

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 1996 AT 1445 HOURS  
IN HURLFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE, CESSNOCK ROAD, HURLFORD**

**PRESENT:** Councillors David Fulton, Kim Nicoll and George Turnbull and Community Representatives George Dalziel, Frank Dawson, Steve Brown, William Pattison, Andrew Nisbet, Janice M Cameron, Alexander Barrie and Mary Bowie.

**ATTENDING:** Bill Stafford, Director of Community Services; Sue Angus, Depute Director of Education; James Kane, Chief Engineer (Roads and Transportation Division); Karl Doroszenko, Policy and Projects Manager (Development Services); Jane Overton, Senior Strategy Officer; Joan Kendall, Principal Solicitor; Peter Longman, Principal Engineer (Roads and Transportation Division); Andrew MacDonald, Service Manager (Social Work); Donald McVicar, Senior Administrative Officer; Connie Kerr, Personnel Services Department (Training); Marlene Campbell, Area Manager (Housing) and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Macrae and McDill and Community Representative Lorna Smith.

**CHAIR:** Councillor George Turnbull, Vice Chair.

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: UPDATE  
(Item 1, Page 851)**

1. There was submitted a report dated 11 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services updating the Local Committee on further progress made in respect of the nomination of Community Representatives to serve on the Irvine Valley Local Committee.

It was agreed:

- (i) to appoint Mrs Lorna Smith as the Parent Representative as nominated by a local Pre-Five Group, to serve on the Irvine Valley Local Committee for one year; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**COMMUNITY FIRST - TRAINING PROGRAMME (Item 2, Page 801)**

2. There was submitted and noted a report dated 25 April 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Personnel Services advising of the draft training programme formulated for Local Committees in support of their responsibilities.

**FORWARD PLANNING/ADDITIONAL REMITS (Item 3, Page 968)****3.1 FORWARD PLANNING**

There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising the Committee of the Forward Planning Programme in respect of Local Committees.

**3.2 ADDITIONAL REMIT**

There was submitted a report dated 17 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising the Local Committee of additional matters for which it would be responsible.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the Committee's responsibility for street naming and for recommending to the appropriate Service Committee names for new establishments; and
- (ii) to note that the Committee would have the opportunity to comment on the level and range of departmental services delivered from Local Offices when such reports were submitted to the Committee on these matters.

## **COMMUNITY FORUMS**

### **4.1 MEETING HELD ON 27 MAY 1996**

There was submitted a report dated 11 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of the outcome of the Irvine Valley Community Forum meeting held in Darvel Town Hall on Monday 27 May 1996.

It was agreed that with a view to improving publicity for future forum meetings the Head of Public Relations and Marketing:

- (a) send more posters to the five Community Council representatives on the Committee who undertook to distribute these to local shops; and
- (b) be advised by the Administrative Officer of the Committee's views on poster distribution, as well as the format of the poster itself.

### **4.2 FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was reported by the Administrative Officer that the "Council Items" for the next three rounds of Community Forum meetings were respectively, the Council's Economic Strategy; the Council's Social Strategy and the Council's Budget Proposals for 1997/98. The Committee were also requested to determine the venues for the next three Forum meetings, and the "Local Item" for the next Forum meeting which would take place on Wednesday 4 September 1996.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the next Forum meeting on 4 September 1996 be held in St Sophia's Primary School, Galston failing availability the Barr Centre, Galston;
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services to determine the venues of the next two Forum meetings thereafter; and
- (iii) that the "Local Items" for the next Forum meeting be accessible transport for the Irvine Valley with particular reference to disabled users, and traffic calming for the Irvine Valley.

**EAST AYRSHIRE LOCAL PLAN - ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE  
PREPARATION OF THE PLAN (Item 13, Page 770)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 5 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services:
- (i) drawing to the attention of the Local Committee a series of planning issues requiring to be addressed by the East Ayrshire Local Plan;
  - (ii) requesting the Committee's views on the issues raised, and that the Committee provide the Planning Division with details of any other planning related issues pertinent to the Local Committee Area that it felt should be addressed in the Plan; and
  - (iii) requesting that the Committee give consideration to identifying possible development opportunities within the Local Committee Area, including opportunities for environmental improvements.

It was agreed that a special informal meeting be held for Councillors and Community Representatives on Wednesday 7 August 1996 to address the above issues and that arrangements in this respect be remitted to the Director of Development Services.

Councillor Fulton joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

**EAST AYRSHIRE REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP (Item 4, Page 820)**

6. There was submitted (i) a report dated 5 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on progress with regard to the East Ayrshire Regeneration Strategy; in particular priority area boundaries, local area statements and the development of projects and community involvement and (ii) a draft "Vision Statement" for East Ayrshire (also circulated).

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Development Services arrange a briefing session for Community Representatives in order that the Representatives could fully be made aware and were comfortable with the "Vision Statement" and could have the opportunity to comment on the contents of the strategy, and inject their ideas and concerns into the process; and
- (ii) that meanwhile the Director of Development Services make the necessary arrangements for Community Representative Steve Brown to sign the "Vision Statement" on behalf of the Community Representatives.

**SCOTTISH OFFICE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PLANNING CHARTER  
STANDARD STATEMENT**

7. There was submitted and noted a copy of the Planning Charter Standard Statement (circulated) recently published by the Scottish Office Development Department which explained the Department's role in the Planning System; set out the standards of service which the public could expect to receive from the Department in relation to planning matters; and advised of the procedure for dealing with complaints about the service provided by the Department.

**BYE-LAWS FOR PROHIBITING THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL**

**IN DESIGNATED PUBLIC AREAS (Item 14, Page 937)**

8. There was submitted a report dated 6 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the current position regarding the above matter and seeking the Committee's views on proposals for the promotion by East Ayrshire Council of Bye-laws to prohibit the consumption of alcohol in designated public places.

It was agreed:

- (i) to welcome the draft bye-law proposals and pursuit of the "blanket" ban of drinking in public places; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY (Item 7, Page 871)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 10 June 1996 by the Director of Social Work outlining the Social Work Department's Services currently provided to support an anti-poverty strategy and which would form the basis for a more corporate and more localised approach in the future.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Support Services write on behalf of the Committee to the local MPs' expressing their concerns over the changes in taxation which had led to more emphasis on concessions and indirect taxes such as VAT which favour the rich;
- (ii) that the Committee ask the Council to examine the issue of "fuel poverty" whereby Council tenants were required to use heating systems which were not necessarily the cheapest/most efficient to run;
- (iii) that the Director of Social Work draw up an advice leaflet "Welfare Rights Service in East Ayrshire" similar to that appended to the Director of Social Work's report as used in South Ayrshire; and
- (iv) to note that the whole issue of access to welfare rights advice locally would be the subject of future reports to the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee.

**EAST AYRSHIRE GARDEN COMPETITION (Item 3, Page 875)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 6 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on the involvement of the Local Committee in the East Ayrshire Council Garden Competition which would commence this summer.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the 10 Community Representatives participate in the judging for the Irvine Valley Local Committee Area Competition with advice and assistance provided by the Director of Community Services; and
- (ii) that all other arrangements in respect of the competition be remitted to the Director of Housing.

### **RESITING OF BLUEBRAES PLAY AREA, GALSTON (Item 1, Page 908)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 17 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising that this matter had been referred to the Local Committee for their consideration and information by the Leisure Sub-Committee of the Community Services Committee of 28 May 1996 (Item 1, Page 908).

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that the Director of Community Services was carrying out a survey on the current usage of the facility; the attitudes and opinions of local children and adults; child movement patterns; and places of play in the community;
- (ii) to note that the Director of Community Services was obtaining demographic information on numbers and ages of children in the community;
- (iii) to note that the Director of Community Services would prepare a report to a future Leisure Sub-Committee based on the information obtained; and
- (iv) to note that the Director of Community Services would visit the site together with the Chair of the Leisure Sub-Committee and local members.

### **PROPOSED REVIEW OF EXISTING COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEMES (Item 9, Page 935)**

12. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising the Local Committee of the consultation process which the Council was carrying out involving all existing Community Councils, in connection with a review to be undertaken of the Community Council Schemes in force within East Ayrshire.

It was agreed that following consultation with Community Councils a further report would be submitted to the Local Committee detailing the outcome of the informal consultation process.

### **PRE-FIVE EDUCATION (POSITION STATEMENT) (Item 3, Page 968)**

13. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education advising the Local Committee of the plans for the allocation of places in pre-five establishments.

The Depute Director of Education updated the Committee on two major policies which had been recommended for agreement at the Education Sub-Committee of 25 June 1996 regarding (i) charging for nursery places and (ii) the expansion of nursery services within East Ayrshire, and the implications thereon for the Irvine Valley Area.

It was agreed to note the report and the further information reported by the Depute Director of Education.

Community Representatives, Mary Bowie and Janice M Cameron left the meeting at this point.

### **SPEED LIMITS (Item 3, Page 915)**

14. There was submitted a report dated 23 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which was submitted to the Development Services Committee of 6 June 1996 when it had been agreed to refer the report to the Local Committee on the basis that local areas of perceived danger in relation to the Council's Roads Network would be identified and referred to the Director of Development Services.

It was agreed:

- (i) to advise the Director of Development Services that the 30 miles per hour speed limit sign when entering Newmilns should be extended to take in the Primary School and fire station; and
- (ii) that the Community Representatives would advise the Director of Development Services of any other perceived area of danger.

### **DONATION OF TREE - ENVIRONMENT WEEK (Item 8, Page 854)**

15. Following the decision at the Committee's last meeting it was suggested that the tree donated for the Irvine Valley Local Committee Area be gifted to Loudoun Academy, Galston to mark the 25th Anniversary of the School's opening.

It was agreed to approve the donation of the tree to Loudoun Academy and that arrangements in this respect be remitted to the Director of Community Services.

### **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

16. There were submitted undernoted applications (circulated) received from local organisations for grant assistance in terms of the Community Grants Scheme, in respect of which the following decisions were made:-

**16.1 DARVEL SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCH CLUB/TRANSPORT GROUP** - That a grant of £200 be made.

**16.2 DARVEL CHILDMINDERS** - That a grant of £400 be made.

**16.3 AGE CONCERN, HURLFORD** - That a grant of £720 be made.

**16.4 NEWMILNS AND GREENHOLM FRIENDSHIP CLUB** - That a grant of £400 be made.

#### **16.5 PARENTS' COMMITTEE: SUMMER PLAYScheme**

It was reported by Administrative Officer:

- (i) that the amount of grant requested was £500 in respect of transport and day-to-day running costs;
- (ii) that this application already had been considered by the Doon Valley Local Committee who had agreed to award a grant of £200; and
- (iii) that Cumnock Area Local Committee would also consider the grant application.

It was agreed in principle to a grant being given to the Parents' Committee Summer Playscheme corresponding with the level of service provided by the organisation in

the Irvine Valley Area and that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services to approve the Grant following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.

**16.6 IRVINE VALLEY PEGASUS FUND** - Noted that this application received on 31 May 1996 did not fall within the terms of the Scheme, and therefore could not be considered by the Local Committee. The applicant had been advised accordingly, and that the MacMillan Fund might be a possible source of funding for her project. For the Committee's information it was reported that the applicant had set up a fund to purchase a Pegasus Airwave Mattress System for the use by the terminally ill in the Irvine Valley.

The meeting terminated at 1645 hours.