

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30 MAY 1996 AT 1000 HOURS  
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,  
KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Tommy Farrell, Gordon McCredie, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Douglas Reid, Ronald Brailsford, Provost Robert Stirling, Councillors John Knapp, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll, George Tumbull, Eric Ross, David Sneller, George Smith, Jimmy Carmichael, Robert Taylor and Eric Jackson; and Church representatives: William McConnell, John McHugh and Matthew Sullivan.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors Jim Kelly and Jimmy Boyd.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute 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; Robin Gourlay, Depute Director of Commercial Operations; Robert McLeary, Head of Property; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; John McHarg, Area Property Officer; James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer; and David Morgan, Public Relations Officer.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

**MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES****1.1 COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF 14 MAY 1996**

There was submitted and approved both as a correct record and in respect of recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of the Community Sub-Committee held on 14 May 1996 (circulated) as detailed in Appendix I of these Minutes.

**1.2 BUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE OF 16 MAY 1996**

There was submitted and approved both as a correct record and in respect of recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of the Business Sub-Committee held on 16 May 1996 (circulated) as detailed in Appendix 2 of these Minutes.

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND EQUAL  
OPPORTUNITIES STRATEGIES WITHIN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

2. There was submitted a report dated 14 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education advising of steps being taken to ensure progress in respect of the Council's policies on social, economic and equal opportunities strategies.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor, moved:-

- (i) that the Committee note the progress being made in respect of the social, economic and equal opportunities policies;

- (ii) that the Director of Education monitor continued progress; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education report to future Meetings of the Education Committee and Community Sub-Committee as appropriate with service development plans and the revised statement of equal opportunities policy, principles and practice.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Reid, moved as amendment that the Director of Education report to future Meetings of the Education Committee and Community Sub-Committee as appropriate, with service development plans and the revised statement of equal opportunities policy, principles and practice.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by fifteen votes to five.

### **MAKING A COMMITMENT TO QUALITY**

3. There was submitted a report dated 21 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education, seeking the endorsement of the action proposed to consult widely to establish a statement of commitment for the work of the Education Service.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Education consult widely to establish the title and content of a statement which, based upon the values previously endorsed for the Education Department, would provide a framework for all who work in, and benefit from, the Education Service; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education report to a future Meeting of the Education Committee with details of the outcome of the consultation exercise.

### **THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF THE TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Item 8, Page 176)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 23 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education, informing of the results of the election of the teacher representative to the Education Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that Iain Harvey of Loudoun Academy, has been successful in the election of the teacher representative to the Education Committee; and
- (ii) to remit recommendation to the Council that Iain Harvey be appointed as the teacher representative to serve on the Education Committee with full voting rights.

### **THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF THE PARENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Item 8, Page 176)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education informing of the results of the election of the parent representative to the Education Committee.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Reid, moved that as the parent representative was elected only by parents serving on school boards within East Ayrshire Council:-

- (i) to note that Shelagh McKerrall, Silverwood Primary School Board, had been successful in the election of the school board representative to the Education Committee; and
- (ii) to remit recommendation to the Council that Shelagh McKerrall be appointed as the school board representative to serve on the Education Committee.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) to note that Shelagh McKerrall, Silverwood Primary School Board, had been successful in the election of the parent representative to serve on the Education Committee; and
- (ii) to remit recommendation to the Council that Shelagh McKerrall be appointed as the parent representative to serve on the Education Committee with full voting rights.

On a division by a show of hands, the amendment was carried by fifteen votes to five.

### **RATIONALISATION OF SCHOOLS (Item 2, Page 742)**

#### **6.1 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR DENOMINATIONAL PUPILS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE DELINEATED AREA OF ST THOMAS'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MUIRKIRK, AND ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, CUMNOCK**

There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education, providing details of the results of the consultation on the future educational provision for denominational pupils of primary age residing within the delineated area of St Thomas' Primary School, Muirkirk, and St John's Primary School, Cumnock.

Local Members and other Members of the Committee commented on the results of the consultation.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Brailsford, moved that the proposals for rationalisation of schools, as detailed in Items 6.1 to 6.6 on the Agenda, should be considered all together.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor, moved as an amendment that each proposal for the rationalisation of schools, as detailed in Items 6.1 to 6.6 on the Agenda, should be considered individually.

On a division by a show of hands, the amendment was carried fifteen votes to five. Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor moved;-

- (i) that St Thomas' Primary School be closed with effect from the end of the

current school session in June 1996, or at as early a date as possible thereafter;

- (ii) that the pupils attending St Thomas' Primary School should transfer to St John's Primary School, Cumnock, from the start of the school session in August 1996, or at as early a date as possible thereafter;

- (iii) that the delineated area of St John's Primary School, Cumnock, be amended to incorporate the current delineated area of St Thomas' Primary School, Muirkirk;
- (iv) that the Director of Education should consider proposals to use the building for a pre-five provision;
- (v) to note that in terms of the Education (Publication and Consultation Etc) (Scotland) Regulations 1981, the implementation of the proposal to close St Thomas' Primary School would require the consent of the Secretary of State as the alternative Primary provision was more than five miles from the existing school and that therefore the proposal would be referred to him by the Director of Education; and
- (vi) to note that the decision of the Secretary of State would be reported to the Education Committee in due course.

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, moved as an amendment the direct negative.

Councillor Reid requested, in terms of Standing Order 35, that the vote be taken by roll call.

On a division by a show of hands, the request that the vote be taken by roll call was defeated by fifteen votes to five and failed to secure the support of one third of the members of the Committee present.

Thereafter on a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by fifteen votes to six.

### **6.1.1 School Transport**

During discussion of the above item, concern was expressed regarding existing transport arrangements for pupils travelling to and from schools and it was agreed that the Director of Education should prepare a report on this matter including reference to supervision on single decker buses and the provision of seat belts on buses for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.

### **6.2 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR DENOMINATIONAL PUPILS OF PRIMARY AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE DELINEATED AREAS OF ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, HURLFORD AND ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, KILMARNOCK**

There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the results of the consultation on the future educational provision for denominational pupils of primary age residing within the delineated areas of St Paul's Primary School, Hurlford and St Matthew's Primary School, Kilmarnock.

Local Members and other Members of the Committee commented on the results of the consultation.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor moved:-

- (i) that St Paul's Primary School, Hurlford, be closed with effect from the end of the school session in June 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;

- (ii) that pupils currently attending St Paul's Primary School transfer to St Matthew's Primary School from the start of the school session in August 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;
- (iii) that the delineated area of St Matthew's Primary School be amended to incorporate the current delineated area of St Paul's Primary School; and
- (iv) that the Director of Education proceed with proposals to have the school building declared surplus to requirements.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor McCredie, moved as an amendment the direct negative.

Councillor McCredie requested, in terms of Standing Order 35 that the vote be taken by roll call.

On a division by a show of hands, the request that the vote be taken by roll call was defeated by fifteen votes to five and failed to secure the support of one-third of the members of the Committee present.

Thereafter on a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by thirteen votes to seven.

### **6.3 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR NON-DENOMINATIONAL PUPILS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE DELINEATED AREAS OF CROOKEDHOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEW FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL AND HURLFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the results of the consultation on the future educational provision for non-denominational pupils of primary age residing within the delineated areas of Crookedholm Primary School, New Farm Primary School, Kilmarnock and Hurlford Primary School.

Local Members and other Members of the Committee commented on the results of the consultation.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor moved:-

- (i) that Crookedholm Primary School be closed with effect from the end of the current school session in June 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;
- (ii) that pupils be transferred to New Farm Primary School (Option A within the Consultation Document) with the transfer under this proposal taking place from the start of the school session in August 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;

- (iii) that the delineated area of New Farm Primary School be amended to incorporate the current delineated area of Crookedholm primary School; and
- (iv) that the building be declared surplus to educational requirements.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor McCredie, moved as an amendment the direct negative.

Councillor Nicoll requested, in terms of Standing Order 35, that the vote be taken by roll call.

On a division by a show of hands, the request that the vote should be taken by roll call was defeated by fifteen votes to five and failed to secure the support of one-third of the members of the Committee present.

Thereafter on a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by fourteen votes to seven.

## 6.4 CHAIR

Councillor Farrell vacated the Chair at this point and Councillor Taylor, Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

### 6.4.1 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR DENOMINATIONAL PUPILS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE DELINEATED AREAS OF ST CLARE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, SINCLAIRSTON, ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, AUCHINLECK AND ST XAVIER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, DUNASKIN

There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the results of the consultation on the future educational provision for denominational pupils of primary age residing within the delineated areas of St Clare's Primary School, Sinclairston, St Patrick's Primary School, Auchinleck and St Xavier's Primary School, Dunaskin.

Local Members and other Members of the Committee commented on the results of the consultation.

Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor McIntyre moved:-

- (i) that St Clare's Primary School be closed with effect from the end of the current school session in June 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;
- (ii) that pupils currently attending St Clare's Primary School be transferred to St Patrick's Primary School, Auchinleck, from the start of the school session in August 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;
- (iii) that the delineated area of St Patrick's Primary School be amended to incorporate the current delineated area of St Clare's Primary School;
- (iv) that pupils of Primary 7 at St Clare's Primary School continue to transfer to Queen Margaret Academy in August 1996;
- (v) that pupils who currently or would have attended St Clare's Primary School should be allowed to continue their secondary education at Queen Margaret Academy;
- (vi) that the Director of Education proceed with proposals to have the school

building declared surplus to requirements.

- (vii) to note that in terms of the Education (Publication and Consultation Etc) (Scotland) Regulations 1981, the implementation of the proposal to close St Claire's Primary School would require the consent of the Secretary of State as the alternative Primary provision was more than five miles from the existing school and that therefore the proposal would be referred to him by the Director of Education; and

- (viii) to note that the decision of the Secretary of State would be reported to the Education Committee in due course.

Councillor Brailsford, seconded by Councillor Coffey, moved as an amendment the direct negative.

Councillor Brailsford requested, in terms of Standing Order 35, that the vote be taken by roll call.

On a division by a show of hands, the request that the vote should be taken by roll call was defeated by fourteen votes to five and failed to secure the support of one-third of the members of the Committee present.

Thereafter on a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by fourteen votes to six.

#### **6.4.2 CHAIR**

Councillor Taylor vacated the Chair at this point and Councillor Farrell re-occupied the Chair.

#### **6.5 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR NON-DENOMINATIONAL PUPILS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE RESIDING WITHIN THE DELINEATED AREAS OF GROUGAR PRIMARY SCHOOL, MOSCOW AND FENWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the results of the consultation on the future educational provision for non-denominational pupils of primary age residing within the delineated areas of Grougar Primary School, Moscow and Fenwick Primary School.

Local Members and other Members of the Committee commented on the results of the consultation.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor moved:-

- (i) that Grougar Primary School, Moscow be closed with effect from the end of the current school session in June 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;
- (ii) that pupils currently attending Grougar Primary School should transfer to Fenwick Primary School from the start of the school session in August 1996 or at as early a date as possible thereafter;
- (iii) that pupils transferring from Grougar Primary School to Fenwick Primary School would continue their secondary education at Loudoun Academy;

- (iv) that where there were siblings attending James Hamilton Academy, parents be given the choice of sending their children to James Hamilton Academy or Loudoun Academy;
- (v) that the parents of the current Primary 7 pupils at Grougar Primary School be given the choice of sending their children to James Hamilton Academy or Loudoun Academy;
- (vi) that the delineated area of Fenwick Primary School be amended to incorporate the current delineated area of Grougar Primary School; and

- (vii) that the Director of Education proceed with proposals to have the school building declared surplus to requirements.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Coffey, moved as an amendment the direct negative.

Councillor Nicoll requested, in terms of Standing Order 35, that the vote be taken by roll call.

On a division by a show of hands, the request that the vote should be taken by roll call was defeated by fifteen votes to five and failed to secure the support of one-third of the members of the Committee present.

Thereafter on a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by fourteen votes to six.

## **6.6 RESULTS OF CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT - FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR SECONDARY AGED, DENOMINATIONAL PUPILS, IN THE AREAS SERVED BY ST CONVAL'S HIGH SCHOOL, CUMNOCK AND ST JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, KILMARNOCK**

There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the results of the consultation on the future educational provision for secondary aged, denominational pupils, in the area served by St Conval's High School, Cumnock and St Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock.

Local Members and other Members of the Committee commented on the results of the consultation and it was unanimously agreed

- (i) that St Conval's High School, Cumnock should not be closed from the end of the present session 1995/96;
- (ii) that the Director of Education establish a small study group comprising a balance of representation from the School Board, the Education Authority, parents and the Church to consider and develop recommendations for the future of St Conval's High School aimed at strengthening Catholic secondary education in the Cumnock area
- (iii) that the Director of Education receive detailed recommendations from the proposed study group in early October 1996; and
- (iv) that thereafter the Director of Education report to the Education Committee on future action to be taken following detailed consideration of the study group's recommendations.

The meeting terminated at 1310 hrs.

