 to reconsider this matter.

There was submitted a report dated 20 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services which requested the Committee to re-determine its decision of 17 November 1999 in respect of a request to purchase the land currently partly occupied by the Garage Centre adjacent to Whitehill Avenue, Patna.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the area of ground in question be declared surplus to requirements and that the Director of Development Services would be authorised to advertise the site for sale on the open market; and
- (ii) that Lethanhill Flying Club be relocated to an adjacent site, as referred to in the report, at a charge equivalent to the Club's current annual rental charge.

KILMARNOCK: PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF GROUND AT ALTONHILL AVENUE (PARA 9)

8. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services on a request to purchase an area of ground at Altonhill Avenue, Kilmarnock.

It was agreed to declare the area of ground in question surplus to requirements and that the Solicitor to the Council be authorised to accept the offer to purchase the ground from the applicant on the terms and conditions detailed in the report.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - BUILDING AND WORKS DLO TO 19
NOVEMBER 1999 (PERIOD 8) (PARA 6)**

9. There was submitted and noted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which advised of the current budgetary control position relative to the Building and Works DLO for the period ended 19 November 1999 (Period 8).

The meeting terminated at 1115 hours.