

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING WITH THE ELDERLY FORUM STEERING GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2000 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillor David Macrae.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Bill Stafford, Director of Community Services; Martin Clark, Service Unit Manager, Social Work Department; Janice Harrison, Elderly Forum Support Worker, Social Work Department; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer; and Elderly Forum Representatives: Winnie Campbell and Agnes Gallagher, South Kilmarnock Elderly Forum; Catherine Brown and Jessie Graham, Irvine Valley Elderly Forum; William Shaw and Oswald Swindlehurst, Muirkirk Elderly Forum; and Jessie Duffy and Norah McCabe, Northwest Elderly Forum.

ALSO ATTENDING: Grace Bingham, Clinical Manager, East Ayrshire Local Health Care Co-operative.

CHAIR: Councillor David Macrae, Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Minutes of the previous meeting of 8 September 1999 (circulated) were submitted and approved.

MATTERS ARISING

2.1 EAST AYRSHIRE SHELTERED HOUSING

The Service Unit Manager, Social Work, advised that the Director of Social Work had reviewed the service and as a result cover for Sheltered Housing had been increased from 18 hours to 24 hours with a link to Community Alarm service between 12 noon and 6pm. This will take effect from 1 May 2000.

It was agreed to note the position and that sheltered housing/very sheltered housing would be discussed at the Annual Conference to be held in June 2000.

COMMUNITY SERVICES IN RELATION TO OLDER PEOPLE

3. The Director of Community Services gave a verbal presentation on the range of services provided by Community Services in relation to older people.

The Elderly Forum members then asked questions to the Director of Community Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Service Unit Manager, Social Work Department in consultation with the Director of Community Services be asked to consider the possibility of organising a special bus trip for Elderly Forum Representatives to the Dean

Castle Country Park and the Palace Theatre and to advise of arrangements at a future meeting; and

- (ii) otherwise to note the presentation by the Director of Community Services.

CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL SCHEME

4. The Chair advised that Councillor Ross had not been able to attend the meeting and indicated that arrangements would be made for a representative of the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority to attend the next meeting and give an update on concessionary travel.

CUMNOCK COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

5. Grace Bingham, Clinical Manager, East Ayrshire Local Health Care Co-operative gave a verbal presentation on the range of facilities planned for the new Cumnock Community Hospital, currently under construction.

In particular, the following information was confirmed:-

- that there would be a frail elderly ward, elderly mental health unit, a GP Unit with 24 places available within the day hospital and an outpatients department;
- the total bed capacity of the hospital was 74;
- the services provided within the hospital included medical cover, nursing cover, facilities for professions (allied to medicine), consultant cover and facilities for community staff; and
- Social Work staff would not be based within the hospital on a permanent basis, but would provide a service to individuals as required.

Elderly Forum members then asked questions to Grace Bingham.

The Chair thanked Grace Bingham for her presentation.

ELDERLY FORUM CONFERENCE - JUNE 2000

6. The Elderly Forum Support Worker advised that arrangements were underway to establish the Elderly Forum Conference at the end of June 2000. In particular, the potential list of speakers included representatives from the Social Work and Housing Departments and it was intended to invite the two local Members of the Scottish Parliament. It was intended to hold workshops and use the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock as the venue.

BETTER GOVERNMENT FOR OLDER PEOPLE - NETWORK OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

7. The Service Unit Manager, Social Work Department reported on the background to the initiative for Promoting Better Government for Older People and requested the Elderly Forum Steering Group to consider joining the network of existing Local Authorities to improve the exchange of information and enable contact to be made with elderly forum groups from other areas.

It was agreed to support the Better Government for Older People Initiative and to request for funding support from the Social Work Committee of East Ayrshire Council.

REQUESTS FOR PRESENTATIONS AT FUTURE MEETINGS

8. The Chair invited representatives to suggest topics for presentations at future meetings.

It was agreed that each representative group consider a suitable topic for a future presentation and advise the Elderly Forum Support Worker in due course.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9. It was agreed to hold the next meeting on Monday 25 September 2000 at 1400 hours within the Meeting Room, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock.

The meeting terminated at 1537 hours.

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