

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 29 MARCH 1996 AT 1400 HOURS  
IN KILMAURS COMMUNITY CENTRE, EAST PARK DRIVE, KILMAURS**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall and Bob Beattie.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services and James Lally, Administrative Officer.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

**NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE -  
QUORUM AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. There was submitted a report dated 20 March 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising the Local Committee of its quorum and terms of reference.

It was agreed that the quorum be fixed at two and to note the terms of reference as detailed in the Appendix to these Minutes.

**LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

2. There was submitted a report dated 21 March 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising of arrangements for consideration of relevant planning applications by Local Planning Committees.

The Committee noted:

- (i) the requirement to form a Local Planning Committee;
- (ii) that the quorum had been fixed at four Members;
- (iii) that the Local Planning Committee would consist of the members of the Council who were members of the relevant Local Committee, together with sufficient members drawn from the Chair of the Decentralisation Sub-Committee, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Development Services Committee to ensure a quorum is present; and
- (iv) that Local Planning Committees would be held immediately prior to Local Committee meetings.

Following questions on the report from the floor it was agreed to clarify the position with regard to responsibility for felling licences at the next meeting of the Local Committee.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE LOCAL COMMITTEE PROCESS**

3. There was submitted a report dated 21 March 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive regarding the involvement of community representatives in the Local Committee.

Having noted that Section 2.2 of the report should read that community members be "encouraged to participate fully in discussions" and not "elections" as detailed in the report, it was agreed:

- (i) to initially invite a representative from the ten undernoted bodies to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee:-
  - (a) Stewarton Community Council;
  - (b) Fenwick Community Council;
  - (c) Dunlop Community Council;
  - (d) Kilmaurs Community Council;
  - (e) Moscow/Waterside Community Council (representative to live in Ward 13);
  - (f) Elderly Representative - nominated by various Elderly Groups identified by the Social Work Department;
  - (g) Disabled Representative - nominated by the Disabled Forum;
  - (h) Youth Representative - nominated by pupils residing within the boundaries of the Northern Area Local Committee attending Stewarton Academy, Kilmarnock Academy and St Joseph's Academy;
  - (i) Community/Residents Association - nominated by various groups identified by the Director of Support Services;
  - (j) Pre-5 Groups - nominated by Playgroups identified by the Education Department;
- (ii) that due to local circumstances, a request for an additional Community Representative on the Northern Area Local Committee, to represent School Boards, be submitted to the next meeting of the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (iii) that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services in consultation with the Directors of Social Work and Education to make the necessary arrangements for the appointment of the above representatives.

#### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY FORUM MEETINGS**

4. There was submitted a report dated 21 March 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising of the requirement to organise Community Forum meetings.

Having noted the commitment to have four Community Forum meetings during the first year and that the first Community Forum meeting would be held in the evening during late May, it was agreed:

- (i) that the first Community Forum meeting should be held in Lainshaw Primary School, Stewarton;
- (ii) that the Council's economic strategy be an agenda item on the first Community Forum meeting; and
- (iii) that it be remitted to the next meeting of the Local Committee to identify appropriate local issues which should be included on the agenda of the first Community Forum meeting.

The meeting terminated at 1435 hours.

**APPENDIX****NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- (a) to ensure that the delivery of Council services and the utilisation of its resources, at a local level, reflect the policies and priorities of the Council;
- (b) to identify local issues, priorities and opportunities and ensure the responsiveness of individual service plans and activities accordingly;
- (c) to ensure that Council services work together at a local level to adopt an effective common response to local issues wherever appropriate;
- (d) to provide a focus for community participation in the process of Council decision-making and a vehicle for liaison between the wider community and Council services;
- (e) to support the activities of voluntary organisations and community groups by:-
  - the development of systems of information and advice;
  - the distribution of grant funds; and
  - the creation and ongoing support of local forums;
- (f) to make decisions about grants relevant specifically to the Committee's area;
- (g) to bring forward for consideration centrally, proposals for change in Council policy, practice and resource allocation, in order to make these more sensitive to the needs of their local area;
- (h) at a local level, to develop joint working practices with other agencies for example the Health Board, on issues of local interest;
- (i) to publicise and promote the activities of the Council at a local level; and
- (j) to carry out other functions as may be determined by the Council.