

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11 MARCH 1999 AT 1405 HOURS
IN THE FULTON HALL, FENWICK**

PRESENT: Councillors James O'Neill, Kathleen Hall and Ann Hay; and Community Representatives Ian Finlayson, James McFaden JP (Substitute), Alan Porter, Katherine Currie, May Clarke, Kit McLaren (Substitute) and Margaret Lees.

ATTENDING: Jim Maitland, Depute Director of Housing; Helen McGee, Assistant Divisional Manager (Department of Social Work); Donald McVicar, Departmental Strategy Officer; Tom Merry, Senior Policy Advisor (Department of Development Services); Edward O'Conner, Senior Community Education Worker; Brian Weadon, Area Engineer (Roads and Transportation Division) and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Karen Darling, Commissioner for Elderly Services, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board and Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police.

CHAIR: Councillor James O'Neill, Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. There was submitted, for information and noted, the minutes of the meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 28 January 1999 (circulated).

1.1 MATTERS ARISING

It was reported:-

- (i) and noted that the Director of Support Services in consultation with the Vice-Chair had awarded a grant of £250 to 20th Ayrshire (Stewarton) Scout Group (Item 4.2.1, Page 4181);
- (ii) that the Director of Development Services had advised that a report on the interim studies from the trials on traffic calming in Lainshaw, Stewarton would be reported to a future meeting of this Committee (Item 10(b), Page 4183); and
- (iii) that local traffic controllers at school crossings had been requested to report the registration number of vehicles which failed to comply with the local controllers signal(s) to Strathclyde Police, for appropriate action to be taken (Item 3, Page 4180).

CHAIRS REMARKS

2. The Chair, at his discretion and in terms of Standing Order 15.1 agreed to alter the order of business and consider Item 11 on the agenda. The Chair also welcomed Karen Darling, Commissioner for Elderly Services, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, to the meeting.

SUPPORT SERVICES

URBAN PROGRAMME TERMINATING PROJECT : ENERGY ADVICE UNIT EVALUATION

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the initial findings of the Evaluation Panel as described in paragraph 4 of the report;
- (ii) to express support for the work of the Project;
- (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 contents of the report.

SOCIAL WORK

AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN HEALTH BOARD - RESPITE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (Item 6(i), Page 4182)

4. A presentation was given by Karen Darling, Commissioner for Elderly Services, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, on the Respite Care Strategy and A Framework for Mental Health Services in Scotland as they impact upon the Northern Area of East Ayrshire.

It was agreed to note the presentation.

Mrs Katherine Currie, Community Representative, joined the meeting during the presentation.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM : STRATEGIC PLAN 1999-2002 (Item 14, Page 3838)

5. There was submitted a report dated 24 February 1999 (copy circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the content of the Strategic Plan for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the appropriateness of the Strategic Plan for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System in relation to the improvement of public safety;
- (ii) to note that the Department of Social Work would provide a Senior Social Worker and two Social Workers to provide a Social Work service within Her Majesty's Prison, Kilmarnock, within the terms of the National Standards for Throughcare, the cost of which would be met by Premier Prison Services; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION ON THE NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

6.1 RECRUITMENT OF YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE (Item 1.1(i), Page 4179)

There was submitted a report dated 4 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Education on progress on the nomination of a youth representative and substitute to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to invite the senior pupils at Stewarton Academy to hold an election for a youth representative and substitute to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee; and
- (ii) to encourage the active participation of young people through Community Councils in the Northern Area.

6.2 RECRUITMENT OF LOCAL BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE (Item 1.1(ii), Page 4179)

There was submitted a report dated 4 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the nomination by Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry of a local business representative to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee.

It was agreed to note that the local business representative to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee would be Mr Allan Dickson.

6.3 RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES 1999/2000 (Item 1, Page 2085)

There was submitted a report dated 15 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which invited the Committee to consider and determine certain matters in order to facilitate arrangements for Community Representatives to serve on the Local Committee for the period 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the current community representation on the Northern Area Local Committee as detailed in Appendix I to the report;
- (ii) to agree to retain the current community organisation representation on the Committee for the period 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000; and
- (iii) that community representatives would liaise with their parent organisations on the submission of nominations for community representation on the Local Committee for a period of 1 year commencing 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000 and advise the Director of Support Services accordingly.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME - GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

7. There was submitted a report dated 4 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on applications received from local organisations for grant assistance in terms of the Community Grants Scheme.

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

- (a) Community Councils
Dunlop and Lugton Community Council Regeneration Group - £300
- (b) Older People
Dunlop and Lugton Old Peoples Welfare Association - £100
- (c) Sport
Stewarton and Annick Football Club (Tournament Expenses) - £450
Stewarton and Annick Football Club (Portacabin and Equipment) - £950
- (d) Young People
Dunlop Schools Out - £1,520.52

It was also agreed to award a sum of £479.48 to Dunlop Schools Out to be met from the grant allocation to the Northern Area Local Committee in financial year 1999/2000.

MISCELLANEOUS**POLICE REPORT**

8. Sergeant Tom Ramage, Strathclyde Police, reported on local policing matters.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that in the year to date there had been a 13.5% decrease in reported crime;
- (ii) to note that since the last meeting of this Committee there had been 12 dwellinghouse break-ins throughout the Northern Area; and
- (iii) to note that since the last meeting of this Committee there had been no serious crimes of violence or major disorder in the Northern Area.

COMMUNITY SERVICES**“OPERATION SPOTLIGHT”**

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 4 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the nature and results of “Spotlight” operations over the preceding 6 week period.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that future reports on “Spotlight” operations would be more localised in content and would also provide details of community safety and other ongoing initiatives within the Northern Area; and
- (ii) that Community Representatives should consult with their relevant organisations and forward any ideas which could be highlighted by Strathclyde Police under the “Spotlight” initiative to the Divisional

Commander, Chief Superintendent Bill Campbell, at Kilmarnock Police Headquarters.

Community Representative Substitute Kit McLaren, left the meeting at this point.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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

10. There was submitted a report dated 25 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the programme of structural maintenance of roads and footways 1999/2000 for “inescapable” schemes approved by the Development Services Committee; and which sought approval of the “highly desirable” schemes for structural maintenance of footways, or “desirable” options.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the 1999/2000 Roads and Footways Structural Maintenance Programmes for “inescapable” schemes approved by the Development Services Committee;
- (ii) to approve the “highly desirable” schemes for the structural maintenance of footways;
- (iii) to note that any further reduction in the anticipated budget would be accommodated by the Acting Head of Roads and Transportation by the reduction of the Footway Resurfacing Programme in an equitable manner; and
- (iv) that the Director of Development Services (Acting Head of Roads and Transportation) would submit a report on communication links with Strathclyde Police and the strategy employed relating to the re-routing of traffic via Stewarton in the event of the temporary closure of the A77 due to accidents, to the next meeting of this Committee on 21 April 1999.

TRAFFIC SPEEDS ON LUGTON ROAD, DUNLOP (Item 10(iii)(a), Page 4183)

11. There was submitted a report dated 26 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the outcome of a speed survey carried out by Strathclyde Police on Lugton Road, Dunlop; and on low cost measures to deter speeding traffic.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Roads and Transportation Division, in consultation with the local community in Dunlop, would carry out low cost road safety measures to deter traffic from speeding on Lugton Road, Dunlop, in Spring 1999; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EDUCATION

UPDATE ON THE WORK OF EAST AYRSHIRE YOUTH ASSOCIATION, NORTH (Item 4.1(a), Page 4009)

12. There was submitted a report dated 18 January 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Education on progress to date of the East Ayrshire Youth Association North in developing training for young people.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress of the work of East Ayrshire Youth Association, North;
- (ii) to commend the work of the East Ayrshire Youth Association, North; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education would monitor the work of the East Ayrshire Youth Association, North and report, thereon, periodically to this Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1602 hours.