

APPENDIX**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****LEISURE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 APRIL 1996 AT 1400 HOURS AT THE VISITOR'S CENTRE, DEAN CASTLE COUNTRY PARK, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Gordon Cree, Bob Beattie and Tommy Farrell.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor David Macrae.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Bill Stafford, Director of Community Services; C J Woodward, Museums Curator; and Anne Fairbairn, Senior Administrative Assistant.

APOLOGIES: Councillors John Smith, Gordon McCredie, Kim Nicoll, Jimmy Carmichael and Robert Taylor.

CHAIR: In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Bob Beattie, was appointed to the Chair.

DEAN CASTLE COUNTRY PARK - PRESENTATION

1. There was submitted for information only, report dated 26 March 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which had been approved by the Community Services Committee on 26 March 1996 appraising Members of the progress and current developments which were on-going at Dean Castle Country Park and outlining the resource implications associated with these developments.

There then followed a presentation by the Director of Community Services and the Dean Castle Country Park Ranger Service when members heard that the Dean Castle had been gifted to Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council in 1975 together with 45 acres of land which was added to by the District Council in 1979 and opened as a park in 1981.

Also included were details of the development which had taken place in respect of the Visitors Centre, Rare Breeds Field Centre and Dower House Conference provision.

Particular reference was made to the educational aspect of the facilities both within the Dean Castle and the surrounding park. Members heard that a Seminar for Head Teachers would be held at the Visitors Centre following which an educational pack highlighting the benefits of the Dean Castle and Park as a resource facility would be issued to every primary school in East Ayrshire.

Noted details of the presentation and Councillor Beattie expressed his thanks to the Rangers service for providing an interesting and informative overview of the facilities and proposed developments. Members were thereafter taken on a guided tour of the Castle, Visitors Centre, and Rare Breeds Centre.

The meeting terminated at 1500 hours.