

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 22 MAY 1997 AT 1000 HOURS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Tommy Farrell, Gordon McCredie, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Ronald Brailsford, Provost Robert Stirling and Councillors John Knapp, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll, Eric Ross, David Sneller, George Smith, Robert Taylor and Eric Jackson; Church Representatives, William McConnell and Matthew Sullivan; Parent Representative, Shelagh McKerrall and Teacher Representative, Iain Harvey.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Margaret Burnell, Senior Depute Director of Education; Sue Angus, Depute Director of Education; Jennifer Wallace, Depute Director of Education; Graham Short, Head of Quality Development; Kenneth McKinlay, Quality Development Officer; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer; Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer and Lesley-Ann Wallace, Administrative Assistant.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Douglas Reid, George Turnbull and Jimmy Carmichael.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. In welcoming members to the meeting of the Education Committee, the Chair highlighted a number of recent events in the Education Service for the information of Committee members:-

(i) **Appointment of Head Teacher - Galston Primary School**

The Chair advised that Catherine Gordon, Head Teacher at Silverwood Primary School, Kilmarnock had been appointed to the post of Head Teacher at Galston Primary School with effect from the new term in August. The post of Head Teacher at Silverwood Primary School will be advertised on 23 May 1997. Warm wishes were expressed to Catherine for every success in her new appointment.

(ii) **SFA Fun Fours Festival - Hampden Stadium**

Six Primary five pupils from Shortlees Primary School had taken part in the finals of the SFA Fun Fours Festival at Hampden Stadium on 14 May 1997. It was noted that there was no overall winner as everyone that had taken part in the festival was regarded as a winner.

(iii) **Stewarton Academy - Barclay's New Futures Award**

Stewarton Academy had won a Barclay's New Futures Award worth £3,000 for their submission of a project which involved pupils undertaking internal studies of the school surrounds. From their results it was hoped to plant

native woodland trees and shrubs in several sites to improve the overall environment in the vicinity of public rights of ways, to provide a wind break, to provide additional habitat for native wildlife which may be used into the future as a teaching/study/research resource for the school and community groups.

(iv) **Kilmaurs Primary School - "Communicate 2001"**

Kilmaurs Primary School had won £2,000 following the success of their entry in the recent "Communicate 2001" School Competition which had been organised by British Telecom. It was noted that the school links through video communication with schools in Georgia, USA.

(v) **Parents Annual Conference**

The Department of Education's annual conference for parents was scheduled to take place on Saturday 7 June 1997 within the Council's Offices at London Road. It was noted that parents would be given every opportunity to participate and express views on how best to continue to strengthen links with the Education Department.

(vi) **Strathclyde Region Arts Initiative - Cumnock Academy**

The Chair and the Director of Education had been invited to unveil two murals at Cumnock Academy on 21 May 1997. The murals had been funded with money received from a successful bid to Strathclyde Region Arts Initiative and were appropriately placed within the school to brighten up public areas.

(vii) **Schools Showcase - Palace Theatre**

It was noted that the Schools Showcase was being held in the Palace Theatre on 30 May 1997. Fourteen Schools would be involved with over 500 pupils participating and owing to popular demand, the event had been extended to include a performance for Thursday evening. Around 1,000 will attend the performances.

RESIGNATION OF JENNIFER WALLACE, DEPUTE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2. The Chair on behalf of the Education Committee, extended warm wishes to Jennifer Wallace who would be leaving East Ayrshire Council to take up a new appointment and expressed sincere thanks to Jennifer for her work within the Education Department, particularly during the budget process.

COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

3. There was submitted and approved as a correct record and in respect of the recommendations contained therein, the Sub-Committee Minutes of the Community Sub-Committee of the Education Committee of 6 May 1997, as detailed in the Appendix to these Minutes (circulated).

It was noted, during consideration of the Minutes that the Minister for Education had indicated that there would be increased funding for the Early Identification and Intervention Initiative.

**PERFORMANCE OF CATERING, CLEANING AND JANITORIAL SERVICES
(Item 4.2, Page 1535))**

4. There was submitted a report dated 3 April 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations which provided an update on the current status of statutory and non-statutory catering, cleaning and janitorial work.

It was agreed to note that the cleaning and catering services were being delivered to the standard required by the catering, cleaning and janitorial services contract.

PROMOTING ENTERPRISE IN EAST AYRSHIRE SCHOOLS

5. There was submitted a report dated 6 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of programmes within the Education Department's strategic plan for the development of enterprise skills in the young people in East Ayrshire schools through programmes incorporated within the curriculum including projects and initiatives which had been undertaken by groups of students.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the commitment of the Department of Education in developing enterprise activities in East Ayrshire Schools;
- (ii) that the Director of Education liaise with Enterprise Ayrshire, Scottish Enterprise and the business community as potential sources of funding;
- (iii) to encourage the Quality Development Team to monitor enterprise activities within the context of school development plans; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

It was also agreed to insert the word "responsible" before "entrepreneurship" in paragraph 6.1 of the report.

**DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY - KILMAURS PRIMARY SCHOOL
(SITE OF FORMER LIBRARY)**

6. There was submitted report dated 24 April 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education which sought approval to transfer a portion of land within the playground of Kilmaurs Primary School from the Department of Education to the Department of Community Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to declare the site of the former library at Kilmaurs Primary School surplus to the requirements of the Department of Education; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education refer the matter to the Head of Property Services for re-allocation to the Department of Community Services.

**PROPOSED PROCEDURE FOR PROCESSING APPEALS REGARDING
BURSARY AWARDS**

7. There was submitted a report dated 6 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which sought approval for the proposed procedure in respect of bursary appeals.

It was agreed to approve the appeals procedure as detailed in Appendix I of the report.

**THE CULLEN REPORT - CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR A NATIONAL
SYSTEM OF ACCREDITATION AND VETTING INFORMATION FOR ADULTS
WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND
(Item 6, Page 2018)**

8. There was submitted a report dated 8 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the issues arising from a consultation on proposals for a National System of Accreditation and Vetting Information for Adults working with Children and Young People and the response of the Department of Education to the Scottish Office.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the responses to the consultation on proposals for a National System of Accreditation and Vetting Information for Adults working with Young People in Scotland as detailed in the report be approved; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education respond to the Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID) in the terms outlined in the report regarding the consultation document.

The meeting terminated at 1045 hours.