

**APPENDIX II**

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 31 MARCH 1998 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Tommy Farrell, John Knapp, Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll and Robert Taylor; Church Representative Matthew Sullivan; and Teacher Representative Iain Harvey.

**ATTENDING:** Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Margaret Burnell, Senior Depute Director of Education; Sue Angus, Depute Director of Education; Graham Short, Depute Director of Education; Graham Haugh, Depute Director of Personnel; Frank Green, Principal Budget Officer; Ken Hathaway, Principal Client Services; David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; Kenneth McKinlay, Principal, Quality Development; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Graham Kerr, Public Relations Officer; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer; Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer; and Lesley-Ann Wallace, Administrative Assistant.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Gordon McCredie, David Sneller and George Smith.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

1. The Chair welcomed Iain Harvey, Teacher Representative together with all other Elected Members to the first meeting of the Education Sub-Committee.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRESS REPORT 1997/98**

2. There was submitted a report dated 12 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of progress which had been made in the field of health and safety across the Education Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the objectives for 1998/99 detailed in Paragraph 4 of the report be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education continue to monitor progress in the field of Health and Safety within the Department of Education; and
- (iii) that following a recent decision of the JCC (Teachers) the establishment of a Health and Safety Committee be noted and referred to in future Health and Safety reports.

Matthew Sullivan joined the meeting during discussion of the above item and was welcomed by the Chair.

### **CHARGES FOR SCHOOL MEALS**

3. There was submitted a report dated 12 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which proposed revised charges for school meals which were to be implemented with effect from Monday 20 April 1998.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Taylor, moved to approve the proposed charge to pupils of £1.20 for a set school meal for implementation from Monday 20 April 1998.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Coffey moved as an amendment that the annual rate of inflation be used to determine charges for school meals.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 3 votes to 2.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO EDUCATION DELEGATED MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

4. There was submitted a report dated 13 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education regarding a proposal to amend the Education Department's Scheme of Delegation for the school Delegated Management of Resources (DMR) system.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the amendment to the Education DMR Scheme of Delegation detailed in Paragraph 3 of the report be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education implement the proposals detailed in Paragraph 3 of the report with immediate effect;
- (iii) that the Director of Education continue to monitor the effectiveness of the DMR Scheme of Delegation; and
- (iv) that the Director of Education contact all Head Teachers to ensure appropriate consultation within schools on the details of the approved amendments to the Education Department's Scheme of Delegation for the school DMR System.

### **FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING GRANTS 1998/99**

5. There was submitted a report dated 12 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education regarding footwear and clothing grants and which proposed a recommended level of grant for 1998/99.

Councillor Farrell seconded by Councillor Taylor moved:-

- (i) that the eligibility criteria for the award of footwear and clothing grants as being receipt by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of either income support, family credit, housing benefit, Council Tax rebate or income based job seekers allowance be noted;
- (ii) that footwear and clothing grants continue to be available to eligible pupils who were attending schools managed by East Ayrshire Council or to a school to which they had been directed by East Ayrshire Council;
- (iii) that the level of grant for 1998/99 be maintained at £50; and
- (iv) that the Director of Education publicise widely within East Ayrshire the availability of footwear and clothing grants and that he continues to monitor

the uptake of grants and submit periodic reports to the Education Sub-Committee.

Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Coffey moved as an amendment that the annual rate of inflation be used in setting the level of footwear and clothing grant.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 3 votes to 2.

### **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 1998/99 - NEW DEAL - RATIONALISATION OF DOON ACADEMY AND DALMELLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

6. There was submitted a report dated 16 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education regarding the first phase of the proposed adaptation works to Doon Academy in preparation for property sharing with Dalmellington Primary School and which sought agreement to proceed with phase one.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that commencement of phase one of the adaptation works to Doon Academy during the school Easter holidays for 1998 be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education make the necessary arrangements to implement phase one with immediate effect in conjunction with the Head of Contracting and Technical Services; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education continue to monitor closely the capital programme.

### **HURLFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL REFURBISHMENT WORK - PROCESSING OF FINAL ACCOUNT**

7. There was submitted a joint report dated 16 March 1998 (circulated) on the final cost of refurbishment works to Hurlford Primary School and which sought agreement to process the final account.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that additional expenditure of £41,000 incurred during the refurbishment work on Hurlford Primary School be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education make the necessary arrangements to process the final account with immediate effect in consultation with the Head of Contracting and Technical Services; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education, in consultation with the Head of Contracting and Technical Services, provide Councillor Nicoll with detailed costings for those categories of additional expenditure detailed at paragraph 2.4 of the report which had been incurred under the Capital Programme 1997/98 during the execution of the contract for the refurbishment work at Hurlford Primary School.

### **SUMMER SUPPORT PROGRAMME**

#### **8.1 WITCHHILL SCHOOL, KILMARNOCK**

There was submitted a joint report dated 9 March 1998 (circulated) by the Directors of Education and of Social Work which sought approval for a summer support project to operate in the Kilmarnock area to benefit children assessed as having special educational needs.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposal to operate a summer school project at Witchhill School as detailed in the report be approved;
- (ii) that the Directors of Education and of Social Work submit a report on the effectiveness of the project in due course;
- (iii) that where possible, Local Authority transport be utilised during the term of the project; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

## **8.2 HILLSIDE SCHOOL, CUMNOCK**

There was submitted a joint report dated 9 March 1998 (circulated) by the Directors of Education and of Social Work which requested approval for the implementation of a summer support project for families of children with complex needs.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposal detailed in Paragraph 3 of the report be approved as a summer project at Hillside School, Cumnock for 1998;
- (ii) that the Director of Education and of Social Work submit a progress report on the effectiveness of the project for future development; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **INTERNATIONAL LINKS: USA, MICHIGAN EXCHANGE**

9. There was submitted a report dated 2 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the staff exchange scheme with Michigan, USA.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Council's participation in the scheme of international exchanges be approved; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **LOCAL LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS**

10. There was submitted a report dated 3 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which sought approval for a bid for development funding under the Local Learning Partnership Scheme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that involvement of the Education Department in the Ayrshire Learning Partnership be approved;
- (ii) that annual funding of £5,000 in financial years 1998/99 and 1999/2000 be approved;
- (iii) that the Director of Education submit reports on the progress of the Ayrshire Learning Partnership to the Education Sub-Committee;
- (iv) that the Director of Education submit a report to the next meeting of the Education Sub-Committee detailing the numbers of mature students who were

currently attending secondary schools as part of their continuing education;  
and

- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

## **EUROPEAN LINKS**

### **11.1 `LINGUA' EXCHANGE**

There was submitted a report dated 24 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the submission of a bid for funding to develop an exchange for modern languages teachers with a Local Authority in the Cantal region of France and which requested authority to proceed with the development of the exchange.

It was reported and noted:-

- (i) that the reports on European links on the Agenda had been submitted as part of an initiative by the French Schools Inspectorate; and
- (ii) that efforts would be made to liaise with the Council's International partners in future European education initiatives and that the Director of Education would be writing in due course to his European Education Colleagues in this regard.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the establishment of an educational link between East Ayrshire Council and the Cantal region of France be approved;
- (ii) that the bid submitted to the Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchange (CBEVE) for 100% funding be approved, on the understanding that the costs of the exchange, so far as possible, be kept within the limit of the sum contained in the submitted bid for funding;
- (iii) that the Director of Education evaluate the effectiveness of the exchange; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **11.2 VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS - BRUSSELS PROJECT**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of an international Seminar on "Violence in Schools" which was being held in Brussels between 11-15 February 1998.

### **11.3 "STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO DISRUPTION AND VIOLENCE"**

There was submitted a report dated 5 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which sought approval for a Conference to be held in East Ayrshire as part of the European Union "Violence in Schools Project".

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the organisation of an international conference "Strategic Approaches to Disruption and Violence" be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education submit a report on the main outcomes of the conference to the Education Sub-Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRE-FIVE PROVISION IN CROSSHOUSE**

12. There was submitted a report dated 16 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which proposed the expansion of Pre-Five provision in the Crosshouse area and which advised of the outcome of the consultation exercise which had been undertaken.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the establishment of a Nursery School in Westpark School be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education submit a further report on the proposal to extend the service for children who required before and after school care to a future meeting of the Education Sub-Committee;
- (iii) that the Director of Education prepare a consultative document on the future of Westpark School for the next meeting of the Education Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **YOUTH CONFERENCE**

13. There was submitted a report dated 10 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of progress to date for the annual Youth Conference which was scheduled to be held in Cumnock Academy in East Ayrshire in April.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the progress in planning the annual Youth Conference to date be noted;
- (ii) that all Members of the Sub-Committee be invited to attend the Conference; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education submit a further report on the evaluation of the Conference.

### **KILMARNOCK ACADEMY/SCOTTISH POWER COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRE**

14. There was submitted a report dated 16 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of a proposal to establish a Community Learning Centre in Kilmarnock Academy in partnership with Scottish Power Learning.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the establishment of a Community Learning Centre at Kilmarnock Academy be approved;
- (ii) that the partnership between East Ayrshire Council's Education Department and Scottish Power Learning be approved;
- (iii) that the Director of Education submit progress reports on this initiative to the Education Sub-Committee;
- (iv) that it be remitted to the Director of Education to ensure that the use of Scottish Power Learning's corporate livery within the Community Learning Centre be discreet; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**RAISING EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT: EASTER SCHOOLS IN EAST  
AYRSHIRE**

15. There was submitted a report dated 18 March 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of a proposal to offer support to senior pupils through the provision of Easter Schools.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the initiative to raise educational standards be welcomed;
- (ii) that the Director of Education be authorised to proceed with the proposals contained in the report;
- (iii) that the Director of Education evaluate the impact of the Easter School provision and submit a further report to the Education Sub-Committee in due course; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Macrae joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

16. The Sub-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 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.

**TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION  
SUPERVISORS FROM THE COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT TO  
THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

17. There was submitted a joint report dated 19 March 1998 (circulated) by the Directors of Education, of Finance and of Personnel Services which advised of the transfer of Supervisors of Community Education Centres from the Commercial Operations Department to the Education Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the action taken to progress the transfer of responsibility for Supervisors of Community Education Centres from the Commercial Operations Department to the Education Department be noted;
- (ii) that the Directors of Education and of Personnel Services be instructed to address the management, administration and monitoring issues detailed in the report;
- (iii) that the Director of Education submit a report to a future meeting of the Education Committee in respect of the integrated service's first six months of operational experience;
- (iv) that the Council's Scheme of Delegation be amended accordingly; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1115 hours.