

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2000 AT 1000 HOURS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Ross, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Tommy Farrell, Julie Faulds, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillors Robert Taylor and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Robert Paton, Head of Economic Development; Alan Neish, Head of Planning and Building Control; Bill Taylor, Head of Roads and Transportation; Cameron Neill, Business Manager (Roads); Graham Kerr, Public Relations Officer; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; Karen McLeod, Solicitor; Kerr Chalmers, Technical Officer (Roads) and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Willie Coffey, Drew McIntyre, Jim Raymond, George Smith and Jimmy Kelly.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Ross, Chair.

**MONITORING REPORT - BUSINESS GRANTS AND LOANS SCHEMES STATUS
REPORT**

1. There was submitted and noted a report dated 28 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on local companies awarded financial support under the Council's Business Grants and Loans Schemes, during the period 28 February to 31 March 2000.

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS PROGRAMMES - 2000 TO 2006

2. There was submitted a report dated 5 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the consultation process relating to the European Union's 2000 to 2006 Structural Funds Programmes; changes in relation to the previous programmes; and the key implications for economic development programmes in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report, in particular the issues as described in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.4 of the report; and
- (ii) to refer the matter for consideration, to the Policy and Resources Committee, in relation to arrangements for ensuring that all Council Services achieved maximum benefit from European funding opportunities.

**SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT - WEST OF SCOTLAND LOAN FUND LIMITED
(Item 9, Page 775, 99/02)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 31 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval to enter into a Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the West of Scotland Loan Fund Limited.

The Head of Economic Development reported an amendment to page 1 of the proposed Service Level Agreement: East Ayrshire Business Partnership, to read, viz:- "West of Scotland Loan Fund Limited".

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the terms of the proposed Service Level Agreement, between East Ayrshire Council and the West of Scotland Loan Fund Limited, as described in the Appendix to the report; and
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, to conclude the Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the West of Scotland Loan Fund Limited.

**SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT - AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN TOURIST BOARD
(Item 5, Page 4485, 96/99)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 3 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval to enter into a Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the terms of the proposed Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board, as described in the Appendix to the report;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, to conclude the Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board; and
- (iii) that the Director of Development Services inform the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board of the levels of funding which would be available from East Ayrshire Council in financial years 2000/01; 2001/02 and 2002/03.

**SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT - EAST AYRSHIRE EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE
LIMITED (Item 8, Page 243, 99/02)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 17 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval to enter into a Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and East Ayrshire Employment Initiative Limited.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the terms of the proposed Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the East Ayrshire Employment Initiative Limited, as described in the Appendix to the report; and

- (ii) to authorise the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, to conclude the Service Level Agreement between East Ayrshire Council and the East Ayrshire Employment Initiative Limited.

**GREENFIELD/BROWNFIELD DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AYRSHIRE 1996-1999
(Item 4, Page 698, 99/02)**

- 6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which provided information on the total area of land developed in East Ayrshire from 1996 to 1999 and which also gave an indication of how much of this land was brownfield land (previously developed) and how much was greenfield land (not previously developed),

CONSULTATION PAPER ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH HIGH HEDGES

- 7. There was submitted a report dated 4 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the consultation paper received from CoSLA, on behalf of the Scottish Executive, on problems associated with high hedges.

It was agreed that further consultation should take place on the detailed implementation of the suggested changes.

**FOREST ENTERPRISE: POSSIBLE OPTION AGREEMENT OVER ROUTE OF
FORMER DARVEL/STRATHAVEN RAILWAY LINE AT ALLANTON**

- 8. There was submitted a report dated 29 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought authority for the Council to enter into an Option Agreement with Forest Enterprise Scottish Lowlands Forest District over part of the route of the former Darvel/Strathaven railway line at Allanton, to ensure continued access.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Solicitor to the Council in consultation with the Head of Planning and Building Control to arrange for the Council to enter into negotiations for an Option Agreement with Forest Enterprise with regard to that part of the trackbed of the former Darvel/Strathaven railway at Allanton, as specified in paragraph 4 of the report, and illustrated on a plan, attached as an Appendix to the report;
- (ii) that prior to exercising the option contained within the proposed Agreement at a future date, a further report on the financial implications of exercising that option would be considered by this Committee; and
- (iii) that in the interim, the Head of Planning and Building Control would investigate with Forest Enterprise, potential arrangements for access into the site for forestry operations in connection with a proposed planting scheme, as specified in paragraph 2 of the report.

PROPOSED TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - 15 JAMIESON ROAD, DARVEL

- 9. There was submitted a report dated 27 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on trees at 15 Jamieson Road, Darvel, recently identified as having potential for designation under a Tree Preservation Order, which have had a

provisional Tree Preservation Order placed upon them; and which sought authorisation to confirm the Tree Preservation Order.

It was agreed to confirm the Tree Preservation Order relating to trees at 15 Jamieson Road, Darvel, as identified in a plan attached to the report.

FREIGHT TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION PARTNERSHIP (Item 20, Page 3647, 96/99)

10. There was submitted a report dated 20 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised that the Freight Transport Association's Partnership Initiative to encourage Best Practice in the delivery of goods in Kilmarnock had now been completed and a draft report submitted for consideration; and to note that the issues highlighted in the draft report would be considered within the Kilmarnock Town Centre Action Plan currently being formulated.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the summary of the draft report produced by the Freight Transport Partnership, as described in paragraph 3 of the report; and
- (ii) to note that the issues raised would be considered as part of a future Kilmarnock Town Centre Action Plan aimed at improving road safety, reducing accidents and improving access within Kilmarnock.

STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF ROAD BRIDGES

11. There was submitted a report dated 27 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval of a strategy for future capital repairs and replacement of bridges and other highway structures.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Strategy for repair and replacement of bridges and other highway structures as described in paragraph 4 of the report; and
- (ii) that a report on the progress of negotiations with an insurance company on damage sustained to Windyhill Bridge, Newmilns would be submitted to this Committee on 9 May 2000.

ON-STREET PARKING - KILMARNOCK TOWN CENTRE (Item 11, Page 357, 99/02)

12. There was submitted a report dated 4 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought approval of a number of parking policy issues prior to consulting the public on a new on-street parking strategy for Kilmarnock Town Centre.

It was agreed

- (i) to approve the various management proposals set out in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.9 of the report, as a basis for consultation on a new on-street parking strategy for Kilmarnock Town Centre; and
- (ii) thereafter, to report thereon to a future meeting of this Committee.

CYCLING STRATEGY (Item 13, Page 3798, 96/99)

13. There was submitted a report dated 25 February 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on progress being made to provide a cycle link between Kilmarnock and the National Cycle Network in Irvine; and which sought approval to use statutory powers, if necessary to construct the path by Order.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress on proposals for the Irvine to Kilmarnock cycle path;
- (ii) to approve the use of statutory powers available to the Council to construct the path by Order, if it proved impracticable to form a path by agreement; and
- (iii) that the Director of Development Services, in liaison with the Solicitor to the Council, negotiate an Agreement with Sustrans, for the future maintenance of the path, as necessary.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

14. The Committee resolved that under Section 50(A) 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.

**PROCUREMENT OF ENGINEERING WORK AND ROADS CONTRACTS
BUSINESS PLAN**

15. There was submitted a report dated 6 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the projected requirement for the procurement of engineering works under the control of the Department of Development Services; and which recommended approval of the Business Plan for the Roads Contracts Unit as Best Value suppliers for a range of work to be contracted by the Department of Development Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the policy principles described in paragraph 3.1 of the report to secure Best Value in the procurement of engineering services required to implement the Department of Development Services capital and revenue programmes; and
- (ii) to approve the Business Plan for the Roads Contract Unit attached as an Appendix to the report.

The meeting terminated at 1050 hours.