

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN SORN VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET, SORN**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Ross, Jim Kelly, David Sneller, James Boyd, George Smith, Jimmy Carmichael and Eric Jackson; and Community Representatives: James Murray, William Lees, Peter Neely, Alex Currie, Hugh Murdoch and Jack Campbell.

ATTENDING: Ken Robinson, Principal Administrative Officer; Janie Allen, Principal Officer, Pre-Five Services (Education); Inspector Robert Pollock, Police Liaison Officer; Bill Hunter, Area Community Education Officer; Mike Rooney, Area Team Leader - Environmental Health (Community Services); Margaret Geddes, Assistant Divisional Social Work Manager; George Fraser, Senior Policy Adviser - Strategy/Partnership (Development Services); Alan Paterson, Community Education Officer; Valerie Walker, Pre-School Community Organiser (Education); and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Community Representatives Reverend William Buchan, William Crawford and Alan Anderson.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Ross, Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. There were submitted for information the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 28 October 1997 (circulated).

It was agreed to note:-

- (i) the Minutes of the Meeting as submitted, subject to the following amendments, namely:-
 - (a) Item 2 - that the overall winner was "R & M Hutchison" rather than "R & F Hutchison" as indicated; and
 - (b) Item 13.2 - that the new street would be called "Grassmillees Way" rather than "Crossmillees Way" as indicated; and
- (ii) arising from the Minutes, that Post Office Counters Limited had confirmed that they had now approved the proposed change of status of Sorn Sub-Post Office to a Community Post Office with a corresponding reduction in opening hours, to be effective from 12 January 1998; and that the proposed meeting between representatives of the Local Committee and Post Office Counters Limited would not now be taking place.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES (Item 2, Page 2490)

2. It was reported that the following nominations for Community Representatives and named substitute had been received from the undernoted organisations to serve on the Cumnock Area Local Committee for the period until 31 March 1998, and that these nominations had been accepted by the Chair, namely:-

Cumnock and Doon Valley Youth Panel - Mr Hugh Murdoch (member of the Youth Panel); and substitute - Mr Mark Kerr (Youth Worker with the Youth Information Project and formerly Community Member representing youth groups); and

Tenants Groups - Mrs Elizabeth Elliott (member of Keir Hardie Hill Residents' and Tenants' Association, Cumnock).

PRESENTATION: AYRSHIRE DOCTORS ON CALL

3. The Committee received a presentation from Dr David Watts, Chief Executive of Ayrshire Doctors on Call, accompanied by Deanna Drummond, Acting Business Manager, on the operation of the Ayrshire Doctors on Call Service.

Following the presentation, a general discussion on the Service took place during which Dr Watts answered questions put by Members of the Committee.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Dr Watts and Mrs Drummond for what had been an interesting and informative presentation. Dr Watts and Mrs Drummond then left the meeting.

PRESENTATION BY STRATHCLYDE POLICE: FORCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 1998/99

4. A video presentation was given by Inspector John Merrylees, Strathclyde Police, in relation to Strathclyde Police - Force Goals and Objectives for the year 1998/99.

The video described the work of Strathclyde Police and Inspector Merrylees intimated that Strathclyde Police had made a commitment to community safety and invited Committee Members as individuals through their respective organisations to make representations on any aspect of the work of Strathclyde Police.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the video was available for loan to interested groups and organisations; and
- (ii) that Community Members would forward representations on any aspect of the work of the Police Force to Strathclyde Police.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Inspector Merrylees for coming along to make the presentation. Inspector Merrylees then left the meeting.

EAST AYRSHIRE EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE (Item 3, Page 2430)

5. There was submitted a report dated 27 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services advising of how the Government's Welfare to Work proposals were being dealt with in East Ayrshire and of the formation of the new East Ayrshire Employment Initiative.

The Committee:-

- (i) welcomed the proposals for the East Ayrshire Employment Initiative in terms of its potential impact upon unemployed people within the Local Committee's area, but recognised the importance of appropriate and adequate funding being made available by the Government to ensure effective implementation of the Initiative;

- (ii) otherwise, noted the terms of the report; and
- (iii) agreed that the Director of Development Services submit reports on further developments on the Welfare to Work proposals relative to the Local Committee's area to future meetings, as and when appropriate.

**CUMNOCK AREA COMMUNITY FORUM: MEETING: 18 NOVEMBER 1997
(Item 3, Page 2635)**

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 26 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the outcome of the Cumnock Area Community Forum Meeting held in Muirkirk I.F.E. Wing on the evening of 18 November 1997.

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO LOCAL COMMITTEES

7. There was submitted a report dated 1 December 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services inviting the Local Committee to consider and determine certain matters in order to facilitate arrangements for the recruitment of Community Representatives to serve on the Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the present Community Representation on the Committee and dates of appointments, as detailed in the report;
- (ii) that this Local Committee would review community organisation representation during the February/March meeting cycle of each year;
- (iii) to recommend that Community Representatives and named Substitutes be appointed to this Local Committee on an individual basis for a period of one year from the date of their appointment; and
- (iv) to remit to the Director of Support Services to, at the appropriate time, initiate the process for the submission of new nominations for Community Representatives by the relevant organisations and to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate this process.

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL: DRAFT CHILDREN'S SERVICE PLAN (Item 8, Page 2636)

8. There was submitted, for information, and noted, a copy of the finalised draft of the East Ayrshire Council Children's Service Plan (circulated).

Councillor Carmichael left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

**KEIR HARDIE HILL RESIDENTS' AND TENANTS' ASSOCIATION, CUMNOCK -
REQUEST FOR GRANT**

9. There was submitted a report dated 13 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on an application for annual operating grant submitted by Keir Hardie Hill Residents' and Tenants' Association, Cumnock.

It was agreed that a grant of £50 be made to this Association in respect of their operating expenses for the current financial year, the expenditure to be met from the housing revenue account for 1997/98.

ADULT EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY (Item 10, Page 2717)

10. There was submitted a report dated 24 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education advising of developments in Adult Education through the Community Education Service in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to recognise the developing commitment to Adult Education within the Community Education Service; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

**URBAN PROGRAMME: CUMNOCK AND DOON VALLEY WOMEN'S AID
REFUGE (Item 9, Page 2636)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 25 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the work of the Cumnock and Doon Valley Women's Aid Refuge Project which was a voluntary urban programme initiative supervised by the Social Work Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work report to Committee on an annual basis in relation to voluntary urban programme projects within the Committee's area.

COMMUNITY SAFETY (Item 19, Page 2611)

12. There was submitted a joint report dated 30 September 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services and the Police Liaison Officer outlining the key issues relating to Community Safety and recommending adoption, in principle, of a draft Community Safety Strategy to improve the quality of life in East Ayrshire and make it a safer place to live, work and visit.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to adopt in principle the draft Community Safety Strategy;
- (ii) that individual Members could, if they so wished, submit comments on the draft Strategy to the Director of Community Services;
- (iii) that the Director of Community Services submit a further report to a future meeting incorporating the views of all Local Committees, prior to final adoption of the Community Safety Strategy; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the report.

Councillor Sneller left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

LOCAL CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME: SORN VILLAGE HALL (Item 6, Page 2707)

13. There was submitted and noted a report dated 28 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the Local Capital Grants Scheme operated by Central Government in conjunction with local authorities and advising of an application for a local capital grant received from The Scottish Office Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries Department, to assist in meeting the cost of various works of improvement, renovation and upgrading to Sorn Village Hall.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

14. There was submitted a statement dated 3 December 1997 (circulated) prepared by the Director of Support Services summarising the pertinent information relative to outstanding applications for Community Grants received from local organisations and outlining the financial position in respect of applications for grant received so far during the financial year 1997/98.

14.1 Declaration of Interest

Community Member Hugh Murdoch declared an interest in respect of the application for grant submitted by Barshare Junior Youth Club, Cumnock, and took no part in consideration of this application.

14.2 Applications Approved (for the purpose specified in the application), viz:-

(a) Elderly Interest Groups

- (i) Muirkirk Elderly Forum - £200;

(b) Young Persons Groups

- (i) 4th Cumnock Brownies - £60 (previously approved by the Director of Support Services after consultation with the Vice-Chair in terms of delegated powers);
- (ii) Afton Lone Parents, New Cumnock

Councillor Boyd, seconded by Councillor Ross, moved that the Committee agree, in principle, to make a grant award to the Afton Lone Parents Group in respect of the application submitted, with further consideration to be given to the exact amount to be awarded.

Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Kelly, moved as an amendment that no grant award be made to the Afton Lone Parents Group in respect of this application since the Group had already been awarded a Playscheme Grant this financial year and bearing in mind the limited funds which now remain available to the Local Committee for Community Grants for this financial year.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 3 votes to 2.

It was then agreed that a grant of £150 be made to this Group;

- (iii) Catrine Nursery Bus Scheme - £100;

- (iv) Cumnock Mothers and Toddlers - £300;
- (v) Netherthird and Craigens Under 5's - £300; and
- (vi) Barshare Junior Youth Club, Cumnock - £300;
- (c) Miscellaneous Groups
 - (i) New Cumnock Sewing Group (Item 15.2.2, Page 2640) - £524;
 - (ii) Cumnock District Company - St Andrew's Ambulance Corps - £200; and
 - (iii) Skerrington and Netherthird Co-operative Women's Guild (Item 18.2 (e) (iv), Page 2497) - £150 (previously awarded with the approval of the Director of Support Services following consultation with the Chair in terms of the remit given by this Committee on 17 September 1997).

14.3 Applications Deferred

- (a) Miscellaneous Groups
 - (i) Catrine - A Safer Community - that consideration of this application be continued to a future meeting to enable further information to be obtained from the Group on their proposed use of the grant monies and also on the use which had been made of the grant awarded to the Group by the Local Committee last year.

The meeting terminated at 1710 hours.