

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8 JUNE 2000 AT 1400 HOURS IN
KILMAURS COMMUNITY CENTRE, EAST PARK DRIVE, KILMAURS**

PRESENT: Councillors Brian McNeil and Ann Hay; and Community Representatives Carolyn Blyth, Watson Muirhead, Russel Hutcheson, John Douglas, Iain Finlayson, Alan Dickson, Jo Graham, Margaret Lees and George Paterson; and named Substitute Mary White.

ATTENDING: Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Len Paget, Principal Engineer; Neil Bell, Senior Engineer; Hugh Mitchell, Police Liaison Officer; John Laurenson, Senior Librarian; Anna Gallagher, Solicitor/Team Leader; Jane Overton, Strategy Adviser; Eileen Brechany, Team Leader (Social Work); and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Stephanie Young and Kathleen Hall.

CHAIR: In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Brian McNeil was appointed to the Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair advised of the recent family bereavement suffered by Councillor Stephanie Young and it was agreed to convey the Local Committee's condolences to Councillor Stephanie Young.

**RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 2000/01
(Item 2, Page 920, 99/02)**

2. There was submitted a report dated 10 May 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services on the outcome of consultation between Waterside Community Association and Lainshaw Residents Association in relation to a Community Representative to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee for the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001.

It was agreed to endorse the nomination of Mrs Jo Graham as Community Representative for the Northern Area Local Committee meetings to be held on 8 June, 6 September and 1 November 2000 and Mr John McFadden, JP, as Community Representative for the meetings to be held on 24 January, 21 March and 16 May 2001.

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

3. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1403 hours to allow a 15 minute maximum, public question and answer session.

Community Representative Jo Graham joined the meeting during this item.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

4. The meeting reconvened at 1416 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives and Officers present and in attendance.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5. There was submitted for information and noted, the Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 16 March 2000 (circulated).

It was agreed to propose, in respect of the item: Local Social Inclusion - Early Action Plan (Item 6(iv), Page 921, 99/02), that in the absence of a nomination for a Community Representative to the Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group, Mr Jimmy Miller as named Substitute represent the Committee.

LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME 2000/2001

6. There was submitted a report dated 23 May 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services on applications received from local organisations for grant assistance, in terms of the Community Grants Scheme.

The Committee took the following decisions:-

- (i) **Applications Approved** (for the purpose identified on the application), viz:-
- (a) Women's Issues
 - (i) Kilmarnock Women's Aid - £240;
 - (b) Disabled
 - (i) Stewarton Riding for Disabled Club - £964; and
 - (c) Leisure Activities
 - (i) Dunlop Over 50's Keep Fit Club - £390.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

OPERATION SPOTLIGHT

7. There was submitted a report dated 18 May 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the nature and results of "Spotlight" operations; localised crime figures and ongoing initiatives for the preceding six week period; and on forthcoming initiatives.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Community Representatives would consult with their relevant organisations and forward any ideas which could be highlighted by Strathclyde Police in the "Spotlight" initiative to Hugh Mitchell, Police Liaison Officer at Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 7BU, or to Sergeant John Ramage at Kilmarnock Police Headquarters;

- (ii) to note that the "Schoolwatch" initiative, in conjunction with the Department of Education, would begin in the schools' summer recess and that local residents suspicious of any behaviour in school grounds should contact Strathclyde Police at Kilmarnock Police Headquarters in the first instance; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

MISCELLANEOUS

POLICE REPORT

8. It was agreed to continue this item to the next meeting of this Committee to be held on 6 September 2000.

CORPORATE SERVICES

DEVELOPING THE LAINSHAW AREA OF STEWARTON

(Item 12, Page 924, 99/02)

9. There was submitted a report dated 31 May 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services on progress made with regard to developments in the Lainshaw Area of Stewarton, in particular, safety issues regarding roads and footways at Lainshaw Street; street lighting on footpath from Lainshaw Primary School at David Dale Avenue; residents' concerns regarding trees at Lainshaw; and the future of the Lainshaw Strategy Group.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Lainshaw Woods Project would be completed by late August 2000;
- (ii) having heard the Solicitor/Team Leader, Legal Services, note that the landowner was responsible for the safety of the trees on his land and that an inspection by Community Services Outdoor Services had confirmed the current safety of the trees in question and that at any time, in the event of the safety of the trees becoming a concern the landowner could apply to the Council as Planning Authority for permission to fell the trees, notwithstanding the existence of a Tree Preservation Order, that the matter of residents' concerns relating to trees in Lainshaw, Stewarton and the additional matter of liability resulting from felled trees featured in Paragraph 3.1.4 of the report, be considered closed;
- (iii) having heard the Solicitor/Team Leader, Legal Services, note that no right of way had been declared or recorded in the East Ayrshire Rights of Way Register and having considered all the evidence available the Council was not satisfied that there was sufficient evidence of the existence of a right of way which would justify the Council in pursuing the matter through the Sheriff Court, that the matter of the status of the right of way claim at Kilwinning Road, Lainshaw, Stewarton, featured in a report (Item 12(ii), Page 924, 99/02) to this Committee on 27 April 2000 be considered closed. It was also noted that any other party, should they consider it justifiable, may pursue the matter through the Sheriff Court;
- (iv) that the Director of Development Services would report to this Committee on:-

- (a) a proposed 'Gateway' feature and associated traffic management measures at Lainshaw Street, A735;
 - (b) potential funding of a street lighting scheme on the footpath from Lainshaw Primary School to David Dale Avenue; and
 - (c) the potential adoption of the footpath (iv), (b), above, by the Roads and Transportation Division; and
- (v) that the matter of the standing down of Lainshaw Strategy Group be continued pending reports to this Committee on the matters described in (iv), (a), (b) and (c) above.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

10. There was submitted a report dated 15 May 2000 (circulated) by the Community Representatives Working Party on arrangements to hold an Annual Seminar for Community Representatives in November 2000; which sought the Local Committee's views thereon; and which requested details of any issues in respect of the Local Committee process that Community Representatives would wish discussed at the Annual Seminar.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the arrangements for the Annual Seminar for Community Representatives in November 2000 and that further information would be issued to individual Community Representatives when arrangements had been finalised; and
- (ii) that Community Representatives would consult with their parent groups and submit to the Community Representatives Working Group, via the relevant Local Committee Administrative Officer, any issues which they would wish the next Annual Seminar to consider. Within this context, Mr Iain Finlayson suggested the provision of an induction pack for newly appointed Community Representatives and named Substitutes on Local Committees; and the discussion item, viz:- "What Makes a Good Committee?".

COMMUNITY FORUM LOCAL ITEMS

11. It was noted that the next Northern Area Community Forum would take place in Autumn 2000.

It was agreed that the local item would be "Grounds Maintenance, Open Spaces, Cemeteries etc".

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

B7061 AT FENWICK TO B7038 LINK TO KILMARNOCK

12. There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 May 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services in response to suggestions that the feasibility of a link road between the B7061 South Fenwick to the B7038 Glasgow Road be explored.

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE COMMUNITY SAFETY
FORUM (Item 9, Page 923, 99/02)**

13. It was reported that Iain Finlayson, Community Representative and Carolyn Blyth, as named Substitute, representatives of the Northern Area Local Committee on the East Ayrshire Community Forum, had resigned (Item 9, Page 923, 99/02).

It was agreed to appoint Watson Muirhead, Community Representative, to represent the Northern Area Local Committee on the East Ayrshire Community Safety Forum until June 2001.

LOCAL ISSUES

14.1 LOCAL ISSUES PROGRAMME

There was submitted a report dated 15 May 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which provided information on the local issues raised and, where applicable, the timescale for reporting back to the Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to support the practice of Community Representatives being able to raise local items on Committee Agendas for future discussion; and
- (ii) to note the existing list of Local Committee item issues, as detailed in the Appendix to the report.

14.2 NEW LOCAL ISSUES

Community Representatives were invited to raise any items of local interest for inclusion on a future Agenda.

It was agreed to include in the Forward Planner for future Local Committee business a report on grounds maintenance (grass cutting), at Fenwick and Kilmaurs cemeteries in particular and the maintenance of the public toilets situated at Kilmaurs.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CHILDCARE

15. There was submitted a report dated 31 May 2000 (circulated) by the Chief Executive on progress in developing a finance and management structure of the Out of School Hours Childcare within Kilmarnock and the Northern Area.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to support the planned bid to the Social Inclusion Challenge Fund for £15,000;
- (ii) in principle, to consider a future application for the new consortium for Local Committee funds; and
- (iii) to note progress being made to ensure the continuation and development of Out of School Hours provision.

The meeting terminated at 1531 hours.