

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE 1996 AT 1415 HOURS IN ONTHANK COMMUNITY CENTRE, KIRKTON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Drew McIntyre, Gordon McCredie, John Knapp, and Daniel Coffey; and Community Representatives Arlene Lindsay, William Denim, Bessie Faulds, Billy Sullivan, Beryl Graham, Josie Rutherford, Hugh Stirling, Reverend Grant Barclay and Sister Barbara Carroll.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Gordon Cree.

**ATTENDING:** Sue Angus, Depute Director of Education; Steven Good, Area Housing Manager; Wilson Bolland, Assistant Divisional Manager, Social Work; James Kane, Chief Engineer; Karl Doroszenko, Policy and Projects Manager; Alison Smith, Principal Officer - Registration and Licensing; Ken Robinson, Principal Administrative Officer; John Lilley, Principal Planner - Policy; Martin O'Rourke, Senior Planning Officer - Projects; George Fraser, Senior Policy Advisor - Strategy/Partnership; Douglas Blyth, Solicitor; Connie Kerr, Training Officer; Inspector Angus Cochran, Strathclyde Police; and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Drew McIntyre, Chair.

**SAVINGS IN THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS BUDGET**

1. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education on the background to savings in the voluntary sector grants budget during the current financial year.

It was noted that:

- (i) it was not envisaged that the 15% saving to which the voluntary sector grants budget allocation had been subject, would be restored;
- (ii) all recipients of voluntary sector grants were being advised to adjust their activities according to the priorities they set for the expenditure of any grant award made; and
- (iii) outstanding applications would be considered at a future meeting of the Education Committee for the remainder of the 1996/97 budget.

**PRE-5 EDUCATION - POSITION STATEMENT (Item 3, Page 968)**

2. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education on current plans for the allocation of places in Pre-5 establishments.

It was noted:

- (i) that the allocation of places in existing Pre-5 establishments was underway in accordance with the Admissions Policy established by the Education Committee;

- (ii) that confirmation was awaited from parents as to their intention to take up their allocation; and
- (iii) that proposals for the expansion of the Pre-5 service would be considered at a future meeting of the Education Committee.

The Chair agreed that the item on School Lets to Groups/Organisations during the Summer holidays, be considered next.

### **SCHOOL LETS TO GROUPS/ORGANISATIONS DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS**

3. The Depute Director of Education reported on difficulties arising in connection with school lets to groups and organisations during the Summer holidays and, in particular, the issue of access to buildings otherwise closed during that period.

It was noted that, while there were cost implications associated with accessing premises otherwise closed during the Summer period, every effort would be made to accommodate the relevant groups and organisations.

### **FUTURE OF NORTH WEST KILMARNOCK AREA LIAISON COMMITTEE**

4. There was submitted a report dated 17 June 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive, advising of the findings of a review meeting held with representatives of the North West Kilmarnock Area Liaison Committee.

It was agreed to:

- (i) support the proposal to retain the North West Kilmarnock Area Liaison Committee in the meantime;
- (ii) receive a further report at a future meeting, detailing an amended Terms of Reference for the Area Liaison Committee;
- (iii) include the Area Liaison Committee process in the review of the Council's decentralisation scheme, to be undertaken during this year; and
- (iv) remit the above findings to the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for its consideration and action.

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

5. There was submitted a report dated 5 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on progress in respect of the East Ayrshire Regeneration Partnership Strategy and, in particular, priority area boundaries, local area statements, the development of projects and community involvement.

Councillor McCredie expressed concern that the whole of the New Farm Loch had not been included as a Priority Area by the Scottish Office.

It was agreed to:

- (i) note the content of the Local Area statement;
- (ii) put forward project ideas to address the needs of the community;
- (iii) involve the community in preparing the "vision" statement for East Ayrshire and, to that end, meet with local representatives at an early date;

- (iv) note the proposal to involve a community member in the signing of the vision statement for East Ayrshire; and
- (v) instruct the Director of Development Services to explore with the Scottish Office the possibility of expanding the New Farm Loch Priority Area.

Councillor McCredie requested that his dissent in this matter be recorded.

### **COMMUNITY ALARM SCHEME**

6. There was submitted a report dated 6 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the background of the KARE and ALERT Schemes and the current position in respect of the installation of new alarm units.

It was noted that:

- (i) approximately 500 alarms would be deployed on the basis of assessed need in the current financial year; and
- (ii) that no delay was anticipated in respect of new applications, due to the inherited backlog of 300 applications on the waiting list.

### **ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY (Item 7, page 871)**

7. There was submitted a report dated 10 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work outlining the Social Work 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 noted that local issues of concern could be incorporated within a developed Anti-Poverty Strategy.

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

8. There was submitted, for information, and noted, the "Planning Charter Standard Statement" (circulated) recently published by the Scottish Office Development Department, explaining the Department's role in the planning system; the standards of service which the public could expect to receive from the Department in relation to planning matters; and the procedure for dealing with complaints about the service provided by the Department.

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

9. There was submitted a report dated 4 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services:
- (a) drawing to the attention of the Local Committee a series of planning issues requiring to be addressed by the East Ayrshire Local Plan;
  - (b) seeking the views of the Committee on the issues raised;

- (c) requesting that the Committee identify any other planning-related issues pertaining to the Local Committee Area; and
- (d) giving consideration to identifying possible development opportunities within the Local Committee Area, including opportunities for environmental improvements.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the potential planning issues identified within the report; and
- (ii) that the Members of the local community meet with Planning Officers prior to 23 August 1996 to assist in the identification of further planning issues they would wish to see addressed in the East Ayrshire Local Plan, together with potential development opportunities within the Local Committee Area such as opportunities for environmental improvements, for progression through the Local Plan and Action Plan process, as appropriate.

**FORWARD PLANNING/ADDITIONAL REMITS TO LOCAL COMMITTEES (Item 3, Page 968)**

- 10.** There was submitted, for information, a report dated 29 May 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive on arrangements for the final forward planning programme in respect of the Agenda and timescales of Local Committee meetings; and a number of additional remits to Local Committees.

It was agreed to note:

- (i) the Local Committee Forward Planning Programme; and
- (ii) the Committee's additional remits in terms of street naming and recommending to the appropriate Service Committee, names for new establishments; consultation regarding the review of Community Council schemes; and involvement in commenting on the level and range of Departmental services delivered from Local Area Offices.

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

- 11.** There was submitted a report dated 6 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Housing giving details of the Garden Competition agreed by the Housing Committee held on 29 May 1996.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) to appoint Community Representatives Beryl Graham and Sister Barbara Carroll, together with a representative of the Community Services Department, to act as judges in respect of the 1996 Garden Competition.

**PROPOSAL FOR EXTENSION OF THE GARDEN MAINTENANCE SCHEME (Item 4, page 738)**

- 12.** There was submitted and noted a report (circulated) by the Director of Housing on arrangements agreed by the Housing Committee of 17 April 1996 to extend the Garden Maintenance Scheme throughout the Council area, along the lines of the scheme for older people and people with disabilities which operated in the former Cumnock and Doon Valley District.

### **COMMUNITY FIRST - TRAINING PROGRAMME**

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

### **BYE-LAWS FOR PROHIBITING THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN DESIGNATED PUBLIC AREAS (Item 14, page 937)**

14. There was submitted a report dated 6 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on Bye-laws for prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in designated public places.

It was noted that draft Bye-law proposals would be pursued on the basis of a "blanket" ban on drinking in public places, in consultation with the Divisional Commanders, Strathclyde Police, Kilmarnock and Ayr.

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

15. There was submitted a report dated 30 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on a proposed review of existing Community Council schemes.

It was noted that the Director of Support Services would initiate an informal consultation process with Community Councils in respect of the proposed review which would be co-ordinated by the Local Committee.

### **CUTS IN STEWARTON AND GLASGOW BUS SERVICES IN THE LATE EVENING**

16. The Chief Engineer reported that, following discussion with the Passenger Transport Executive (PTE), no subsidised services would now be withdrawn.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the current position and the potential need to prioritise services in the event of future cuts; and
- (ii) to congratulate Councillors John Knapp and Eric Ross, together with Officers of the Council, for their efforts in representing the Council during discussion with the PTE.

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

17. There was submitted a report dated 23 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the criteria to be used when setting speed limits on the Council's road network.

It was noted that Scottish Office Circulars 1/93 (Speed Limits Guidance for Roads Authorities), 10/92 (20 MPH Speed Limit Zones) and 8/92 (Variable Speed Limits) would be used as the basis for imposing speed restrictions in East Ayrshire.

### **COMMUNITY FORUMS KILMARNOCK NORTH COMMUNITY FORUM**

### **18.1 MEETING OF 21 MAY 1996**

There was submitted a report dated 13 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the outcome of the last meeting of the Kilmarnock North Community Forum held in New Farm Loch Community Centre.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the assessment of the first Community Forum meeting;
- (ii) that greater advance notice be given in respect of future Forum meetings; and
- (iii) to note that Councillor John Knapp, as opposed to Councillor Drew McIntyre, had chaired the Forum meeting.

### **18.2 FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was reported that the Council's items for the next three rounds of Community Forum meetings would be respectively, the Council's Environmental Strategy; the Council's Social Strategy; and the Council's budget proposals for 1997/98.

It was agreed that:

- (i) the venue for future meetings would alternate between New Farm Loch Community Centre and Onthank Community Centre;
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services to confirm the date of the next Community Forum meeting in August/September in consultation with community representatives; and
- (iii) that community representatives in consultation with local groups advise the Director of Support Services of the relevant local item to be considered at the next Community Forum.

## **COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME**

**19.1** There was submitted an application received on 17 June 1996 (circulated) in respect of the North West Playscheme.

It was agreed that this application be approved, based on last year's base figure for the Summer Playscheme and subject to:

- (i) the Director of Education being satisfied that any requirements in terms of the Children's Act were met;
- (ii) financial and programming information being submitted by the organisation;
- (iii) consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair; and
- (iv) the other Members of the Committee being advised of the decision taken in respect of the above grant.

### **19.2 FURTHER GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The Committee considered possible arrangements for any further grant applications received prior to the next meeting of the Local Committee.

It was agreed that authority be delegated to the Director of Support Services, in consultation with the four Elected Committee Members, to determine any applications received in the interim period prior to the September meeting of the Local Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1550 hours.