

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (EAST AYRSHIRE)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 1999 AT 1730 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillor Drew McIntyre (Chair).

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Gwen Barker, Manager, Social Inclusion, Social Work; Margaret Phelps, Liaison Officer, Social Work; Janice Harrison, Support Worker, Social Work Department and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, together with representatives from the Council of Voluntary Organisations (East Ayrshire) John Houston; Iain Brown; George Nutman; Alexis Dillan; Archie Graham (S.C.V.O); Cathy Brown; Jean Smith and James Murray.

CHAIR: Councillor McIntyre (Chair).

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 19 July 1999 were submitted and approved subject to the inclusion of Cathy Brown's apologies being recorded.

MATTERS ARISING

2. The following matter arose from the minutes:-

2.1 East Ayrshire Volunteer Policy: - Development

Margaret Phelps advised that work was underway in preparing the East Ayrshire Volunteer Policy and it was anticipated that this would be prepared by the end of November 1999.

PREMISES

3. The meeting discussed a recent exchange of correspondence in relation to the lease of the former Muirkirk Local Office to the CVO and the signing of a Minute of Agreement between the CVO and the Muirkirk Enterprise Group over use of the premises.

Fiona Lees requested clarification of the CVO's position in relation to this matter and it was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1803 to allow the CVO 10 minutes to discuss their position.

The meeting reconvened at 1813 hours with the same member, representatives from the CVO and Officers, present and in attendance.

Following discussion, the CVO agreed to decline the Council's offer of lease of the former Muirkirk Local Office as a possible office location for the CVO and the CVO agreed to confirm their position in writing.

COALFIELDS REGENERATION TRUST - FUNDING CRITERIA

4. Gwen Barker, Manager, Social Inclusion, Social Work Department gave a presentation on the funding criteria in relation to the Coalfields Regeneration Trust.

After discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the presentation;
- (ii) that Gwen Barker would circulate copies of the slides and the funding pack to representatives of the CVO; and
- (iii) to note that the SCVO had been awarded European Structural Funds to administer small grants to voluntary organisations, with the possibility of match-funding from other funding sources.

UPDATE ON WORK IN PROGRESS

5. John Houston of the CVO updated the meeting with regard to the work in progress:-

- (i) New Deal road shows had taken place in Cumnock and Kilmarnock, with a total of 56 organisations represented, 11 New Deal placements had been obtained and a database of voluntary organisations not represented on the CVO had been compiled which would assist with future networking opportunities;
- (ii) noted that the CVO had co-hosted a funding awareness meeting held recently at Crosshouse Hospital and had been well attended by community and voluntary groups;
- (iii) noted that a presentation skills seminar was recently held at Kilmarnock Police Station with other voluntary organisations. It was noted that the lack of appropriate access, may have been a factor in the reduced numbers in attendance at the training session and more accessible user friendly accommodation would be used in the future;
- (iv) noted that the Support Needs questionnaire had been issued to a wide range of groups and that the membership now stood at 33 members;
- (v) the vacant post of Development Officer had been advertised and it was anticipated that shortleeting/interviews would commence shortly; and
- (vi) noted that the Old Industrial Areas Project administered by the SCVO had obtained an extension of funding for a limited period and it would be used to establish or strengthen Council's for voluntary service throughout the project area, this included East Ayrshire.

FUTURE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

6. Representatives of the CVO advised that they were in the process of working up an application to apply for Rural Support Funding for the next three years and at the moment they had no plans to apply to the Council for funding.

PRESENTATION TO EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL AT LOCAL COMMITTEES

7. It was agreed to postpone the presentation arrangements to East Ayrshire Council's Local Committee's until the appointment of the Development Worker.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8. It was agreed, in principle, that the CVO would continue to work in close co-operation with the Council on arrangements to consult all voluntary organisations within East Ayrshire on the Council's budget proposals for 2000/2001. To this end, a meeting was likely to be arranged during February 2000.

The meeting terminated at 1838 hours.

**TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE
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AT THE TOP LEFT OF THE PAGE**