

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY 1998 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Tommy Farrell, Gordon McCredie, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Ronald Brailsford, Provost Robert Stirling and Councillors John Knapp, David Fulton, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll, George Turnbull, Eric Ross, David Sneller, George Smith, Jimmy Carmichael, Robert Taylor and Eric Jackson; Church Representatives, John McHugh and Matthew Sullivan; Teacher Representative, Iain Harvey and Parent Representative, Shelagh McKerrell.

**ATTENDING:** Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Margaret Burnell, Senior Depute Director of Education; Sue Angus and Graham Short, Depute Directors of Education; Ian Arnott, Chief Accountant; Frank Green, Principal Officer (Budgets); Kenneth McKinlay, Principal Quality Development Officer; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer and Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Douglas Reid, Daniel Coffey and William McConnell, Church Representative.

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

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

1. In welcoming Members to the meeting of the Education Committee, the Chair highlighted some good news for the Education Service for the information of Committee Members:-

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

It was noted that Lorraine Facchini had taken up post as Head Teacher at Barshare Primary School. Lorraine had been the Head Teacher of Littlemill Primary School and would bring a wealth of educational experience to the post at Barshare Primary School.

**(ii) Scottish Schools Football Association Under 18 Squad**

The Chair advised that Andrew Black, a pupil at James Hamilton Academy had been selected for the Scottish Schools Football Association Under 18 Squad. On behalf of the Education Committee, the Chair congratulated Andrew in gaining this prestigious position and extended best wishes to him for his career in football.

**(iii) European Youth Parliament Debates**

Auchinleck, Doon, Kilmarnock and Stewarton Academies would be entering teams in the first heats of the European Youth Parliament debates to be held in Glasgow on 6 March. It was hoped that success in this first round would lead to future debates.

**(iv) Burns National Heritage Park Competition**

It was noted that Adam Dewar, a Primary 5 pupil at Darvel Primary School won the Burns National Heritage Park Competition which had been organised by South

Ayrshire. Entrants had to suggest three items which should be placed inside a time capsule. Adam's suggestions were Queen's Head, Money and 1998 Newspaper. Adam was delighted to receive his prize of a day's art tuition for his class on 22 April.

**(v) East Ayrshire Schools Brass Band and Schools Choir**

The Chair advised that the first performances of East Ayrshire Schools Brass Band and Schools Choir would take place tonight in Cumnock Academy and on Friday night within the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock.

**SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

2. There were submitted and approved both as a correct record and in respect of the recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes (circulated) as detailed in Appendices I and II of these Minutes.

**2.1 COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 10 FEBRUARY 1998 - APPENDIX I**

**2.2 BUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 12 FEBRUARY 1998 - APPENDIX II**

**2.2.1 Reservation of Places at Stewarton Academy - Amendments to Placing Request Legislation (Item 3, Page 3052)**

Arising from consideration of the above Minutes, it was agreed that the Director of Education would provide Councillor McCredie with information on the number of pupils travelling from Stewarton to other Academies following the meeting.

**DRAFT ESTIMATES 1998/99 - GENERAL SERVICES**

**3.1 FINANCIAL REPORT (Item 1, Page 3016)**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 February 1998 (circulated with the Agenda for the Special Policy and Resources Committee of 23 February 1998) by the Director of Finance which advised the Policy and Resources Committee of the latest position now that finalised figures had been obtained in terms of the 1998/99 budget and which had recommended that the Policy and Resources Committee determine final allocations for each of the Service Committees and which requested those Service Committees now to finalise savings and growth packages to align service delivery plans with the final allocations for 1998/99 having taken into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise.

**3.2 REMIT FROM THE SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 23 FEBRUARY 1998 (Item 1, Page 3016)**

There was submitted and noted remit (Minute excerpt circulated) from the Special Policy and Resources Committee of 23 February 1998 which contained a request that the Education Committee finalise savings and growth packages for the Education Service to align service delivery plans with the final financial allocations for 1998/99 as determined by the Special Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 23 February 1998.

**3.3 REVENUE BUDGET FOR 1997/98**

There was submitted a report dated 24 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which detailed a package of measures to align the service delivery plans

with the final financial allocations for 1997/98 having taken into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor, moved:-

- (i) that the revised savings and growth proposals detailed in the table appended to the report to align the Education Committee's budget to the final financial allocation which had been approved by the Policy and Resources Committee of 23 February 1998 be approved; and
- (ii) to recommend the adoption of the savings and growth proposals to the Special Policy and Resources Committee to be held on 4 March 1998;

Councillor Nicoll seconded by Councillor McCredie moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that consideration of the Revenue Budget 1998/99 be continued to the Special Council Meeting on 5 March 1998; and
- (ii) that the report be noted.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 15 votes to 3.

Councillors Ross, Carmichael and Macrae joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

#### **BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT (PERIOD 10)**

- 4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 10 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Education Department for the period ended 2 January 1998 (Period 10).

#### **LEAVER DESTINATIONS FROM SCOTTISH SECONDARY SCHOOLS 1994/95 TO 1996/97**

- 5. There was submitted a report dated 5 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the contents of the report "Leaver Destinations from Scottish Secondary Schools 1994/95 to 1996/97" which had been published by the Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID) in January 1998.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Education submit further annual reports to the Education Committee regarding School Leaver Destinations;
- (ii) that a further report be submitted to the Education Committee following consultation with appropriate Local Members which would address issues such as target setting and those raised in connection with the category "other known destinations" (Appendix I of the report) with specific reference to Auchinleck and Cumnock Academies, in addition to examining the possibility of comparing East Ayrshire Leaver Destination figures with similar sized Local Authorities;
- (iii) in relation to the category "other known destinations" the Committee's comments that this category should be sub-divided, be conveyed to the Scottish Office; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **SCOTTISH SCHOOLS: COSTS 1995/96 TO 1997/98**

5. There was submitted a report dated 2 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the contents of the report "Scottish Schools: Costs 1995/96 to 1997/98" which had been published as part of the "Information for Parents" series issued by the Audit Unit of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools by the Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID) in January 1998.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Education submit further annual reports to the Education Committee on school running costs; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE - CONSULTATION PAPER**

6. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the Consultation Paper "Work Experience" which had been published by the Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID).

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposal to undertake the consultation process as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Education submit a further report to the Education Committee on the outcome of the consultation process prior to submission of the response by East Ayrshire Council; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **PARENTS AS PARTNERS: ENHANCING THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN SCHOOL EDUCATION (Item 6, Page 2563)**

7. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the Discussion Paper "Parents as Partners: Enhancing the Role of Parents in School Education" which had been published by the Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID).

Members were advised that further copies of the consultation document entitled "Parents as Partners: Enhancing the Role of Parents in School Education" which had been issued by the SOEID had been ordered for all Members of the Council.

It was reported and noted that invitations would be issued following the meeting inviting parents to attend a Conference on Saturday 14 March 1998 at the Council's Headquarters for which the main focus for the day would be the consultation document.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposal to undertake the consultation process as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Education submit a further report to the Education Committee on the outcome of the consultation process prior to submission of the response by East Ayrshire Council; and

(iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **AWARDING OF TENDERS**

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 February 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which advised of details of tenders which had been awarded in respect of the Education Department as follows:-

<b><u>CONTRACT</u></b>	<b><u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
Cumnock Academy - Re-roofing at various locations	Hugh Thompson Asphalt Ltd, Johnstone	£22,557.59
Auchinleck Academy - Re-roofing of Art Block	Allander Roofing Ltd., Glasgow	£22,307.08
Auchinleck Academy - Internal alterations and fitting out of Biology Lab and Domestic Science Rooms	Hugh Anderson (Joiner and Contractor), Kilwinning	£50,302.25
St Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock - Re-roofing of Biology Block	Rennie Roofcare Ltd, Glasgow	£19,468.54
St Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock - Re-roofing of S & R Wing	Allander Roofing Ltd, Glasgow	£25,142.96
Loudoun Academy, Galston - Re-roofing	Braedale Roofing Ltd, Wishaw	£35,481.22
Kilmaurs Primary School, Kilmaurs - New entrance and Head Mistresses Room	East Ayrshire Council Commercial Operations, Kilmarnock	£32,699.42
Darvel Primary School, Darvel - Alterations	Dawn Construction, Prestwick	£113,012.18

The meeting terminated at 1105 hours.