

**APPENDIX XVI**

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**DECENTRALISATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 1996 AT 1000  
HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,  
KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors David Fulton, Wilma Doyle, Bob Beattie, Kim Nicoll, David Sneller, and Eric Jackson.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Bill Stafford, Director of Community Services; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; Robert McLeary, Head of Property; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; Ken Hathaway, Principal Client Services Officer, Contracting and Technical Services; Steven Good, Area Housing Manager; George Fraser, Senior Policy Advisor Strategy/Partnerships, Development Services; Joan Kendall, Principal Solicitor; Donald McVicar, Senior Administrative Officer; Maureen Walker, Information and Advice Development Officer; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, Support Services.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Drew McIntyre, Ronald Brailsford, Jane Darnbrough, Jim Kelly, and Tommy Farrell.

**CHAIR:** Councillor David Fulton, Chair.

**REMIT FROM THE LEISURE SUB-COMMITTEE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
COMMITTEE: 28 MAY 1996 - DECENTRALISATION - ROLE OF LIBRARIES AND  
PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE (Item 6, Page 910)**

1. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 April 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the role of libraries and provision of information and advice relative to the decentralisation process.

**TRANSPORT/TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES (Item 5,  
Page 969)**

2. There was submitted a report dated 19 August 1996 by the Director of Support Services (circulated) outlining an analysis of estimated financial expenditure of the transport/travel expenses for Community Representatives on Local Committees.

It was agreed to recommend:

- (i) affording community members the same rate of travelling expenses paid to Elected Members of which 42.7p per mile is the upper limit for cars over 1199 cc, there being lower limits for cars of a lesser cc; and
- (ii) to review the recommended decision after one year of operation.

### **REVIEW OF AREA LIAISON COMMITTEES (Item 9, Page 970)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 27 August 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising of the results of a review of Area Liaison Committees.

It was agreed to recommend:

- (i) that the Area Liaison Committee/Neighbourhood Planning Group structure be retained in the meantime; and
- (ii) that the Liaison Committees/Neighbourhood Planning Group structure should be included in the overall review of the Council's decentralisation scheme to be undertaken during November 1996.

### **PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICES (Items 2.1 & 2.2, Page 968)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive advising of the findings of the Elected Member Consultation Panels following Panel Visits.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the findings of the Consultation Panel held on 31 July 1996 to communities in the Northern, Irvine Valley and Central Areas;
- (ii) to await a further report from Officers following the investigations referred to in Section 4 of the report on the Northern, Irvine Valley and Central Areas including the provision of a free phone facility for Knockentiber;
- (iii) to note the findings of the Consultation Panel visit held on 6 August 1996 to properties in the Doon Valley and Cumnock Area;
- (iv) to note that further investigations would be undertaken by Officers on information and advice proposals identified in Section 5 of the Doon Valley and Cumnock report;
- (v) to await a report from the Chief Executive on the results of discussions with Service Departments including consultation with the local community groups on information and advice proposals identified in Section 5 of the Doon Valley and Cumnock report;
- (vi) to note the findings of the Consultation Panel visit held on 8 August 1996 to the New Farm Loch, North West and Shortlees areas;
- (vii) to await a further report from Officers on the future strategy for information/advice service provision in the New Farm Loch, North West and Shortlees areas;
- (viii) that the report on the New Farm Loch, North West and Shortlees areas be remitted to the Kilmarnock North Local Committee to allow local views to be brought forward;
- (ix) that visits would be made to the communities of Bellfield and Riccarton in Kilmarnock and a Panel comprising Councillor Darnbrough, Chair, and local members would be appointed to undertake this task; and to receive a final report at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee;

- (x) that in terms of accessibility both in physical and geographical, its relationship with the local community and other public buildings and a value for money aspect to recommend that the Community Centre, Well Road, Auchinleck, was considered, at this stage, to be the optimum choice as accommodation for a new Council Office;
- (xi) to recommend that in the short term, the existing Local Office at 154 Main Street, Auchinleck, have minimal upgrading to improve its attractiveness and usability; and
- (xii) that arrangements be made for representatives of Auchinleck Community Council to visit New Cumnock, Muirkirk and Hurlford Area Offices to view the enhanced provision available to these local communities and that Officers report back on the results of the visit.

#### **TIMING OF LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

5. There was submitted a report dated 29 August 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive on the timing of Local Committee meetings.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the findings of the survey results; and
- (ii) to continue with present arrangements for daytime meetings against the background of the review to be conducted by the Council in conjunction with the University of Glasgow.

#### **DECENTRALISATION - TIMETABLE AND AGENDA**

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 August 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services outlining the Agenda timetable relative to the preliminary Decentralisation Scheme up to 1 April 1997.

The meeting terminated at 1050 hours.