

ANNEXATION II**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (APT&C ETC STAFF)****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2000 AT 0900 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Jackson, Provost James Boyd and Councillors Daniel Coffey and Harry Wilson; and Trade Union Representatives Arthur West, Staff Side Trade Union Convenor, Graeme Cumming and Elaine Raeside (UNISON); Jennifer Elliot (ACTSS); and June Minnery (GMB).

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Graham Haugh, Head of Personnel; George Park, Employee Relations Manager; Charles McBreen, Health and Safety Manager; Carol Foote, Principal Officer (Best Value); and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Tommy Farrell, Finlay Maclean and John Weir; and Trade Union Representatives Nigel Pimm, Vice-Chair; and Lynne McGregor (UNISON).

ALSO ATTENDING: Simon MacFarlane, full-time officer (UNISON).

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Jackson, Chair.

MEMBERSHIP TO THE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

1. The following alteration to the membership of the Joint Consultative Committee was agreed:-
 - the resignation of Mr Angus Spankie (GMB) to be replaced by Mrs June Minnery (GMB).

TIMETABLE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

2. There was submitted a report dated 6 March 2000 (circulated) by the Joint Secretaries which sought approval for the future meetings calendar.

It was agreed to approve the undernoted dates and that the Joint Secretaries finalise a date for March 2001.

DATE	TIME	VENUE	PRE-MEETING
Tuesday 30 May 2000	1130 hours	Main Meeting Room, Council Headquarters, Kilmarnock	1100 hours in Meeting Room 1 for Staff Side and 1100 hours in Meeting Room 2 for the Employers side
Tuesday 26 September 2000	1530 hours	Main Meeting Room, Council Headquarters, Kilmarnock	1500 hours in Meeting Room 1 for Staff Side and 1500 hours in Meeting Room 2 for the Employers side

DATE	TIME	VENUE	PRE-MEETING
Thursday 21 November 2000	1530 hours	Main Meeting Room, Council Headquarters, Kilmarnock	1500 hours in Meeting Room 1 for Staff Side and 1500 hours in Meeting Room 2 for the Employers side
March 2001 (to be arranged)			

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

3. 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 items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4. There was submitted and noted minutes of meeting held on 16 November 1999 (circulated).

MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1 **Employee Counselling Service (Item 8, Page 680 99/02)** - Noted that on the basis of self referral, 15 employees had taken advantage of the Employee Counselling Service and further noted that the Head of Personnel would arrange a meeting with Trade Union representatives to discuss progress to date regarding the Service.
- 5.2 **Return to Learn (Item 9, Page 681 99/02)** - Noted that there had been 32 expressions of interest from employees in respect of the Return to Learn Programme and that the Head of Personnel would explore the possibility of allocating sufficient resources to run 2 courses.

BEST VALUE UPDATE

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 February 2000 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which provided an update on the Council's progress on Best Value.

Simon MacFarlane joined the meeting at this point.

INFORMATION UPDATE ON HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 2 February 2000 (circulated) by the Head of Personnel which provided an information update on recent and developing health and safety issues.

SINGLE STATUS

8. There was submitted a report dated 29 February 2000 (circulated) by the Head of Personnel which updated on the Council's response to the Single Status Agreement.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Head of Personnel be requested to provide future updated reports;
- (ii) to note that the Staff side Trade Union Convenor had identified outstanding regrading claims and provided details to the Head of Personnel for early action; and
- (iii) to otherwise note the report.

EAGER

9. The Head of Personnel reported and it was noted that following a successful pilot of the EAGER Scheme which involved a group of employees from each Department, the pilot would now be extended to other groups within Departments and that the Head of Personnel would make arrangements to hold discussions with Trade Union representatives to discuss the new Sections which would be involved in the EAGER Scheme.

SCOPE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME - ADMISSION OF EXTERNAL SERVICE PROVIDERS, ETC

10. There was submitted a report dated 29 February 2000 (circulated) by the Head of Personnel which advised of the proposed extension of the scope of the Local Government Pension Scheme as applicable in Scotland.

It was agreed to welcome the introduction of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment Etc) Regulations 1999 and the related extension to the scope of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

COUNCIL ORGANISATIONAL CHANGES - NEGOTIATION ARRANGEMENTS

11. There was submitted a paper (circulated) by the Staff Side Trade Union Convenor seeking reassurance that appropriate consultation /negotiation arrangements would be put in place in respect of the Council's forthcoming organisational changes.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to acknowledge the importance of regular consultation with staff; and
- (ii) to note that the Chief Executive had requested all Directors/Heads of Service to ensure that there were opportunities for staff to consult on any matters arising from organisational change.

The meeting terminated at 0930 hours.