

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1996 AT 1455 HOURS IN NEW CUMNOCK TOWN HALL, THE CASTLE, NEW CUMNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors George Smith, Jimmy Boyd, Jimmy Carmichael and Eric Jackson; and Community Representatives: Reverend W Buchan, Mr W Crawford, Mr I Smith, Mr P Neely, Mrs M Shankland, Mr A Currie and Mr R Mathers.

ATTENDING: Sue Angus, Depute Director of Education, (Community Support); Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Jim Kane, Chief Engineer (Roads and Transportation); Graham Short, Head of Quality Development (Education Department); Paul Todd, Principal Officer (Environmental Health and Waste Management); John Lilley, Principal Planner (Policy); George Fraser, Senior Policy Adviser (Development Services); John Pickering, Area Housing Manager; Margaret Geddes, Assistant Divisional Social Work Manager; James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: PC John Haynes, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Eric Ross, Jimmy Kelly and David Sneller; and Community Representatives: Mr M Kerr and Mr M Wright.

CHAIR: Councillor George Smith, Vice-Chair.

MEMBERSHIP OF LOCAL COMMITTEE: UPDATE (Item 2, Page 819)

1. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of the up-to-date position in respect of the nomination of community representatives from local organisations to serve on the Cumnock Area Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to appoint Mr Matthew Wright, a sixth year pupil at Auchinleck Academy, as the school pupil representative to serve on the Local Committee;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to make further contact with elderly groups within the Local Committee's area in respect of the nomination of a community representative from these groups to serve on the Local Committee; and
- (iii) to note that the Director of Education was arranging for the nomination of a representative from youth groups within the Local Committee area.

**CUMNOCK AREA COMMUNITY FORUM: MEETING:
26 AUGUST 1996 (Item 7, Page 995)**

2. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of the outcome of the second meeting of the Cumnock Area Community Forum which had been held on Monday 26 August 1996 in Logan Primary School.

It was agreed:

- (i) to authorise the Officials concerned to appropriately follow up any relevant matters arising from the Community Forum Meeting and to arrange for the submission of reports to the appropriate Service Committees where necessary; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME: CONSULTATION ON REVIEW AND REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING SCHEMES (Item 18, Page 1198)

3. There was submitted a report dated 9 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services providing an update on the current review of the existing Community Council schemes, as reported to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 1996.

Having heard the comments of the Head of Administration, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Policy and Resources Committee had agreed to authorise the publication of a Notice of Intention to Revoke the existing Community Council Schemes and to make a new Scheme in accordance with Section 22(3)(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

THIRD STATUTORY REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS (Item 9, Page 1195)

4. There was submitted a report dated 30 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which sought agreement of a preferred draft Scheme of Representation for East Ayrshire Council which would provide for 32 Electoral Wards and consideration of a public consultation process thereon, the recommendations of which had been agreed by the Policy and Resources Committee at their meeting held on 12 September 1996.

Having heard the Head of Administration in explanation of the reasons for the proposed increase in Wards from 30 to 32 and on the details of the preferred draft Scheme of Representation which had been agreed for the purpose of consultation with Local Committees and the public in general, it was agreed:

- (i) to note the details of the Council's preferred draft Scheme of Representation;
- (ii) to note that in respect of the proposed Ward boundary changes in the Mauchline area, Councillor Jackson had alternative proposals, details of which would be given at a public meeting arranged by him to be held in Mauchline Community Centre on Friday 20 September 1996;
- (iii) to suggest that the proposed Ward names under the Council's proposals in respect of Wards 22 and 23 should be changed from Mauchline West to Mauchline and from Mauchline East, Catrine and Sorn to Catrine, Sorn and Mauchline East respectively; and
- (iv) to note that Local Committee members, organisations and interested individuals had been invited to submit written comments on the Council's proposals, which were on display at various locations throughout the Area to the Director of Support Services by Friday 18 October 1996.

**PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICES:
CONSULTATION PANELS (Item 4, Page 1245)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 11 September 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive on the programme of local visits undertaken by Consultation Panels appointed by the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee, to examine how information and advice services might best be delivered in respect of those communities where there is not currently a Local Office.

It was reported that in addition to Councillors James Boyd and David Fulton, Councillor George Smith was a member of the Consultation Panel established to examine the provision of information and advice services in Auchinleck, as referred to in Section 3 of the report.

It was agreed to note the terms of the report.

LOCAL OFFICE PROVISION (Item 7, Page 970)

6. There was submitted a report dated 11 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the position relative to the upgrading of the Local Offices and general matters relating to the information and services provided as from 1 April 1996.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the progress made to date in respect of Local Office provision;
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to prepare a further progress report on this matter for submission to a future meeting; and
- (iii) to suggest to the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee that consideration be given to the possibility of tourist information being made available at the Council's Local Offices, particularly in those communities where no separate tourist information facility existed.

Councillor Jackson left the meeting during discussion of the above item prior to a decision being taken.

DRAFT PARTICIPATION POLICY

7. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on the proposed framework for the Council's draft Participation Policy and seeking comments on the draft Policy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the proposal that those Local Committee areas without tenant or resident association representation should be given priority in an effort to fully support the establishment of new associations, should that be the wish of the local community;
- (ii) to approve, in respect of this Committee's interest, the draft Tenant Participation Policy, as referred to in the report, which will be the basis for detailed consultation with the Council's tenant and resident associations and other national groups; and

(iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

MEASURED TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT: CONSULTATION

8. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on the progress made in the preparations for retendering of the Measured Term Maintenance Contracts operated by the Council, with particular regard to consultation taken on this matter.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the approach to consultation pursued by the Department of Housing in respect of preparations for retendering of the Measured Term Maintenance Contracts;
- (ii) to support, in principle, the suggestions referred to in the report that, in respect of the housing repair services delivered by the Council, "urgent" repairs should be completed within 5 working days, "routine" repairs should be carried out within 20 days and that an appointments system should be established; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

Councillor Jackson rejoined the meeting during discussion of the above item prior to a decision being taken.

REQUEST FOR GRANT FUNDING: KEIR HARDIE HILL TENANTS ASSOCIATION, CUMNOCK

9. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on an application for grant in respect of operating expenses, submitted by Keir Hardie Hill Tenants Association, Cumnock.

It was agreed that a grant of £50.00 be made to the Keir Hardie Hill Tenants Association, in respect of the Association's operating expenses for the current financial year.

BROOMFIELD PARK, CUMNOCK: MANAGEMENT RULES (Item 8, Page 1141)

10. There was submitted a report dated 28 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on proposed Management Rules for the public use of Broomfield Park, Cumnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the proposed Management Rules, subject to amendment of Section 4 - Control of Dogs, to the effect that designated Assistant Dogs should be exempt from the terms of this section as referred to in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

VANDALISM TO LEISURE AND RECREATION FACILITIES (Item 2, Page 1139)

11. There was submitted a report dated 8 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services, which had been submitted to the Leisure Sub-Committee of the Council's Community Services Committee held on 27 August 1996 advising of considerable damage to leisure and recreation facilities by vandals in the period 1 April to 31 July 1996.

It was agreed to note the report and that it be remitted to the Director of Community Services to discuss ways of reducing the amount of vandalism to leisure and recreation facilities with Strathclyde Police.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

12. There was submitted and noted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education on progress being made within the Community Education Service on Community Development Planning.

ROAD SAFETY PROPOSALS (Items 11, 12 and 13, Pages 1170 and 1171)

13. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which summarised proposals put forward by the Roads Division of the Department of Development Services to reduce road accidents within East Ayrshire in three reports in relation to the road safety strategy, traffic calming in communities on through routes and the Road Safety Capital Programme which were considered by the Development Services Committee on 5 September 1996.

It was agreed to note:

- (i) the nature of the proposals put forward by the Roads Division;
- (ii) that an initial study into traffic conditions in communities would be undertaken to determine a programme of future action; and
- (iii) that full liaison would take place with the Local Committee in respect of any proposed works within the Committee's area.

EAST AYRSHIRE ROADS NETWORK: OUTCOME OF LOCAL CONSULTATION ON AREAS OF PERCEIVED DANGER (Item 19, Page 998)

14. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of local areas of perceived danger in relation to the Council's roads network, as identified by Members of the Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the areas of perceived danger in relation to the Council's roads network, as identified by members of the Local Committee and detailed in the report, be referred to the Roads Division of the Department of Development Services for consideration; and
- (ii) that Members of the Local Committee should refer to the Roads Division any other areas of perceived danger in relation to the roads network of which they become aware in the future and which were of concern to them.

LOCAL REGENERATION STRATEGY (Item 4, Page 820)

15. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services advising of the proposed process for constructing a Local Regeneration Strategy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the process for preparation of the Local Regeneration Strategy as detailed in the report; and
- (ii) that the East Ayrshire Regeneration Partnership be the channel through which the involvement of a wider range of agencies be undertaken.

EAST AYRSHIRE LOCAL PLAN - ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE PREPARATION OF THE PLAN (Item 10, Page 995)

16. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on issues for consideration in the preparation of the East Ayrshire Local Plan.

It was agreed that arrangements be made for an informal meeting to take place between Members of the Local Committee and the appropriate Officials from the Planning and Building Control Section of the Department of Development Services in order to enable the Members of the Committee to examine in detail identified and potential issues for consideration in the preparation of the Local Plan.

RURAL CHALLENGE (Item 15, Page 938)

17. There was submitted a report dated 13 September 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising of the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee to establish an East Ayrshire Rural Challenge Budget, of which an uncommitted balance of £13,840 remained and for which the Local Committee had been invited to bid; and listing those bids which had been received from the Service Departments in respect of the Local Committee's area, with appropriate recommendations.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Local Committee would submit bids for funding under the Rural Challenge budget in respect of the undernoted specific projects, for the sums indicated, and in the following order of priority, namely:-
 - (1) Glaisnock Valley (Phase 4);
 - (2) Native and Community Woodland Project (Phase 2);
 - (3) Cumnock and Doon Valley Gift Furniture Scheme; and
 - (4) Credit Union Study Group and
- (ii) that no bid be made in respect of the proposed Consumer Advice Project at this time, in view of the absence of detailed proposals in respect of this project.

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES/AIDS AND
ADAPTATIONS (Item 5, Page 1086)**

18. There was submitted and noted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work providing an update on Occupational Therapy staffing, identification of need and current referral status.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE PLANS (Item 6, Page 1194)

19. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work advising of the statutory duty which had been placed upon the Council to prepare, consult and publish a Children's Service Plan for the Council's area; and of progress made to date in agreeing the process for completing this Plan.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Director of Social Work to bring forward a further report to the Local Committee, as necessary, to progress the Council's Children's Service Plan.

PHYSICAL DISABILITY/SENSORY IMPAIRMENT

20. There was submitted a report dated 27 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work advising (a) of the disaggregated services to East Ayrshire Council for adults with a physical disability and adults with a sensory impairment; and (b) of arrangements to redress the inadequate resources disaggregated.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the consultation and development tasks to be undertaken by the Service Officer, Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Services within the Social Work Department; and
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Director of Social Work to submit a report to a future meeting of this Committee with details of a proposed Sensory Impairment Service.

**GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS:
COMMUNITY GRANTS (Item 2, Page 1092)**

21. There was submitted a report dated 13 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services summarising the pertinent information relative to outstanding applications for Community Grants to local organisations which were before the Committee for determination, and outlining the approximate financial position in respect of applications for grant received.

The undernoted decisions were agreed in relation to grant applications considered:-

(a) Old People's Organisations

- (i) Opportunities in Retirement (Living Memory Group) - that, in principle, a grant of £250 be made to the Group, subject to the Group submitting their Constitution and latest Statement of Accounts, and that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services, in consultation with the Chair, to deal with the matter

(b) Young People's Organisations

- (i) 46th Ayrshire Cub Pack - to note that a grant of £70.00 to this Group had been approved by the Director of Support Services after consultation with the Chair, in terms of delegated powers; and
- (ii) Cumnock Mothers and Toddlers - that, in principle, a grant of £300 be made to this Group, subject to submission by the Group of their latest Statement of Accounts, and that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services, in consultation with the Chair, to deal with the matter.

(c) Recreational/Leisure Groups

- (i) Catrine Angling Club - that a grant of £250 be made to the Club;
- (ii) Cumnock Gardening Club - that a grant of £150 be made to the Club; and
- (iii) Cumnock Cage Bird Society - that a grant of £200 be made to the Society.

(d) Miscellaneous Organisations

- (i) Kilmarnock Folk Club - that this application be refused since it would be inappropriate to fund teachers time for the project activities outwith their base school, using community grant funding;
- (ii) Safer New Cumnock - to continue consideration of this application to the next meeting pending clarification of the exact nature of the proposed project and of the views of the local Community Council in respect of the project; and
- (iii) CHAIN (Claimants Housing Advice and Information Network) - to continue consideration of this application to the next meeting pending clarification of the level of service provided by this organisation to residents within the Local Committee's area.

(e) Community Council Project Specific Applications

- (i) Muirkirk Community Council - that, in principle, a grant of £175 be made to the Community Council in respect of the cleaning of the pool at Tibbie's Brig in Muirkirk, subject to clarification of the Council's legal position, and that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services, in consultation with the Chair, to deal with the matter; and
- (ii) Mauchline Community Council - that a grant of £100 be made to the Community Council in respect of the reprinting of tourist brochures.

The meeting terminated at 1740 hours.