

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Bob Beattie, Gordon McCredie, Drew McIntyre, Jane Darnbrough, Alan Campbell, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll, George Smith, Robert Taylor and John Smith.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Tom McHugh, Depute Director of Finance; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure; John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Irene Townson, Principal Solicitor; David Morgan, Public Relations Officer; and Ian Gemmell, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Gordon Cree, David Sneller and Tommy Farrell.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Bob Beattie, Chair.

**SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

1. There were submitted and approved both as a correct records and in respect of the recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes (circulated) as contained in Appendices I to III of these Minutes.
  - 1.1 **LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE - 26 NOVEMBER 1996** - Appendix I
  - 1.2 **AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE - 16 DECEMBER 1996** - Appendix II
  - 1.3 **LEISURE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE - 14 JANUARY 1997** - Appendix III

Councillors McIntyre and G Smith joined the meeting at this point.

**DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT**

2. There was submitted and noted a report dated 8 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which highlighted several operational issues that had been progressed within the Community Services Department, since the previous meeting of the Committee.

**CONFEDERATION OF BURIAL AUTHORITIES**

3. There was submitted a report dated 31 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services regarding a letter which had been received from the Confederation of Burial Authorities requesting that the Council consider becoming a member of the Confederation; and recommending that the Committee agree to this request.

It was agreed that the Council should become Members of the Confederation of Burial Authorities at a cost of £200 per annum, with effect from 1 April 1997.

### **WASTE DISPOSAL STRATEGY**

4. There was submitted a report dated 31 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services requesting consideration of a Strategy for Waste Disposal, recommending a Strategy for adoption and requesting authority for the Director of Community Services to carry out a detailed investigation of possible waste disposal options.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to adopt the Draft Waste Disposal Strategy as set out in Appendix I to the Director's report;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Community Services to implement the aims and objectives of the Strategy, following detailed examination of all options; and
- (iii) to instruct the Director of Community Services to submit a further report to this Committee in this connection in due course.

### **PRODUCTION OF CORPORATE PLAN AND SERVICE PLANS**

5. There was submitted a report dated 30 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services requesting consideration of Service Plans relating to the various services which the Department provided i.e. Trading Standards, Emergency Planning, Environmental Health and Waste Management, Registration and Licensing, Recreation Services, Ground Maintenance, Dean Castle Country Park, Museum and Arts Service, Library Services and the Palace Theatre; and recommending adoption of the Plans.

It was agreed to approve the Service Plans as submitted and to submit them to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

### **CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION**

6. There was submitted a report dated 30 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services providing details of a challenge bid funding process for closed circuit television projects and seeking approval to submit bids in respect of the extension of the existing system in Kilmarnock and a new system in Cumnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the initial proposals as detailed in the report and to authorise the Director of Community Services to submit bids for the extension of the existing CCTV system in Kilmarnock and new systems in the town centres of Cumnock, Galston, Kilmaurs and Stewarton; and
- (ii) to refer the Director's report for information to the next ordinary meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on 30 January 1997, the report to be submitted with a short covering report by the Director, outlining the current position and running costs of the scheme of CCTV, as envisaged by him, in relation to the new cost of current level of service (CCLS) of £50,000.

Councillor Taylor joined the meeting during discussion of the above items.

### **WATER SUPPLY - IRVINE VALLEY**

7. There was submitted a report dated 30 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services regarding the progress on the upgrading of the water supply from Loudounhill Spring which served parts of Newmilns and Darvel.

The Committee were reminded that the Chair, two local Members, the Chief Executive and the Director of Community Services had met with the Chairman and Chief Executive of West of Scotland Water Authority in August 1996 to express concern over the poor quality of water in the Irvine Valley.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Community Services write to the Chief Executive of the West of Scotland Water Authority requesting that the programmed work to replace Loudounhill Spring be accelerated and included within the Authority's three-year capital programme; and
- (ii) that the Director of Community Services arrange a further meeting between representatives of the West of Scotland Water Authority, of East Ayrshire Council, and William McKelvey, MP, to discuss the Council's representations, the Council to be represented as per the previous meeting, namely by the Chair of this Committee, the local Members and appropriate Officers.

#### **STRATHCLYDE EMERGENCY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE - EXERCISES 1997**

8. There was submitted a report dated 20 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services providing details of exercises arranged by the Strathclyde Emergencies Co-ordination Committee (SECC), which may involve participation and training of Officers of the Council, either as players or observers.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to support the proposal by the Strathclyde Emergencies Co-ordination Committee that a "table top" scenario exercise should be carried out during 1997, based on a flooding incident in East Ayrshire; and
- (ii) that the Director of Community Services make suitable arrangements for the proposed exercise, in consultation with the SECC and appropriate Officers of the Council.

#### **STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE AND TRAINING FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTORS**

9. There was submitted a report dated 18 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services requesting that the Council's qualified Environmental Health Officers be deemed as meeting the standards of competence set out in Section 18(4)(a) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

It was agreed to deem all qualified Environmental Health Officers as appropriate Officers in terms of the standards of competence and training for Health and Safety Inspectors, in terms of Section 18(4)(A) of the Health and Safety at Work Etc Act 1974.

#### **MISUSE OF INTERNET**

10. There was submitted a report dated 12 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the issues arising from misuse of the Internet, and the approach to be taken by Trading Standards staff to address these issues.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the situation, as outlined in the Director's report; and
- (ii) that the Director submit a further report in due course, as the situation developed and a national strategy was fully evolved.

#### **BROWNS INSTITUTE, NEWMILNS**

11. There was submitted a report dated 9 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services in respect of the poor physical condition of the above property and recommending that it be declared surplus to requirements.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Browns Institute, Newmilns, be declared surplus to the requirements of the Community Services Department; and
- (ii) that the Head of Property make the necessary arrangements, in line with the agreed procedure, for the disposal of this property.

#### **PROPOSED SEMINAR - INTER AUTHORITY WORKING GROUP ON LOW FLYING AIRCRAFT**

12. There was submitted a report dated 29 November 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services regarding a request from the Inter Authority Working Group on Low Flying Aircraft that the Council consider making a contribution towards the cost of a Seminar, and recommending agreement in principle subject to available resources.

The Director of Community Services reported that he had been advised yesterday that the Ministry of Defence had indicated that it was unwilling to participate in the proposed Seminar and as a consequence the Seminar was not proceeding at the present time.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Community Services submit a further report on this matter to this Committee in due course.

Councillors McIntyre and Nicoll left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

### **HEARTBEAT AWARDS**

13. There was submitted a report dated 13 December 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee of the involvement of the former Kilmarnock and Loudoun and Cumnock and Doon Valley District Councils in the promotion of the Heartbeat Awards in conjunction with the other Ayrshire Authorities and Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, outlining the continued involvement of the Community Services Department in the active promotion of the principles of the Heartbeat Award Scheme in East Ayrshire and identifying how a co-operative approach with other Departments of the Council could further enhance the principles of healthy eating in a clean, smoke free environment in premises within East Ayrshire.

It was agreed to authorise the Director of Community Services to make an appropriate input to the corporate strategy in conjunction with other Departments of the Council through the Member/Officer Working Group established by the Policy and Resources Committee for the formulation of an East Ayrshire Eating for Health policy.

### **SCOTTISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT 1996**

14. There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 November 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services providing details of the above document, recently published by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, a copy of which was available for inspection.

### **AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN HEALTH BOARD - INFECTIOUS DISEASE/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NEWSLETTER**

15. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 November 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services providing details of the contents of the August/September/October 1996 Newsletter distributed by the Board.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT: BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 6 DECEMBER 1996 (PERIOD 9)**

16. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Finance on the current budgetary control position of the Community Services Department for the period ending 6 December 1996 (period 9).

### **AWARD OF TENDERS**

17. There was submitted and noted a report dated 10 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services providing the undernoted details of tenders which had been awarded in respect of Community Services contracts, viz:-

<u>Contract</u>	<u>Successful Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Heating Improvement Works, John Fulton Hall, Fenwick	Commercial Operations Department, East Ayrshire Council	£33,174.48
Roof Repairs to Altonhill Community Centre, Kilmarnock	Commercial Operations Department, East Ayrshire Council	£30,883.52

The meeting terminated at 1515 hours.