

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 2000 AT 1400 HOURS IN DARVEL TOWN HALL, EAST MAIN STREET, DARVEL**

PRESENT: Councillors James Raymond, David Macrae, Harry Wilson, Finlay MacLean and Robert McDill; Community Representatives Steve Brown, Nancy Mair, Bill Pattison, Jim Crossan and Richard Chalton; and Substitutes Frank Donnelly, Jessie Graham, Hugh McLelland and Cathy Brown.

ATTENDING: Glenn Crotch, Team Leader (Social Work); Avril McCutcheon, Pre-School Community Organiser (Education); Jim Kane, Chief Engineer (Roads Division); James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer (Corporate Services); Eddie O'Connor, Senior Community Education Worker (Education); Keith Orton, Principal Engineer (Roads Division); Jane Overton, Senior Policy Adviser (Development Services); Ian Turner, Community Service Organiser (Social Work); Charlie Woodward, Museums and Arts Manager (Community Services); and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer (Corporate Services).

ALSO ATTENDING: John Wilson, Head of Communications - Rural Care, Scottish Power and Superintendent Alister McKie and Sergeant Grant Lacy, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Community Representative Evelyn Mair and Substitute Janice Cameron.

CHAIR: Councillor James Raymond, Chair.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1401 hours to allow for a fifteen minute maximum public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

2. The meeting was reconvened at 1416 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives, Named Substitutes and Officers present and attending.

MINUTES**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

3. There was submitted and noted Minutes (circulated) of the meeting of the Irvine Valley Local Committee held on 17 November 1999.

PRESENTATION BY SCOTTISH POWER

4. The Committee heard a presentation by John Wilson, Scottish Power on the company's Rural Care Project which was intended to lessen the impact of severe weather on Rural Electricity Supplies and attempt to ensure a skeleton electricity supply in emergency situations. Thereafter the Committee took the opportunity to raise various questions in respect of this initiative.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

LOCAL COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME 1999/2000

5. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which outlined the financial position in respect of grants received for the financial year 1999/2000 together with a summary statement relating to outstanding applications for community grant received from local organisations.

It was agreed:-

Applications Approved (for the purpose as specified on the application):-

- (a) Young People

Crossroads After School Club - £800;

- (b) Galston Pre-School Playgroup - £350. It was agreed to encourage the group to seek accreditation from HMI.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

OPERATION SPOTLIGHT

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 10 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the nature and results of "Spotlight" operations, localised crime figures and ongoing initiatives over the preceding six week period, and advised of forthcoming initiatives.

DRUG AWARENESS

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 January 2000 (circulated) by the Police Liaison Officer which raised awareness on the level of drug misuse in the Irvine Valley area.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

INTERIM LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY - CONSULTATION

8. There was submitted a report dated 25 November 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which informed the Committee that the Council had prepared an Interim Local Transport Strategy: Consultative Draft; and gave Committee members an opportunity to comment on the Interim Strategy prior to the preparation of the full Strategy later this year.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Council had prepared an Interim Local Transport Strategy;
- (ii) to participate in the Consultation process by completing the questionnaire, by otherwise commenting on the Interim Local Transport Strategy and by directing any local organisations not already being consulted to contact the Director of Development Services;
- (iii) to note that the Director of Development Services would consult with local walking/ramblers groups on the Strategy; and
- (iv) to note otherwise the contents of the report.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

9. The Committee heard a presentation by Jane Overton, Team Leader on the Council's approach to Social Inclusion, and it was agreed that members of the Committee could pass any ideas on how to involve other organisations in the partnership direct to her.

SOCIAL WORK

COMMUNITY SERVICE BY OFFENDERS SCHEME

10. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which advised on the criteria and scope of Community Service and provided information on the nature and range of work placements which the Scheme could undertake.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the local projects highlighted for consideration by the Community Service Scheme be investigated for suitability by the Director of Social Work;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work contact the Irvine Valley Regeneration Partnership to establish whether it could identify any possible projects;
- (iii) that any future projects identified be passed to the Director of Social Work for consideration; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

It was also agreed that the matter of unlifted rubble at the Muckle Bridge would be looked at by the local Elected Member.

Councillor McDill left the meeting at this point.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2000/2001

11. There was submitted a report dated 13 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which invited the Local Committee to consider and determine certain matters in order to facilitate arrangements for the recruitment of Community Representatives to serve on the Irvine Valley Local Committee for the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the present Community Representation as detailed in Appendix I to the report;
- (ii) to retain the existing composition of community organisation representation with the exception that a representative from Crookedholm Community Association replace the existing representative from the business community; and
- (iii) that it be remitted to the Director of Corporate Services to initiate the process for the submission of new nominations for Community Representatives and

Named Substitutes by the relevant organisations, to serve during the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001 and to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate the process.

Councillor Macrae left the meeting at this point.

LOCAL ITEMS

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES - A71

12. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which informed of the various Roads and Transportation issues raised at the Irvine Valley Community Forum on 2 November 1999.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to request the Director of Development Services to put in place a no-through road sign to Newmilns at Galston, given the current closure of Windyhill Bridge, Newmilns;
- (ii) to request that the Director of Development Services examine the Newmilns sign at the west end of the town to see whether it could be more suitably located, as it was currently obscured by a telegraph pole; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

LOCAL ITEMS

13. The Committee identified "Proposed Speed Limit at Loudoun Academy, Galston" as a potential item which could become the subject of a future report to the Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1615 hours.