

## EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

### POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4 MAY 2000 AT 1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

**PRESENT:** Councillors Drew McIntyre, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, John Weir, Jane Darnbrough, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie and Robert Taylor.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Barbara Haughan, Director of Corporate Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; James Lavery, Director of Homes and Technical Services; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; Ken Hathaway, Client Services Manager; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Dave Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Katie Hall, David Macrae, Harry Wilson, Alan Campbell and Provost Jimmy Boyd.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

#### SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There were submitted and approved both as correct records and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes under items 1.1 and 1.3 as contained within Appendices I and III of these Minutes, viz:-

**1.1 CHAIR'S SUB-COMMITTEE OF 28 MARCH 2000** - Appendix I.

**1.2 PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE OF 18 APRIL 2000**

**1.2.1 MATTERS ARISING - KILMARNOCK TOWN CENTRE PROPERTY DISPOSAL (Item 14, Page 945, 99/02)**

Following a motion by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, to reconsider the matter under Standing Order 51, the Principal Solicitor required to confirm whether the Council had entered into a legally binding agreement in respect of the matter and it was therefore agreed to continue consideration of this matter to later in the meeting.

Councillor Ross joined the meeting at this stage.

**1.3 MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF 19 APRIL 2000** - Appendix III.

#### SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

2. There was submitted and noted Minutes of the Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group held on 30 March 2000 (circulated).

### **SOCIAL INCLUSION CHALLENGE FUND**

3. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2000 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which set out the process through which bids for Social Inclusion projects should take prior to consideration by this Committee.

It was agreed to approve the process outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report through which Social Inclusion bids would be processed for ultimate consideration by this Committee.

### **CONTINUATION OF ITEM 1.2 - PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE OF 18 APRIL 2000 - KILMARNOCK TOWN CENTRE PROPERTY DISPOSAL**

4. The Principal Solicitor confirmed that the Council had not entered into a legally binding agreement and the disposal of the property had not been implemented.

The motion by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor D Coffey, to reconsider the matter under Standing Order 51 regarding the disposal of the property was defeated as it failed to receive the requisite two-thirds of the Members voting.

The Minutes of the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of 18 April were approved as a correct record as contained in Appendix II to these Minutes.

### **COMMON GOOD FUNDS**

5. There was submitted a report dated 25 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Finance which informed Members of the current balances held by the Common Good Funds administered by the Council and which sought approval of proposed Committee mechanism for accessing these funds for suitable Council purposes.

It was agreed:

- (i) to the proposed procedure for accessing funds, namely that applications to utilise the Common Good Funds be referred firstly to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration with recommendations being made to Council;
- (ii) that the Director of Corporate Services incorporate the reference to the Common Good Fund within the remit of the Policy and Resources Committee in the Council's Scheme of Delegation; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

### **ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS - QUARTER 1**

6. There were submitted and noted the undernoted reports on the absence rates for the quarter period ending 31 March 2000 (Quarter 1) in respect of the following Departments, viz:-
- 6.1 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT** - Report dated 13 April 2000 (circulated) by the Chief Executive.
  - 6.2 **CORPORATE SERVICES** - Report dated 25 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services.
  - 6.3 **FINANCE DEPARTMENT** - Report dated 13 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Finance.

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE VISUAL INFORMATION SYSTEM  
IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD (VISION) AND AYRSHIRE ELECTRONIC  
COMMUNITY (AEC) PROJECTS**

7. There was submitted a report dated 14 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services on current progress in respect of the Vision/AEC Projects.

It was agreed to note and approve the content of the report.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 1998**

8. There was submitted a report dated 19 April 2000 (circulated) by the Solicitor to the Council on the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998 and seeking approval for an in-house training programme and audit of Council services to address Human Rights Act issues in Council services and procedures.

It was agreed:

- (i) that consideration of Human Rights Act implications be remitted to the Member/Officer Working Group on alternatives to the Committee system;
- (ii) that the Solicitor to the Council arrange a Committee focused Human Rights Act training session for each Committee of the Council, these training sessions being open to all Members of Council;
- (iii) that following a future Policy and Resources Committee, the Solicitor to the Council arrange a training session for all Members in respect of corporate issues in respect of the Human Rights Act, including issues affecting the District Court; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**AFFILIATIONS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

9. There was submitted a report dated 26 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which invited the Committee to consider the background, aims and objectives and activities of those organisations which had sought association with, and affiliation of, the Council.

It was agreed:

- (i) in principle to the affiliations as detailed in Appendix IV; and
- (ii) that appropriate Departments make payment of the relevant affiliation fees to those approved organisations.

**THE BETTER GOVERNMENT FOR OLDER PEOPLE NETWORK**

10. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Social Work to inform the Committee of the "Better Government for Older People" programme and which sought Committee approval for East Ayrshire Council to join the programme.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Council join the programme;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work meet the cost of affiliation, being £1,000 until December 2000, from within existing resources;

- (iii) that the Director of Social Work facilitate engagement in the “Better Government for Older People” programme through the nomination of a lead officer, namely Martin Clark, Service Unit Manager, Older People Services; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**COLLABORATIVE LINKS WITH AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN  
PRIMARY CARE NHS TRUST (Item 2, Page 928)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on proposals considered by the Social Work Committee on 2 May 2000 in relation to links with Ayrshire and Arran Primary NHS Trust and which sought approval to the development of a statement of joint approach, in the form of an Operational Framework, between the Council and Primary Care Trust for approval by Council at its meeting on 18 May 2000.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the development of a statement of joint approach, in the form of an Operational Framework, between the Council and Primary Care Trust and to recommend consideration of this to Council at its meeting on 18 May 2000; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**SCOTTISH ASYLUM SEEKERS CONSORTIUM**

12. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which recommended that the Council join the Scottish Asylum Seekers Consortium.

It was agreed that East Ayrshire Council join the Scottish Asylum Seekers Consortium.

**PROPOSALS FOR DESIGNATION OF ASSISTED AREAS**

13. There was submitted a report dated 28 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which updated on revisions to the proposals by the UK Government for areas to be designated as Assisted Areas and which sought approval for representation on the proposals.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the representations on the UK Government’s proposals for the designation of Assisted Areas as shown attached to the report; and
- (ii) that the Director of Development Services formally notify the consultees, detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report, of the Council’s decision and also send copies to the List MSPs and MEPs covering the East Ayrshire area for their information.

**AYRSHIRE APPROVED LIST OF CONTRACTORS FOR  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: UPDATE REPORT**

14. There was submitted a report dated 14 April 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services on progress to date in relation to the ongoing

development of an Ayrshire Approved List of Contractors with regard to the carrying out of construction works, including roads, for which tenders would be invited.

It was agreed:

- (i) that annual reports be subsumed by a periodic update list being held at the Members' Information Point; and
- (ii) to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1054 hrs.

**APPENDIX IV****AFFILIATIONS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Estimate/Cost of Affiliation for 2000/2001</u></b>	<b><u>Recommending Department</u></b>
National Association of Councillors	£300	Corporate Services
Scottish Local Government Information Unit	£2,474	Corporate Services
Baby Milk Action Group	£30	Corporate Services
Equality Exchange	£230	Corporate Services
Women's Forum Scotland	£30	Corporate Services
Ayrshire Occupational Health and Safety Group	£50	Corporate Services
British Association of Adoption and Fostering Agencies	£1,363	Social Work
Disability Scotland	£77	Social Work
National Fostering Association	£963	Social Work
Scottish Local Government Forum on Poverty	£1,240	Social Work
Scottish Child Law Centre	£30	Social Work
Social Services Research Group	£29	Social Work
Child Poverty Action Group	£211	Social Work
NAPO Associate Membership	£25	Social Work
National Homecare Council	£90	Social Work
BAPSCAN	£125	Social Work
Young Minds Trust	£25	Social Work
Scottish Local Authority Welfare Rights Advisors	£25	Social Work
Chartered Institute of Housing in Scotland	£1,150	Homes & Technical Services
Scottish Council for Single Homeless	£96	Homes & Technical Services
SHELTER (Scotland)	£500	Homes & Technical Services
Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents	£350	Community Services
Scottish Accident Prevention Council	£250	Community Services

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Estimate/Cost of Affiliation Sought for 2000/2001</u></b>	<b><u>Recommending Department</u></b>
Royal Environmental Health Institute for Scotland	£175	Community Services
Library Association	£408	Community Services
Scottish Nuclear Free Authority	£1,421	Community Services
National Society for Clean Air and Environmental Protection	£400	Community Services
Children in Scotland	£1,862	Education
Scottish Childminding Association	£100	Education
Scottish Pre-School Play Association	£100	Education
Action for Southern Africa	£100	Education
British Standards Institute	£575	Development Services
Coalfield Communities Campaign	£2,463	Development Services
Scottish Civic Trust	£300	Development Services
Scottish Council (Development and Industry)	£1,484	Development Services
West Coast Rail 250 Campaign	£250	Development Services
Prestwick Airport Consultative Committee	£400	Development Services
Scottish Accident Prevention Council (Road Safety Committee)	£288	Development Services
Scottish Housing and Town Planning Council	£150	Development Services
Scottish Association for Public Transport	£50	Development Services
Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum	£100	Development Services
Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce	£500	Development Services
Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Officers Group	£250	Development Services
Strathclyde Buildings Preservation Trust	£2,496	Development Services
Association of Direct Labour Organisations (now known as the Association for Public Service Excellence)	£2,209	Chief Executive