

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1 JUNE 1999 AT 1000 HOURS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Ross, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Drew McIntyre, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, John Knapp, Jim Raymond, Finlay MacLean, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Julie Faulds, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillor Robert Taylor.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Robert Paton, Head of Economic Development; Alan Neish, Head of Planning and Building Control; William Taylor, Head of Roads and Transportation; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Jim Worley, Principal Planning Officer; Karen Macleod, Solicitor; Hamish Buttle, Planning Officer; Graham Kerr, Public Relations Officer; Brian Weadon, Area Engineer (North); and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Willie Coffey and Jimmy Carmichael.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Ross, Chair.

CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS**1.1 Declaration of Interest**

Councillors Daniel Coffey, Reid and Knapp declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of the following Item 1.2.

1.2 APPLICATION NO 98/0388/FL: KILMARNOCK FOOTBALL CLUB

There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on a full planning application for proposed leisure development with conference facilities/associated cafes/offices, kitchens, car parking and link bridge to corner infill block with viewing boxes and bar facilities at Rugby Park, Kilmarnock.

There was also submitted Note of Procedure (circulated) to be followed at the Hearing.

The Head of Planning and Building Control reported that 18 letters of objection had been received, details of which were contained within the report; summarised the planning considerations in respect of the application and recommended: (i) Approval, subject to the following conditions, viz:- (1) The development to which this permission relates must be begun within five years from the date of this permission; (2) The proposed development shall be carried out in accordance with the application form received on 5 June 1999 and the amended plans and application form received by the Planning Authority on 16 March 1999; (3) Full details of external materials (including areas of glazing) shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development; (4) Details of fume extraction equipment and pool plant shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development. Such details approved shall

be thereafter installed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority; (5) The car parking layout, landscaping, enhancements to boundary treatment and improvements to the access with Dundonald Road shall be constructed prior to the first use of the building; (6) (i) Prior to the commencement of development, the application shall, in conjunction with the Department of Community Services, confirm an average background noise level as measured at the boundary of the site with properties on Rowanhill Place. Once in operation, noise emissions from the premises shall be no more than 10 dB (A) above this previously confirmed average background noise level, when measured at any point along the boundary of the site; and (ii) Notwithstanding the above, all plant and machinery in the premises shall be designed and installed so as to ensure that its operation causes the minimum of noise disturbance in the locality; (7) Details of the CCTV positions and of the stewarding arrangements shall be submitted to, and approved by the Planning Authority prior to the first use of the building. Such details as are approved shall thereafter be implemented on all occasions that the facilities are operational beyond 2000 hours; (8) The facilities hereby approved shall be operated in accordance with the details submitted by the applicants in their letters dated 10 March and 19 February "Leisure and Sports Facilities" Addressing Membership and Access and Management. Any deviation from these details shall require the prior written agreement of the Planning Authority; (9) Details of the landscaping, including a scheme for its maintenance, shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development. Such details as are approved shall be implemented in the first available planting season following the commencement of the development and shall be maintained in accordance with approved details thereafter; and (10) No construction work shall take place on the site between 1800 hours and 0800 hours the next day Monday to Saturday. No construction work shall take place at any time on Sunday without the prior written approval of the Planning Authority; Condition (1) being imposed to comply with Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997; Condition (2) to ensure that development is carried out in accordance with the approved details; Condition (3) in the interest of visual amenity and to prevent undue loss of privacy of adjacent residential property; Condition (4) to ensure the adequate control of odours, in the interest of residential amenity; Condition (5) in the interest of road safety and residential amenity; Conditions (6) and (7) in the interest of residential amenity; Condition (8) to ensure that the development accords with the details submitted and in the interest of residential amenity and road safety; Condition (9) to ensure the early implementation of a satisfactory scheme of landscaping and to ensure its long-term maintenance; and Condition (10) to avoid construction work occurring on site into the evening and when other sources of noise have subsided, in the interest of residential amenity; and (ii) that the issuing of consent be postponed until the Solicitor to the Council has satisfactorily concluded an agreement under Section 75 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 ensuring that replacement training facilities are provided at Kirkstyle, prior to the loss of those at Rugby Park.

1.2.1 PLANNING HEARING

The Committee then heard Mr Adams and Mrs Matchett, in support of their objections and Mr Thomson, representative of the applicant, in support of the application. Members asked questions of the applicant and the representative of the applicant. The representative of the applicant responded to issues raised by an objector, all in accordance with the Hearing procedure.

The Chair closed the Hearing.

1.2.2 DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION NO 98/0388/FL

The Head of Planning and Building Control reported on the planning issues which had been raised during the Hearing.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to grant the application subject to the conditions and for the reasons detailed above and to an additional condition to read, viz:- “ the applicant will require to prevent interference to TV reception in adjacent properties; imposed in the interests of residential amenity”; and
- (ii) that the issuing of consent be postponed until the Solicitor to the Council had satisfactorily concluded an agreement under Section 75 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 ensuring that replacement training facilities are provided at Kirkstyle prior to the loss of those at Rugby Park and the establishment of a Liaison Group comprising representatives from Kilmarnock Football Club, Grange Howard Community Council (representing the adjacent community) and the local Elected Member and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Development Services Committee.

1.3 APPLICATION NO 98/0365/OL: DUFFIELD MORGAN, C/O ALEXANDER GEORGE & CO (INVESTMENTS) LIMITED

There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on an outline planning application for conversion of Castle to Hotel and leisure facilities, ancillary accommodation in estate buildings, erection of 49 houses, 18 hole championship golf course and associated landscaping and road improvements at Rowallan Castle and Estate, Kilmaurs.

There was also submitted Note of Procedure (circulated) to be followed at the Hearing.

The Head of Planning and Building Control reported that 14 letters of objection and one letter of support had been received, details of which were contained within the report; summarised the planning considerations in respect of the application and recommended: (i) Approval, subject to the following conditions, viz:- (1) In the case of the reserved matters specified below, application for approval must be made not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission; (2) That the development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of five years from the date of this permission or within the expiration of two years from the final approval of all reserved matters, whichever is the later; (3) The proposed development shall be carried out in accordance with the application form and plans submitted on 4 June 1998, as revised by the application form received by the Planning Authority on 25 March 1999 and the revised plan received by the Planning Authority on 23 March 1999; (4) Before any development commences on site, the further approval of the Planning Authority shall be obtained in respect of the undermentioned matters hereby reserved: (a) the layout of development within the site, including the golf course, which shall be so designed as to ensure minimal impact on natural and heritage resources within the development areas, particularly with respect to the impact on the designed landscape, listed buildings, listed wildlife site and trees; (b) the size, height, design and external appearance of all new

buildings associated with the hotel and golf development and of the new dwellinghouses and clubshare units to be erected within the Rowallan Estate. The new buildings shall respect the character and appearance of the Category 'A' Listed Rowallan Castles, in terms of their scale, design and external appearance, including proposed construction materials; (c) the details of the proposed conversion, refurbishment and extension to the Category 'A' Listed Rowallan Castle (Lorimer Castle) to use a hotel/leisure facility; (d) the means of drainage and sewage disposal for the proposed development; (e) details of the proposed access via the Tannacrieff Road and the new access onto the B751, to comply with East Ayrshire Council Roads and Transportation Guidelines (as indicated in the attached Roads plan dated 1 April 1999); (f) details of the layout and construction of the internal roads layout, including the provision of passing places, all of which shall be so designed as to ensure minimal impact on natural and heritage resources within the application site, particularly in respect of the impact on trees and existing structures (as indicated in attached Roads plan dated 1 April 1999); (g) the provision for car parking to serve hotel/golf/leisure development and residential and clubshare units; and (h) finished site levels; (5) No development shall be carried out within the development site until a Programme Plan showing the phases by which the land will be developed, has been submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority. Development of the site shall only thereafter take place in accordance with the Programme Plan; (6) The indicative layout submitted with the outline application is for information purposes only and shall not be treated as forming part of the issued consent; (7) No more than 35 dwellinghouses shall be constructed within the application site; (8) This consent shall not permit any single occupancy of any of the clubshare units to be in excess of 3 months in any 12 month period to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority; (9) No construction works shall be commenced on the proposed 35 residential dwellings until the Planning Authority has had sight of a formal contract let for the conversion, extension and refurbishment of the Category 'A' Listed Rowallan Castle (The Lorimer Castle); (10) In supplement to the provisions of Condition 4(a) above, the application shall undertake a detailed landscape appraisal of the site, the findings of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for consideration and shall be used as the basis for the design of the layout of the proposed development; (11) Notwithstanding the provisions of Condition 4(a) above, the applicant shall submit a landscaping scheme for the development site which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority as part of the detailed proposals for the site. This scheme shall incorporate the following elements: (i) a tree survey of the proposed development areas in detail sufficient to indicate the location, height and species of trees which will require to be felled as a result of the proposed development; (ii) details of proposals for the replacement of trees felled as a result of the proposed development; (iii) details of new tree and screen planting to be introduced into the Estate as a result of the proposed development including the timescales for implementation; (iv) a formal Estate Management Plan for the protection and enhancement of the woodland policies of the Estate, including the designed landscape and listed wildlife site; (v) details of the measures to be taken for the protection of trees during construction works including measures in relation to the excavation and construction of internal roads infrastructure to serve the proposed development; and (vi) confirmation that chestnut pale fencing will be placed and maintained around trees to be retained in proximity to development works. The fencing shall enclose either the area described by the limit of the spread of the branches of the tree or a radius of 5 metres from the tree trunk, whichever is the greater. There shall be no storage, site structure, parking

or other operations permitted within the enclosed area, (12) Notwithstanding the provision of Condition 4(h) above, the proposed dwellinghouses shall, in terms of scale, design and external appearance, conform to the Council's Design Guidance for New Housing in the Countryside. A Design Brief for the dwellinghouses shall be submitted to the Planning Authority as part of the detailed application for the proposed development; (13) Notwithstanding the provision of Condition 4(g) above, car parking provisions associated with the proposed development shall comply with the standards laid down in the Roads Development Guide 1996; (14) No works shall be commenced on site until such time as the proposed conversion, extension and refurbishment of the Category 'A' Listed Rowallan Castle (Lorimer Castle) has received the requisite Listed Building Consent for such works. Similarly, appropriate Scheduled Monument Consent is required for works to Rowallan Castle and does not form part of this consent; (15) Prior to the commencement of the development, the applicant shall satisfy himself as to the suitability of the site for construction purposes; (16) Prior to the commencement of any development on site, the applicant shall have confirmed conclusion of a written agreement (copies to Planning Authority) with Transco, Scottish Power, SEPA and West of Scotland Water, with regard to diversion/protection of apparatus on site and drainage/sewage details; (17) The storage of construction materials, soil or other imported materials into the site, shall not take place on ecologically valuable sites or natural resources within the application site, to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority; (18) Notwithstanding the submitted plans, and to take proper account of the possible presence of a Right of Way through the application site, the development hereby approved shall not commence prior to amended details being submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority, indicating how, in the event of being vindicated, the Right of Way across the site can be maintained; (19) Notwithstanding the provisions of Condition 4(b) above, the design of existing and new buildings on the site shall comply with requirements for disabled access; (20) Notwithstanding the provision of Conditions 9 and 10 above, the applicant shall undertake, in liaison with West of Scotland Archaeology Service, a detailed and comprehensive archaeological survey of the application site prior to the commencement of any development on site. Details of this survey to be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority, prior to the commencement of any development on site; (21) Notwithstanding the plans hereby submitted, details of entrance features at the new access onto the B751 in character with the Estate buildings, shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority and implemented prior to the commencement of operations of the hotel/golf/leisure development; (22) Notwithstanding the provisions of Conditions 4(e) and (f) above, the scheme shall incorporate the following roads details: (a) the principal access to the site will be via a new junction onto the B751 close to the existing Gatehouse. The sightline and forward visibility for this new junction will be $X = 2.5$ metres and $Y = 160$ metres. This access will be of a standard that permits both the residential and commercial traffic volumes anticipated. To accommodate this requirement, a road of 5.5 metres carriageway width and a 2 metre width service strip will be necessary. The junction radii will be a minimum of 9 metres. This access road will continue into the site to a point sufficiently far from the B751 so as there will be no risk of traffic backing up into the site from traffic queuing to leave. This stacking distance should be at least 100 metres. This section of access road will terminate with a roundabout off which the private access at the Gatehouse will join the access road as it continues further into the site. The Gatehouse private access will only operate for incoming traffic as it is too narrow to operate two way traffic

without causing a road safety hazard on the B571; (b) from the roundabout, the access road shall continue at a carriageway width of 4.5 metres with intervisible passing places no greater than 100 metres apart. The combined carriageway/passing place width will not be less than 6 metres. In addition to the carriageway, a service strip of 2 metres will be provided on at least one site. The access road will continue to a central point within the site such that all housing roads can be directly accessed without the need to pass through commercial facilities. This is achievable by continuing the 4.5 metre wide road to the Hotel Complex and forming a turning area adequate for commercial vehicles; (c) housing roads leading from the general access road will be 3.5 metres wide with a service strip of 2 metres on at least one site. They will also be provided with passing places at intervisible centres but not greater than 100 metres centres. Such housing roads will serve individual dwellings or housing courts from their private accesses and will terminate in a turning circle adequate for service vehicles; (d) the Tannacrieff Road shall be improved commencing with the junction at the B751. The sightline standard at the junction must be $X = 2.5$ metres and $Y = 160$ metres with the carriageway width being increased to 5.5 metres for a distance of at least 25 metres. The corner radii will kerbed and increased to 6 metres. The remainder of the Tannacrieff Road shall be at least 3.5 metres wide to the junction point with the new housing road. In order to facilitate two way traffic, passing places must be provided at intervisible centres but not greater than 100 metres centres; and (e) survey of existing bridge structures over the Carmel Burn to ensure that they are adequate for commercial traffic; and (23) Notwithstanding the plans hereby submitted, details of off-site signage for directional purposes shall be agreed with the Scottish Office National Roads Directorate prior to the commencement of operations of the hotel/golf/leisure development; Conditions (1) and (2) being imposed to comply with Section 59 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997; Condition (3) to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved details; Conditions (4) and (6) the approval is in outline only; Condition (5) the application is in outline only and in order to ensure a properly programmed and phased development; Condition (7) in the interests of the amenity of the rural Estate; Condition (8) the approval relates to a tourism/leisure development and does not permit use on a permanent basis for residential purposes; Condition (9) the residential development of the scheme is an enabling development only; Condition (10) to ensure that the layout of the site has a minimal adverse impact on the landscape character of the Estate and the setting of listed buildings within the Estate; Condition (11) in the interests of amenity and retaining the character of the Rowallan Estate; Condition (12) in the interests of amenity of the rural area; Condition (13) in the interests of amenity and to ensure appropriate car parking provision for the development; Condition (14) to ensure that as a fully integrated development project, no works commence on site until the appropriate consents have been received from Historic Scotland; Condition (15) in the interest of public safety; Condition (16) in the interest of public health and safety; Condition (17) in the interests of wildlife and heritage protection; Condition (18) to maintain any Rights of Way proven to cross the application site; Condition (19) to ensure disabled access throughout the development; Condition (20) to ensure the survey of archaeological features within the Rowallan Estate; Condition (21) in the interest of visual amenity; and Conditions (22) and (23) in the interest of road safety; and (ii) that the issue of the Decision Notice be withheld until, (a) the application has been formally notified to and has been cleared by the Secretary of State for Scotland in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Notification of

Applications) (Scotland) Direction 1997; and (b) the Solicitor to the Council has satisfactorily concluded a formal agreement under Section 75 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 with the applicant in respect of the matters described in Paragraph 7 of the report.

The Committee then heard Mr Temple, Mr Dingwall, representative of the Garden History Society and Mr Terras, representative of the Scottish Rights of Way Society, in support of their objections and Mr Evans, representative of the applicant, in support of the application.

Members asked questions of the representative of the applicant and an objector. The representative of the applicant responded to issues raised by the objectors, all in accordance with the Hearing procedure.

The Chair closed the Hearing.

1.3.1 DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION NO 98/0365/OL

The Head of Planning and Building Control reported on the planning issues which had been raised during the Hearing.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to grant the application subject to the conditions and for the reasons detailed above and to an additional condition to read, viz:- “notwithstanding the plans hereby submitted, details of passing places along the length of the unclassified road between the B7038 and the B751, in accordance with East Ayrshire Council Roads Standards, shall be submitted to the Planning Authority and implemented prior to the commencement of any development on site; imposed in the interests of road safety”; and
- (ii) that the issue of the Decision Notice be withheld until (a) the application had been formally notified to and had been cleared by the Secretary of State for Scotland in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Notification of Applications) (Scotland) Direct 1997; and (b) the Solicitor to the Council had satisfactorily concluded a formal agreement under Section 75 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 with the applicant, in respect of the matters described in Paragraph 7 of the report.

Councillors Reid and Raymond left the meeting at this point.

MONITORING REPORTS

2.1 BUSINESS GRANTS AND LOAN SCHEME STATUS REPORT

There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the Business Grants and Loan Schemes support awarded to companies in East Ayrshire during the period 1 April to 14 May 1999.

2.2 ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT - QUARTER 1 JANUARY - 31 MARCH 1999

There was submitted and noted a report dated 18 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on absence rates for the Department of Development Services for the quarter 1 January - 31 March 1999.

AWARDING OF TENDERS

3. There was submitted and noted a report dated 18 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which provided details of the lowest satisfactory tenders which had been awarded in respect of the undernoted Department of Development Services contracts:-

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Superimposed Road Markings and Fixing of Roads Studs.	Wilson & Scott (Highways) Limited, Slough	£17,808.05
Lighting Capital Works for Watson Terrace, Drongan	Hyder Infrastructure Services Limited, Dundonald	£20,416.10
Patching - North Area	J H Moodie, Dalmellington	*£50,000.00
Kilmarnock - Knockinlaw Phase I - Column Replacement	J J Boyle, Edinburgh	£38,539.50
Kilmarnock - Grassyards Road High Mast Replacement	J J Boyle, Edinburgh	£12,096.50
Patching Council Roads No 1 South Area	J H Moodie, Dalmellington	£41,895.57
Patching A76 No 1	Kyle Tarmac, Irvine	£21,696.94
Kilmarnock - Grange Estate Phase 4	Lightways (Contractors) Limited, Larbert	£15,490.59
Auchinleck - Arran View/Mauchline Road Column Replacement	J J Boyle, Edinburgh	£23,010.00

* Total cost of the works to be undertaken is to a maximum of £50,000.00.

Councillor Reid re-joined the meeting at this point.

FUNDING EXTERNAL BODIES AND FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND

4.1 PAYMENTS TO PARTNERSHIPS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS (Item 1.3, Page 4249)

There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which recommended adjustments in the allocation of payments to partnerships and special projects to meet an overall savings target of £15,000.

It was reported that Scottish Rural Forum, referred to in the Appendix to the report, had ceased trading.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that Scottish Rural Forum had ceased trading;
- (ii) to approve the transfer of grants for Ayrshire Marketing, the Regional Innovation Strategy and the Ayrshire Export Partnership to the budget for grants to small businesses; and
- (iii) to note the continued allocations to partnerships and special projects set out in the amended Appendix to the report.

4.2 FUNDING EXTERNAL BODIES AND FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND

There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on compliance work carried out to ensure that certain bodies supported by the Department of Development Services complied with the Accounts Commission and CoSLA Guidelines on Funding External Bodies.

REVIEW OF PLANNING PROCEDURES

- 5. There was submitted a report dated 13 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the review of the process of dealing with planning applications, based on the experience of the first three years in operating a decentralised planning application system and on the draft findings of the Audit recently carried out by The Scottish Office.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to continue consideration of this item to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (ii) that in the intervening period a Seminar for all Elected Members on the Review of Planning Procedures would be held.

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting at this point.

REVIEW OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS - REPORT ON THE DEPARTMENT'S JUSTIFICATION FOR OBJECTIVE 2 STATUS

- 6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the case put forward by East Ayrshire Council to the Development Department of the Scottish Office to have East Ayrshire Unity Authority recognised for European Union grant eligibility under "Objective 2" of the European Union Structural Funds Regulations.

BUSINESS SUPPORT SCHEMES (Item 14.3, Page 4142)

- 7. There was submitted a report dated 17 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval for the cessation of the operation of the employment grants scheme and the continued operation of the other business support programmes in financial year 1999/2000.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the cessation of the operation of the Employment Grants Scheme;
- (ii) to approve the continued operation of the Management and Technology Training Grant, on the basis of the principle guidelines described in Paragraph 4.5 of the report; and

- (iii) to approve the continued operation of the Youth Employment and Training Initiative.

AYRSHIRE MARKETING - REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

8. There was submitted a report dated 29 April 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on a formal request for the nomination of an Elected Member of East Ayrshire Council to serve in the capacity of a Board Member of Ayrshire Marketing and which recommended that the nomination be remitted to Council for consideration.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to Council the nomination of an Elected Member to serve on the Board of Ayrshire Marketing; and
- (ii) that board membership of an Elected Member would be conditional upon appropriate indemnity insurance being in place.

Councillor McIntyre re-joined the meeting at this point.

COMPANY EXPANSION PROJECT - RELOCATION TO MOORFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, KILMARNOCK (Item 25, Page 3394)

9. There was submitted a report dated 17 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which recommended the declaration, as surplus to its operational requirements, a site adjacent to the existing Moorfield Industrial Estate, Kilmarnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to declare the site adjacent to the existing Moorfield Industrial Estate, Kilmarnock, as identified on a plan attached to the report, as surplus to the operational requirements of the Department of Development Services; and
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, to negotiate appropriate terms and conditions for the disposal of the site, subject to approval by the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

10. There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on consultation by Strathclyde Passenger Transport on new guideline criteria for subsidised bus service provision; development of Quality Partnership agreements; and on the Kilmarnock - Barrhead Rail Line Upgrade.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that Strathclyde Passenger Transport were reviewing the criteria for subsidised bus services;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services to advise Strathclyde Passenger Transport on areas which should be given priority in the context of the Council's Social Inclusion Partnership;
- (iii) to note that the Council would be consulted on a draft "Quality Partnership" with bus operators within the Strathclyde Passenger Transport area;

- (iv) to authorise the Director of Development Services to write to the Rail Regulator (OPRAF), who controls the Rail Infrastructure Improvement Fund, in support of Strathclyde Passenger Transport's submission for assistance towards the cost of upgrading the Kilmarnock - Barrhead rail line; and
- (v) to note that the Director of Development Services would investigate the matter of improved cleaning standards at Kilmarnock Bus Station.

ACCIDENT IMPROVEMENT MEASURES - A77 FENWICK TO FLOAK

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on proposals by the Scottish Office to implement accident improvement measures on the A77 Trunk Road between Fenwick and the East Ayrshire Council boundary at Floak.

WHITELEE FOREST - TIMBER EXTRACTION

12. There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on discussions with Forest Enterprise, local Elected Members and the local communities regarding proposed routes for the extraction of timber from Whitelee Forest and which recommended that the Scottish Parliament Minister for Transport and the Environment, together with the relevant Member of the Scottish Parliament be invited to meet Council representatives to discuss the implications of Forest Enterprise's timber extraction proposals.

It was agreed to invite the Minister for Transport and the Environment, to meet Council representatives, together with the two relevant Members of the Scottish Parliament, to discuss the implications of Forest Enterprise's timber extraction proposals in East Ayrshire.

Councillor McDill left the meeting at this point.

RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT GRANT (Item 20, Page 3392)

13. There was submitted and noted a report dated 21 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised that East Ayrshire Council had been allocated, as part of a Rural Public Transport Grant, the same level of funding for financial year 1999/2000 as for 1998/99, by The Scottish Office for socially desirable bus services in rural areas.

OLD LUGAR BRIDGE, OCHILTREE

14. There was submitted a report dated 17 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on East Ayrshire Council's obligations in respect of the Old Lugar Bridge, Ochiltree.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Council had taken ownership of the Old Lugar Bridge, Ochiltree, in compliance with the serving of a Compulsory Purchase Notice under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972, by the previous owner;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services to instigate immediate remedial maintenance work expenditure of up to £2,500 to make the Old Lugar Bridge safe in the short term; and

- (iii) to note that the Director of Development Services would submit a report to the Cumnock Local Committee on options for long-term remedial work, including a consideration of its relationship with other environmental initiatives and possible funding sources.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

- 15. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Councillor Young left the meeting.

LOAN FUNDING TO MANUFACTURING COMPANY

- 16. There was submitted a report dated 25 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval for loan funding, as part of a contribution to an overall financial package of £220,000, involving other parties, to secure the continued trading and employment opportunities in a manufacturing company in Kilmarnock.

It was agreed to approve additional loan funding to the manufacturing company, as part of a funding package with other parties, in the sum of £25,000, repayable over a term of five years, subject to the conditions described in Paragraph 6 of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1217 hours.