

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 4 OCTOBER 1996 AT 1415 HOURS  
IN STEWARTON ACADEMY, STEWARTON**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jim O'Neill Kathleen Hall and Bob Beattie; and Community Representatives Mr J McFadden JP, Mr W Muirhead, Mr H Hamilton, Mrs G Roberts, Mrs M Clark, Mrs C Bingham and Ms E McKay.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr George Heaney, Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive and Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police.

**ATTENDING:** Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Jennifer Wallace, Depute Director of Education; Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Bill Anderson, Principal Officer (Cultural Services); Steven Good, Area Housing Manager; Muriel Reid, Quality Development Officer (Education); James Lane, Senior Social Worker Fiona MacKinnon, Senior Social Worker; Joe Herd, Area Community Education Officer; and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

**CONSULTATION WITH YOUTH  
- GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE (item 13, Page 861)**

The Chair agreed to alter the order of business per the Agenda issued, and to consider this item first.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1415 hours.

The Committee reconvened at 1445 hours with the same Members and Officials present and in attendance.

1. There was submitted a report dated 4 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of responses by the Departments of Education; Community Services and Social Work and the Planning and Building Control Service to issues raised following a consultation exercise with pupils from Stewarton Academy on the Council's proposals for decentralisation and on the facilities they would wish the Council to provide in the Northern Area. Officials representing the aforementioned departments and a representative from Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive spoke to the issues raised in the consultation exercise and responded to questions from pupils of Stewarton Academy present at the meeting.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that departmental responses to the matters raised by the pupils of Stewarton Academy had only provided an overview of the respective departments' responsibilities;

- (ii) to remit to those Departments to prepare responses specifically tailored to the issues; and
- (iii) to remit to the Director of Education to undertake the lead role in coordinating relevant Departments of the Council to meet the pupils in order to tackle the issues raised with the objective of preparing an action plan to be submitted to the Committee in February 1997.

Councillor Hall left the meeting during discussion of the above item prior to a decision being made.

### **MEMBERSHIP OF NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE**

2. There was submitted a report dated 24 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the current position in respect of the nomination of Community Representatives from local organisations to serve on the Local Committee.

It was agreed;

- (i) to note that local Pre-five groups expressed an interest in nominating a candidate to become a member of the Northern Area Local Committee but that meeting times had proved to be a prohibitive factor
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Education to further examine the potential for a Pre-five group candidate to be a member of the Northern Area Local Committee;
- (iii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to submit a report to the next meeting of the Committee on the views of relevant Elected Members and Community Representatives on an alternative day for future Northern Area Local Committee meetings; and
- (iv) to continue consideration of the item to the next meeting.

### **THIRD STATUTORY REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS: EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (Item 9, Page 1195)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 30 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the Third Statutory Review of Electoral Arrangements as considered by the Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 1996.

It was reported by the Head of Administration that the recommendations of the report had been agreed by the Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 1996 and that they preferred the draft scheme of representation which would provide for 32 electoral wards for the purpose of initial consultation of Local Committees and members of the public had been approved. He also reported that the deadline for submission of comments to the Director of Support Services was 18 October 1996 following which the report would be submitted to the meeting of the Council on 7 November 1996. This would include details of representation received following consultative process together with recommendations for the finalised draft scheme of

representation which would be considered by Council on 7 November 1996 and thereafter would be submitted to the Boundary Commission.

It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

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**PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICE  
- CONSULTATION PANELS (Item 4, Page 801)**

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 11 September 1996 by the Chief Executive which informed the Local Committee of the appointment of consultation panels by the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee to undertake a programme of local visits to examine Information and Advice Services in respect of those communities where there was not currently a Local Office.

**LOCAL OFFICE PROVISION (Item 3, Page 585)**

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made to date; and
- (ii) that a further report would be submitted to the Local Committee in due course.

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME - REPORT ON CONSULTATION ON REVIEW  
AND REPLACEMENT ON EXISTING SCHEMES (Item 18, Page 1198)**

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services updating the Committee on the current review of the existing Community Council schemes as reported to the Policy and Resources Committee on 12 September 1996.

**DRAFT PARTICIPATION POLICY**

7. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing informing the Committee of the proposed framework for East Ayrshire Council's Draft Participation Policy which sought the Local Committees comments on the draft policy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the undertaking to concentrate priority on those Local Committee areas without tenant/resident association representation;

- (ii) to approve the draft policy for detailed consultation with East Ayrshire Council's tenant and resident associations and other national groups;
- (iii) to remit to the Director of Housing to submit a Local Area Statement to the Local Committee in due course; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

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### **MEASURED TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACT CONSULTATION**

8. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing which provided an update on the progress on the preparations for the re-tendering of the Measured Term Maintenance Contract with particular regard to the consultations which had been undertaken.

It was agreed;-

- (i) to endorse the approach to consultation taken by the Department of Housing on the Measured Term Maintenance Contract; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **VANDALISM (Item Z Page 1139)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 8 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which had been remitted by the Leisure Sub-Committee of the Community Services Committee following their meeting on 27 August 1996 regarding damage to leisure and recreation facilities due to vandalism in the period from 1 April to 31 July 1996.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Director of Community Services to discuss ways of reducing the amount of vandalism in leisure and recreation facilities with Strathclyde Police; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

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

### **ROAD SAFETY PROPOSALS (Item 11, Page 1170)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services advising the Committee of the proposals being made by the Roads Division to reduce accidents in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the summary of the three reports which had been submitted to the Development Service Committee on 5 September 1996, viz:-
  - (a) Road Safety Strategies;
  - (b) Traffic Calming of Communities on Through Routes; and
  - (c) Road Safety Capital Programme;
- (ii) to note that an initial study into traffic conditions in communities would be undertaken to determine a programme for future action; and

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- (iii) to note that full liaison would take place with the Northern Area Local Committee.

#### **LOCAL REGENERATION STRATEGIES**

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the process detailed in Section 4 (1) of the report, describing the preparation of the strategy be approved; and
- (ii) that the East Ayrshire Regeneration Partnership be approved as the channel through which the involvement of a wider range of agencies would be undertaken.

#### **RURAL CHALLENGE**

13. There was submitted a report dated 24 September 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising the Committee of the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee on 13 June 1996 to establish an East Ayrshire rural challenge budget to which Local Committees would be asked to bid; to list bids; and to recommend accordingly.

It was agreed to prioritise the applications in the order as undernoted:

1st Youth in Kilmaurs and Fenwick; and

2nd Native and Community Woodland Project, Phase II

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

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Director of Housing and Director of Social Work to submit a further report on the matter in due course; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE PLAN (Item 1, Page 1087)**

15. There was submitted a report dated 3 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work advising the Committee of the statutory duty of the Council to prepare, consult upon and publish a Childrens Service Plan for the Council's area and to advise of progress made to date in agreeing the process for completing the plan.

It was agreed:-

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- (i) to remit to the Director of Social Work to submit further reports to the Committee as necessary to progress East Ayrshire's Childrens Service Plan; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**PHYSICAL DISABILITY/SENSORY IMPAIRMENT**

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the consultation and development tasks which would be undertaken by the Service Officer, Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Services; and
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Social Work to submit a further report to Committee in February 1997 with details of a proposed Sensory Impairment Service.

**NORTHERN AREA COMMUNITY FORUM**

17. There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1996 by the Director of Support

Services informing the Committee of the outcome of the second meeting of a Northern Area Community Forum which was held in Dunlop Public Hall on Thursday 5 September 1996.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to relevant Officials concerned the follow up on any matter arising from the Community Forum meeting and to arrange the submission of reports to the appropriate service committee; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the outcome of the meeting of the Northern Area Community Forum held on 5 September 1996.

### **LOCAL ITEM FOR NEXT COMMUNITY FORUM**

18. The Administrative Officer reported that a request had been made Committee to identify local items for the next two Community Forums.

It was agreed that the two items for the next Community Forums would be as undernoted:

- (i) effect on local infrastructure - developers - housing/industrial; and
- (ii) bye-laws for the public drinking of alcohol (provisional).

### **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

19. There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on applications received from local organisations for grant assistance in terms of the Community Grants Scheme.

It was agreed:-

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- (i) to approve the undernoted grant payments to the organisations detailed, viz:-

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>GRANT AWARD</b>
Kilmarnock and Loudoun Youth Panel	£280
Stewarton Rambler Chair Project	£1500
Claimants Housing Advice Information Network (CHAIN)	£99
Unemployed Workers Centre	
Strathclyde Police Unity Event	£20

**19.1 DUNLOP AND LUGTON OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE ASSOCIATION (Item 1.2, Page 1054)**

There was submitted a report dated 2 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the outcome of enquiries into the financial position of Dunlop and Lugton Old People's Welfare Association with a recommendation that the Local Committee reconsider the grant application.

It was agreed that the grant be refused as the organisation had sufficient funds to cover the costs of the proposed project.

**19.2 LITTLE RASCALS AFTER SCHOOL PLAYScheme (Item 1.5, Page 1054)**

There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services informing the Committee of the outcome of enquiries by the Director of Education to establish that Little Rascals After School Playscheme met the requirements of the Children's Act.

It was agreed;-

- (i) to note that the Little Rascals After School Playscheme failed to meet the criteria required for eligibility to access a playschool grant; and
- (ii) to note that the Director of Education has provided the Group with appropriate advice to meet the eligibility criteria to establish a playscheme.

**19.3 SAINT MARNOCK YOUTH CLUB (Item 1.4, Page 1054)**

There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services informing the Committee of the outcome of consideration by Local Committees on a cross boundary application for Community Grant funding which had previously been agreed at the Northern Area Local Committee at the meeting held on 28 June 1996.

It was noted that the undernoted Local Committees awarded pro-rata awards as detailed below to Saint Marnock Youth Club:-

Kilmarnock North Local Committee	£412
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Kilmarnock Central Local Committee	£59
Kilmarnock South Local Committee	£59
Irvine Valley Local Committee	£588

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that the aforementioned Local Committees approved pro-rata awards to St Marnock Youth Club; and
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services to arrange for £471 to be reimbursed to the Northern Area Local Committee's Community Grants allocation on a pro-rata basis from the aforementioned Local Committee's Community Grants allocation.

### **POLICE REPORT**

**20.** Sergeant John Ramage, Strathclyde Police, reported on local policing matters. It was agreed:

- (i) to note that no incidents of serious crime had occurred in the Northern Area in the period 28 June to 4 October 1996;
- (ii) to note that Operation Spotlight began at the beginning of October for a period of three months targeting quality of life issues such as:
  - (a) under age drinking;
  - (b) group disorder;
  - (c) litter;
  - (d) vandalism; and
- (iii) to support the initiatives by Strathclyde Police involving the Northern Area.

The meeting terminated at 1742 hours.