

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 1998 AT 1400 HOURS IN AUCHINLECK COMMUNITY CENTRE, WELL ROAD, AUCHINLECK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Ross, Jimmy Boyd, George Smith and Jim Carmichael; and Community Representatives: Mr William Crawford, Mrs Jean Smith, Mr Alex Currie, Mr William Lees, Mr Hugh Murdoch, Mr Ronnie Hamilton, Mr David Elliot and Miss Lynne Irwin.

ATTENDING: John Pickering, Area Housing Manager; Jim Hazlett, Divisional Social Work Manager; John Spooner, Development Manager (Development Services); Paul Todd, Principal Officer - Environmental Health and Waste Management (Community Services); Bill Hunter, Area Community Education Officer; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Chief Inspector James Thompson and Sergeant Ian Mortimer, Strathclyde Police "R" Division.

APOLOGIES: Councillors James Kelly, David Sneller and Eric Jackson; and Community Representative Reverend Duncan Eddie.

CHAIR: Councillor George Smith, Vice-Chair (Items 1 to 3 inclusive); and Eric Ross, Chair, (remaining Agenda items).

MINUTES**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. There were submitted for information, and noted, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 1 October 1998 (circulated).

COMMUNITY GRANTS**GENERAL APPLICATIONS**

2. There was submitted a statement dated 30 October 1998 (circulated) prepared by the Director of Support Services which summarised the pertinent information relative to outstanding applications for Community Grants received from local organisations and outlined the financial position in respect of Community Grants for the financial year 1998/99.

It was agreed in respect of the undernoted matters as follows, namely:-

- (i) Application from Catrine Nursery Bus Scheme - that, in respect of the application for grant submitted by Catrine Nursery Bus Scheme for assistance towards the cost of running a bus to transport children from Mauchline to Catrine Nursery, an award of £33 be made, being the unallocated balance remaining from the financial provision made available to this Committee for Community Grants during the current financial year;
- (ii) Applications by Crosshill Recreation Club and Skerrington and Netherthird Co-operative Women's Guild - that no grant award be made in respect of the

applications submitted by Crosshill Recreation Club and Skerrington and Netherthird Co-operative Women's Guild since the available financial allocation for Community Grants had been fully committed, and that these organisations be advised accordingly and their applications returned with a suggestion that they might wish to consider re-applying for grant assistance at the start of the next financial year;

- (iii) Application by Afton Lone Parents Groups - that the Afton Lone Parents Group be permitted to use a sum of £100 from the grant of £520 previously awarded by this Committee to assist in meeting the cost of Christmas activities rather than the October playscheme as had been specified in the original application;
- (iv) Application by WRVS and Darby and Joan Club, Cumnock - that a grant of £530 from the remaining provision identified for grants to older people's groups be made to the WRVS and Darby and Joan Club, Cumnock, in respect of the Club's application for assistance in meeting the cost of Christmas dinners and high teas for members; and
- (v) Further Applications Received during 1998/99 - that any further applications for grant received during the remainder of the current financial year be considered on their merits and if necessary dealt with in the same manner as those applications referred to in (ii) above.

Councillor Eric Ross joined the meeting at this point.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

COMMUNITY FORUM: 5 OCTOBER 1998

3. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which advised of the outcome of the latest meeting of the Cumnock Area Community Forum for the year 1998/99, held as part of the Council's Scheme of Decentralisation.

Councillor Eric Ross, Chair, took the Chair.

NON-STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

4. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Chief Executive which sought views on a range of performance indicators being proposed for a trial period and invited comments on the need for any amendment to the indicators.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Members of the Committee would, if they so wished, and on an individual basis, submit any comments on the range of trial performance indicators for 1998/99 directly to Donald McVicar, Departmental Strategy Officer within the Department of Support Services not later than 10 December 1998;
- (ii) that, in order to facilitate the consultation process, and in light of the relatively short timescale for the submission of responses, a copy of the Chief Executive's report be circulated to all local organisations which had Community Representatives on the Local Committee, for comment; and
- (iii) to note that a report on the outcome of the consultation process relative to the trial performance indicators would be submitted to a future meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

“OPERATION SPOTLIGHT”

5. Chief Inspector Thompson introduced Sergeant Ian Mortimer who would be working within the Local Committee’s area mainly on Community Policing issues, and then provided the following information on initiatives being pursued by the Police locally, namely:-
- a Spotlight initiative had been undertaken jointly with East Ayrshire Council to target “fly tipping” which had resulted in six individuals having been reported to the Procurator Fiscal;
 - a Spotlight initiative had been undertaken jointly with East Ayrshire Council, the Crime Prevention Panel and the local Disability Forum to highlight the “Get Street Wise: Payments are for People” Campaign promoted by the National Federation of the Blind of the United Kingdom;
 - since 1 October 1998 a Spotlight initiative focusing on drugs and house breaking had been in operation involving both covert as well as high profile Community Policing support. To date, 12 drug operations had been involved with 44 arrests, together with several arrests for house breaking. A further report on this initiative would be submitted to the next meeting;
 - in general, crime within the local area had increased, particularly noteworthy being an increase of approximately 50% in incidents of serious crime.

In this connection, Councillor James Boyd emphasised the need for members of the public to support the Police in the initiatives being carried out and the Chief Inspector, in fully supporting in the comments made by Councillor Boyd, confirmed that he had been encouraged by the public response to, and support for, the initiatives undertaken so far.

It was agreed to note the Chief Inspector’s report.

NATIONAL SPRING CLEAN 1999

6. There was submitted a report dated 23 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of National Spring Clean in East Ayrshire in 1999.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to support the Council’s aim of increasing the number of events and projects within East Ayrshire during National Spring Clean 1999 and that Members of the Committee would (a) encourage participation, wherever possible, by local community groups; and (b) advise the Director of Community Services of any such groups which they felt could be approached with a view to participating;
- (ii) that local Secondary and Primary Schools (Primary 7 only) be invited to participate in a competition to produce posters on the theme of “National Spring Clean 1999 in East Ayrshire”, each School to have the opportunity of submitting three separate entries for judging by this Committee at the next meeting;

- (iii) to suggest to the Director of Community Services that a suitable article be placed in the next edition of "Headlines" publicising, and promoting participation in, National Spring Clean 1999;
- (iv) that the Director of Community Services prepare and submit to the next meeting a report examining the issues relating to the discarding of supermarket trolleys in rivers within the central part of Cumnock; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

PROVISION OF RECYCLING FACILITIES

7. There was submitted a report dated 21 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised on the provision of existing recycling locations and proposed how these facilities could be extended.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve, in respect of the Committee's interests, the proposed new recycling site locations at Logan and Auchinleck, but that the Director of Community Services would consult further with the local Members concerned in respect of the proposed sites in New Cumnock and Catrine;
- (ii) that prior to the establishment of any of the proposed new sites, the Director of Community Services would also (a) consult directly with the appropriate Community Council in each case relative to proposals within their respective areas; and (b) consult with the local Elected Members concerned in the light of any comments received from the Community Councils, prior to establishment of a new site; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

Arising from discussion, it was also agreed that the Principal Officer, Environmental Health and Waste Management, would provide directly to Community Representative Alex Currie, information on contractors who would uplift used chip pan oil.

REMOVAL OF DOG FOULING: ARRANGEMENTS FOR STREET WASHING

8. There was submitted a report dated 16 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of methods available for removal of dog fouling from areas with specific reference to street washing and equipping vehicles with lances for washing the streets.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Community Services prepare and submit to the next meeting, a report on progress made in the introduction of the use of brushes and shovels, to replace "litter pickers" by street sweeping personnel; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT - REPORT FOR PERIOD JANUARY TO JULY 1998

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 2 November 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on work carried out by the Development Services

Department, in terms of local economic regeneration and financial support and ongoing business development assistance to companies located within the Committee area, during the period January to July 1998.

SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

- 10.** There was submitted a report dated 27 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which advised of the Social Inclusion Partnership Initiative which was being promoted by The Scottish Office and the opportunities it provided for East Ayrshire Council and its partners.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Members of the Committee would, if they so wished, and on an individual basis, advise the Director of Social Work directly of any Social Inclusion issues relative to the Local Committee area;
- (ii) that Members of the Committee would, wherever possible, encourage appropriate individuals and organisations to participate in the proposed Social Inclusion Partnership Planning Conference to be held in early December, and also advise the Director of Social Work of any individuals or groups who could be approached with a view to participating; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

OLDER PEOPLE'S STRATEGY

- 11.** There was submitted a report dated 26 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought to consult the Local Committee on the Council's Older People's Strategy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Members of the Local Committee would, if they so wished, and on an individual basis, submit comments on the Strategy directly to the Depute Director of Social Work (Community Care) no later than 10 January 1999; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

URBAN PROGRAMME PROJECT: REFUGE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 29 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the work of the Refuge for Women and Children located within the Committee's area which was a voluntary urban programme project.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work report to this Committee on an annual basis on activity in relation to urban programme projects within the Committee's area.

SUPPORT SERVICES

STREET NAMING

13.1 CUMNOCK: DEVELOPMENT AT SKERRINGTON FARM

The Committee were asked to determine names for two new streets to be created by a development comprising housing and industrial units at Skerrington Farm, Cumnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the new street comprising private housing be called "Pender's Wynd" in recognition of the service to the community given by William Pender, a Councillor with the former Cumnock and Doon Valley District Council, representing the Cumnock South/Old Cumnock Ward;
- (ii) that the street comprising industrial units be called "Glaisnock Glen"; and
- (iii) that the Head of Contracting and Technical Services be advised of the above.

13.2 DEVELOPMENT AT NEWTON STREET/TOWNHEAD, CATRINE

The Committee were asked to determine a name for a new development of houses at Newton Street/Townhead, Catrine.

It was agreed that the new development be called "Stewart Place, Nether Catrine" as suggested by the local Member, and that the Head of Contracting and Technical Services be advised accordingly.

The meeting terminated at 1543 hours.