

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1999 AT 1400 HOURS IN NEW FARM LOCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 2A FRASER WALK, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Gordon McCredie, John Knapp and Daniel Coffey; Community Representatives Janet Smith, Archie McKenzie, Beryl Graham, Matt Donnelly, Maureen Brown and Hugh Stirling.

ATTENDING: Michael Rooney, Team Leader - Environmental Health, Community Services; Hugh Mitchell, Police Liaison Officer, Community Services; Brian Weadon, Area Engineer (Roads), Development Services; Helen McGhee, Assistant Divisional Manager, Social Work; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Superintendent Simon Keenan, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Community Representatives Arlene Lindsay and William Denim.

CHAIR: Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

CHAIRS REMARKS

1. The meeting was informed of the progress made by Community Representative William Denim during his recent illness and it was agreed to send a card on behalf of the Local Committee giving their best wishes for a speedy return to good health.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. There was submitted for information and noted, minutes of meeting held on 14 January 1999 (circulated).

2.1 MATTERS ARISING

Replacement of Town and Village Signs (Item 6, page 4097) - Noted that the Secretary of the Kilmarnock North Federation of Community Groups had notified the Director of Support Services with the suggested messages for the road signs (as undernoted) to comply with the criteria on the replacement of town and village signs.

“Driving Towards Investment” - Grassyards Road

“The Future Begins Here” - Glasgow Road

“This is Wallace Country” - Kilmaurs Road

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 1999/2000

3. There was submitted a report dated 17 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which invited the Local Committee to consider and determine certain matters in order to facilitate arrangements for the recruitment of Community Representatives to sit on the Local Committee for the period 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the retirement of Alan Harley, substitute for the Kilmarnock Forum on Disability;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to initiate the process for the submission of new nominations for Community Representatives and named substitutes by the relevant organisations, to serve during the period 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000 and to make such arrangements as might be necessary to facilitate this process; and
- (iii) that the Director of Support Services contact local secondary schools and youth groups within the Kilmarnock North Area to encourage a young person to be represented on the Local Committee.

LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS SCHEME

- 4.** There was submitted a report dated 17 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which outlined the financial position in respect of grants received for the financial year 1998/99 together with a summary statement relating to outstanding applications for community grants received by local organisations.

4.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor John Knapp declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the application from Onthank Boys Club.

4.2 Applications Approved (for the purpose specified on the application), viz:-

(a) Older People

New Farm Loch Community Initiative - £800

(b) Sport

(i) Onthank Boys Club - It was agreed to grant £1,950 subject to the Director of Support Services clarifying with the Club the feasibility of providing identification on the strips that they had been funded by the Kilmarnock North Local Committee.

(ii) Northwest Amateur Boxing Club - £2,426 - to note that the constitution of the club required to be amended to reflect that membership was open to anyone from East Ayrshire and that the club be advised accordingly.

(c) Young People

Northwest Youth Centre Project - It was agreed, due to the timescale involved to approve, in principle, and award of £4,000 subject to receipt of a satisfactory assessment report.

4.3 Procedure for Determining Further Applications Received Prior to 31 March 1999

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Support Services write to all community and voluntary groups who had previously applied for grant and encourage groups to apply for Community Grant prior to 31 March 1999; and
- (ii) that the Director of Support Services make appropriate arrangements for any further applications received to be dealt with, if possible, before that date.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

“OPERATION SPOTLIGHT”

5. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of the nature and results of “Spotlight” operations over the preceding 6 week period and advised of forthcoming initiatives.

During discussion of the report the Police Liaison Officer introduced Superintendent Simon Keenan, Strathclyde Police who had recently been appointed with responsibility for policing East Ayrshire arising from the proposed merger of “U” and “R” divisions which would take effect from 1 June 1999.

Superintendent Keenan then provided a brief history of his career to date, confirmed that he was looking forward to carrying out his new role and advised that the creation of the new division would allow a greater degree of flexibility in releasing Police resources.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to welcome Superintendent Keenan to his new post;
- (ii) that Community Representatives identify any local problems which may be addressed by a “Spotlight” operation and advise the Director of Community Services accordingly; and
- (iii) to otherwise, note the contents of the report.

PROGRESS - RECYCLING FACILITIES AND DOG FOULING INITIATIVE (Item 8, Page 3912)

6. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of progress made on the provision of recycling facilities and the dog fouling initiative.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that an alternative recycling site for New Farm Loch would be introduced at Grassyards Road on a trial basis and be reviewed by the Director of Community Services after a 6 month period;
- (ii) to note that a recycling facility would be introduced at the Onthank shops, Amlaird Road on a trial basis and be reviewed by the Director of Community Services after a 6 month period;
- (iii) to note that the existing recycling site at Tesco’s Glasgow Road would be retained;

- (iv) that Community Representatives identify any local problem areas which may be suitable for the erection of dog fouling signs and dog waste bins and advise the Director of Community Services accordingly;
- (v) to note in relation to the lack of prosecutions for reported cases of dog fouling, that the Head of Protective Services had written to the Procurator Fiscal seeking assurances that the matter be given a higher priority; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1999/2000 PROGRAMME OF STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS (Item 25, Page 4146)

7. There was submitted a report dated 4 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised of the 1999/2000 Roads and Footways Structural Maintenance Programmes for “inescapable” schemes approved by the Development Services Committee and which sought approval for the “highly desirable” schemes for structural maintenance of footways or “desirable” options.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the “highly desirable” schemes for the structural maintenance of footways as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to note the 1999/2000 Roads and Footways Structural Maintenance Programmes for “inescapable” schemes approved by the Development Services Committee; and
- (iii) to note that any further reduction in the anticipated budget would be accommodated by the Director of Development Services by reducing the footway resurfacing programme in an equitable manner.

SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM : STRATEGIC PLAN 1999-2002 (Item 3, Page 3841)

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 8 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which advised the content of the Strategic Plan for Social Work Services in the criminal justice system.

URBAN PROGRAMME TERMINATING PROJECTS

9.1 ENERGY ADVICE UNIT (Item 10, Page 4028)

There was submitted a report dated 1 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which advised of the initial findings of the Evaluation Panel meeting which evaluated the Energy Advice Unit project, for which urban programme funding was due to terminate in September 1999.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the initial findings of the evaluation panel as set out in the report;

- (ii) to express the Local Committee's support for further funding to be made available to allow the work of the project to continue;
- (iii) to remit to the Chief Executive to submit the views of the Local Committee to the Policy and Resources Committee, for consideration in conjunction with the recommendations of the evaluation panel; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

9.2 NEWLANDS DRIVE SPORTS PITCH/CHANGING ROOM (Item 10, Page 4028)

There was submitted a report dated 1 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which advised of the initial findings of the Evaluation Panel which evaluated the Newlands Drive Sports Pitch/Changing Room project, for which urban funding was due to terminate in January 2000.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the local members, Councillor Knapp and Councillor Coffey were also present when the Evaluation Panel met on Friday 22 January 1999;
- (ii) to note the initial findings of the Evaluation Panel as set out within the report;
- (iii) to express the Local Committee's support for further funding to be made available to allow the work of the project to continue;
- (iv) to remit to the Chief Executive to submit the views of the Local Committee to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration in conjunction with the recommendations of the Evaluation Panel; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

9.3 KILMARNOCK CAR PROJECT (Item 10, Page 4028)

There was submitted a report dated 1 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which advised of the initial findings of the Evaluation Panel meeting which evaluated the Kilmarnock Car project.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the initial findings of the Evaluation Panel as set out in the report;
- (ii) to express the Local Committee's support for further funding to be made available to allow the work of the work of the project to continue;
- (iii) to remit to the Chief Executive to submit the views of the Local Committee to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration in conjunction with the recommendations of the Evaluation Panel; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1514 hours.