

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 1998 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE FULTON HALL, FENWICK

PRESENT: Councillors James O'Neill, Kathleen Hall and Ann Hay; and Community Representatives, Mr James McFadden, JP (Substitute), Mr Watson Muirhead, Mr Alan Porter, Mrs Katherine Currie and Ms Margaret Lees.

ATTENDING: Gerard Cairns, Library and Information Services Manager; Janette Nightingale, Assistant Area Manager (Department of Housing); James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer; Grace Scott, Quality Development Officer (Department of Education); Allan Murray, Senior Community Education Officer; Mike Rooney, Environmental Health Team Leader; James Laing, Senior Social Worker; and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Community Representatives Mr Ian Finlayson, Mr William Ferguson and Mrs May Clarke.

CHAIR: Councillor James O'Neill, Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. There were submitted, for information and noting, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 16 September 1998 (circulated).

It was agreed :-

- (i) to note that Kilmaurs Photographic Club had been awarded a grant by the Small Lotteries Fund and consequently, had withdrawn their application for grant to this Committee;
- (ii) to continue consideration of the item: A Programme For Environmental Improvement Projects, to enable Community Representatives to consult with their local organisations to bring forward suggestions for further projects; and
- (iii) to continue consideration of the item: Social Work Anti-Poverty Activity, to the next meeting of this Committee to enable the Director of Social Work to submit a report on the provision of outreach services on poverty issues in the Northern Area and to invite the Citizen's Advice Bureau to outline their service provision proposals.

RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

2. There was submitted a report dated 7 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the outcome on the nomination and selection process for a Youth Representative to serve on the Northern Area Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that Ms Gabrielle Iwelumo would serve as the Youth Representative on the Northern Area Local Committee;

- (ii) that the Substitute Youth Representative would be introduced to this Committee on 26 November 1998.

MISCELLANEOUS

POLICE REPORT

3. Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police, reported on local policing matters.

It was agreed to note:-

- (i) that a serious robbery had taken place in Fenwick and that Strathclyde Police CID, U Division were investigating;
- (ii) that a car theft had taken place in Fenwick. Sergeant Ramage suggested that when the public are suspicious of a person's activities they should contact their local Police Office without delay;
- (iii) that in general terms crime statistics since the last Committee had decreased. Only 5 or 6 minor incidents had been reported and house breakings had tailed off;
- (iv) that intoxicating liquor had been confiscated from youths in Stewarton and Kilmarnock;
- (v) that a traffic speed survey at Cutsburn Road/Loudoun Street in Stewarton had revealed that vehicles in a 30mph zone had exceeded 40mph;
- (vi) that Councillor O'Neill had requested the Roads and Transportation Division to report to this Committee on traffic issues. including the possibility of providing a school crossing patrol at Cutsburn Road/Loudoun Street; and
- (vii) that Sue Blake, Depute Director of Education, was considering a suggestion that temporary CCTV cameras be installed at Lainshaw Primary to deter incidences of vandalism.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

OPERATION SPOTLIGHT

4. There was submitted a report dated 23 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the nature and results of "Operation Spotlight" over the preceding 6 week period and which advised of forthcoming initiatives.

It was agreed:

- (i) that Community Representatives should consult with their relevant organisations and forward any ideas which could be highlighted by Strathclyde Police under the "Operation Spotlight" initiative to the Divisional Commander;
- (ii) to note that Councillor O'Neill had requested Bob Pollock, Police Liaison Officer, to liaise with the Roads and Transportation Division to establish whether local traffic controllers had any comments to make regarding the conduct of drivers at controlled crossings; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS: COMMUNITY GRANTS

5. There was submitted a report dated 1 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which summarised the pertinent information relevant to applications for Community Grants by local organisations in respect of financial year 1998/99.
- 5.1 **Applications Approved** (for the purpose specified on the application), viz:-
- (a) Disability
- Having noted that the amount applied for the project was £300 and not £200, as stated in the report, it was agreed to grant East Ayrshire Support Group - £60
- (b) Sport
- Kilmarnock and Loudoun Scout Fellowship - £60 subject to the Group noting that "in making this grant, the Council does not render itself liable in respect of any claims which may arise at the instance of any person in respect of any loss, injury or damage as a result of:-
- (a) any fault or defect in the equipment to be purchased with the grant as specified in the application; and
- (b) any use of said equipment by any person at any time and for any purpose".

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

ANNUAL SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES (Item 2, Page 3875)

6. There was submitted a report dated 25 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the arrangements for developing an Annual Seminar for Community Representatives.
- It was agreed:
- (i) to note the arrangements made to date for the Annual Seminar for Community Representatives;
- (ii) that a report on the outcome of the Seminar by the Director of Support Services would be submitted to this Committee in due course;
- (iii) that the Director of Support Services would advise Community Representatives on the criteria for attendance at the Annual Seminar for Community Representatives; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

LOCAL COMMITTEES - FORWARD PLANNING 1998/99

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 23 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which detailed the finalised Forward Planning Programme in respect of the agenda and timescales of Local Committee meetings for 1998/99 as detailed in an Appendix to the report.

PILOT DOG FOULING SCHEME - PROGRESS REPORT

8. There was submitted a report dated 10 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the outcome of a Pilot Scheme introduced to improve public awareness about dog fouling.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Community Services should consult with the local Member, Councillor Ann Hay and Fenwick Community Council, prior to further patrols of Fenwick, where dog fouling was considered to be a problem;
- (ii) to note that the frequency of patrols would be increased over the winter period;
- (iii) that a further update report on this matter be submitted to this Committee in approximately three months; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EDUCATION

CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE IN THE EDUCATION SERVICE - EARLY INTERVENTION INITIATIVE

9. There was submitted a report dated 17 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education on progress of the Early Intervention Initiative in East Ayrshire as an example of current good practice within the Department of Education.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that future detailed briefings on this significant educational initiative would be submitted to this Committee in due course; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DUNLOP AND LUGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

10. There was submitted a report dated 2 October 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education on the outcome of the community survey carried out by Dunlop and Lugton Community Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to commend the work of Dunlop and Lugton Community Council in the production of the Community Profile;
- (ii) that other Community Councils in the Northern Area should be advised of the outcome of the Dunlop and Lugton Community Profile;
- (iii) that the Dunlop and Lugton Community Council Working Groups identified in Appendix I to the report would report on the outcome of their findings to this Committee in February 1998; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Hall left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

HOUSING

EAST AYRSHIRE GARDEN COMPETITION

11. There was submitted a report dated 17 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on the outcome of the 1998 Garden Competition and requesting that the Committee extends its congratulations to the area winners.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to extend the Committee's congratulations to the local area winners, E Moore, 19 Southcraigs Holdings, Kilmarnock, M Norris, 12 Glencairn Terrace, Kilmaurs and J McMaster, 35 Lothian Road, Stewarton and to the winner of the Overall Best Garden in East Ayrshire 1998; Mr J Alexander, 36 Kings Drive, Cumnock;
- (ii) to note that the Director of Housing had made appropriate arrangements to hold a Civic Function for the winners; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Hall rejoined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS 1997/98

12. There was submitted and noted a report dated 28 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on new developments and positive achievements during the period April 1997 to March 1998, as detailed in an Appendix to the report.

CARERS STRATEGY

13. There was submitted and noted a report dated 30 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the Carers Strategy, detailed in an Appendix to the report.

The meeting terminated at 1527 hours.