

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 1997 AT 1400 HOURS
IN NEW CUMNOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE, THE CASTLE, NEW CUMNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Ross, Jim Kelly, David Sneller, Jimmy Boyd, George Smith and Jim Carmichael; and Community Representatives: Reverend Bill Buchan, William Crawford, William Lees, Peter Neely, Alex Currie and Mark Kerr.

ATTENDING: John Bryson, Area Engineer (Roads and Transportation); John Pickering, Area Housing Manager; David Hewet, Senior Policy Adviser (Development Services); Margaret McManus, Principal Officer - Finance and Resources (Social Work); Donald McVicar, Department Strategy Officer; Stephen Horsley, Service Manager (Social Work); Katie Kelly Sport and Recreation Officer (Community Services); John McWhirter, Strathclyde Police; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Eric Jackson.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Ross, Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. There were submitted and noted Minutes (circulated) of the Meeting of Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 6 May 1997, subject to the inclusion of Community Representative Mr William Crawford in the list of those who were present at that meeting.

NOMINATION OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES (Item 2, Page 2093)

2. There was submitted a report dated 28 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of the position in respect of the nomination of Community Representatives from local organisations to serve on Cumnock Area Local Committee for the period until 31 March 1998.

It was agreed:

- (i) to accept nominations for Community Representatives and named substitutes submitted by the following organisations, as undernoted, namely:-
 - (a) Community Councils - Mr William Crawford (Cumnock Community Council) and substitutes - Mr James Murray (Cumnock Community Council) and Mrs Mary Morrison (New Cumnock Community Council);
 - (b) East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability - Mr Peter Neely (Chair of the Forum) and substitute - Mr James Richmond (Member of the Forum);

- (c) Elderly Interest Groups - Mr William Lees (New Cumnock Age Concern) and substitute - Mr Alex McCall (Age Concern Cumnock); and

- (d) Local Churches - Reverend Bill Buchan (United Free Church of Scotland, Cumnock) and substitute - Reverend Matthew Sullivan (Congregational Church, Cumnock);
- (ii) to note that the existing Community Representatives of those organisations which had not submitted fresh nominations for Community Representatives and substitutes would continue until such times as new nominations had been accepted, the organisations concerned being the Youth Panel, Sports Groups, the business community, tenants groups and schools
- (iii) that the School Pupil Representative for the period until 31 March 1998 would be drawn from Cumnock Academy and that the substitute School Pupil Representative would be drawn from St Conval's High School, Cumnock; and that the Director of Education be requested to make arrangements for the establishment of an inter-school forum which would facilitate the exchange of information and promote discussion amongst pupils of local Secondary Schools on the Local Committee's business;
- (iv) that the Director of Support Services would, where appropriate, make arrangements to facilitate the submission of outstanding nominations for Community Representatives and substitute Community Representatives and to report on the outcome of this process to a future meeting or meetings of this Committee; and
- (v) that, in future, the Chair of this Committee would have power to accept nominations for Community Representatives or substitute Community Representatives to serve on the Committee.

CUMNOCK AREA COMMUNITY FORUM: 20 MAY 1997 (Item 3, Page 2093)

3. There was submitted a report dated 2 June 1997 (circulated) by the Support Services on the outcome of the meeting of Cumnock Area Forum held in Cumnock Town Hall on the evening of 20 May 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Officers concerned to follow-up any relevant matters arising from the Community Forum meeting and to arrange for the submission of reports to Service Committees where appropriate;
- (ii) otherwise, to note the outcome of the meeting; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education would make arrangements to ensure that pupils of local Secondary Schools were made aware of the details of future meetings of the Community Forum and were appropriately encouraged to attend and make their views known.

LOCAL COMMITTEE FORWARD PLANNING PROGRAMME 1997/98 (Item 4,

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising of arrangements for forward planning in respect of the Agenda and timetable of Local Committee meetings for 1997/98 as agreed by the Decentralisation Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee at the meeting on 27 May 1997.

**SITE VISIT: HOUSE OF WATER OPEN CAST COAL SITE AND
KNOCKSHINNOCH DISPOSAL POINT, NEW CUMNOCK (Item 6, Page 1446)**

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 28 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the outcome of a site visit made by Elected members of the Council and Community Representatives to the House of Water Open Cast Coal Site and Knockshinnoch Disposal Point, New Cumnock.

Arising from discussion, it was also agreed that the Director of Support Services prepare, for submission to the next meeting of this Committee, a programme of visits to be undertaken by Members of the Local Committee to sites or features of interest within the Local Committee's area.

PROVISION OF TRANSPORT BY THE SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 26 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work responding to certain issues raised by the East Ayrshire (South) Forum on Disability in respect of the provision of transport by the Social Work Department.

LEISURE STRATEGY: CONSULTATION DRAFT (Item 4, Page 2179)

7. There was submitted a report dated 28 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services seeking the comments of the Local Committee on the consultation draft of the Council's Leisure Strategy.

It was agreed that individual Local Committee Members would:

- (i) if they so wish, provide comment on the consultation draft of the Council's Leisure Strategy to the Director of Community Services not later than 8 August 1997, being the closing date for comments on the document; and
- (ii) endeavour to ensure that local organisations were made aware of the Draft Strategy and are encouraged to comment on its contents.

ANTI-POVERTY ACTIVITIES: ANNUAL REPORT

8. There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work providing an update on anti-poverty work which had been undertaken by Social Work staff during the period 1 April 1996 to 31 March 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) to request the Director of Social Work to bring forward further reports on anti-poverty work on a regular basis.

**1998/99 PROGRAMMES FOR THE STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS
AND FOOTWAYS (Item 2, Page 761)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 29 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services (a) intimating that the 1998/99 programmes for the Structural Maintenance of Roads and Footways will be drawn up in the Autumn of this year;

and (b) requesting that any schemes which the Members of the Committee consider desirable be notified to the Head of Roads and Transportation by the end of September 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that individual Members of the Committee would submit details of any roads and footways which they wished to be considered for resurfacing under the 1998/99 programme directly to the Head of Roads and Transportation; and
- (ii) that the Director of Development Services would submit a report to the meeting of this Local Committee to be held on 16 September 1997 detailing the schemes to be considered for inclusion in the Structural Maintenance of Roads and Footways 1998/99 programme within the Local Committee's area, the report to include those suggestions submitted by Members of this Committee and the Department's proposals.

REPLACEMENT OF TOWN/VILLAGE SIGNS IN EAST AYRSHIRE (Item 3.4, Page 2195)

10. There was submitted a report dated 29 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on (i) proposals to replace existing town and village signs in the Local Committee area; (ii) the message to be incorporated on the bottom line of the signs within the area; and (iii) the possible location of additional East Ayrshire signs.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the decision of the Development Services Committee of 3 June 1997, to, amongst other things, replace the existing town and village signs in the Local Committee's area during the current financial year together with those other damaged or missing signs; and to erect a total of 15 additional East Ayrshire boundary signs within the Council's area during financial year
- (ii) that appropriate local organisations, including Community Councils, Youth Clubs and Historic Societies, be consulted on the message to be incorporated on the bottom line of the boundary signs to be provided at towns and villages within the Local Committee's area and on the possible location of further East Ayrshire boundary signs; and
- (iii) that a report on the outcome of (ii) above be prepared by the Director of Development Services and submitted to the next meeting of this Committee for consideration.

REPLACEMENT OF STREET SIGNS

11. Arising from discussion, it was agreed that the Director of Support Services would write to all Community Councils in the area advising that responsibility for the

replacement of street signs rested with the Contracting and Technical Services Section of the Department of Support Services, based at the Council Offices, Lugar, and requesting that they notify the Head of Contracting and Technical Services directly of any missing or damaged street signs of which they became aware in order to assist in the speedy replacement of same.

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL GARDEN COMPETITION 1997 (Item 9, Page 2148)

12. There was submitted a report dated 29 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Housing advising of the judging requirements and amended format for the Garden Competition 1997 and requesting the Committee to appoint a stand-by judging panel in order to facilitate the judging process.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the information provided in the report; and
- (ii) to appoint Councillors George Smith and James Boyd, together with Community Representative Mr William Crawford and John Pickering, Area Housing Manager, as the stand-by judges.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME: CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

13. There was submitted a statement dated 29 May 1997 (circulated) prepared by the Director of Support Services summarising the pertinent information relative to outstanding applications for Community Grants received from local organisations and outlining the financial position in respect of applications for grant received so far during the financial year 1997/98.

It was agreed:-

- (a) Age Concern and Old Folks' Welfare Associations (Item 6.1, Page 2094) -that an appropriate sum would be held in abeyance from the financial allocation still available this financial year for community grants to enable the Local Committee to consider, at a future meeting, the possibility of a further per capita grant of £2.00 per head being awarded to local Age Concern and Old Folks' Welfare Associations, the total sum involved amounting to approximately £10,000.
- (b) General Applications - that grants be made to the undernoted organisations in respect of the applications submitted, as follows, namely:-

Playschemes

- (i) Cumnock Landward Summer Scheme - that a grant of £400 be made;
- (ii) Cumnock and Doon Valley Women's Aid (Item 6.3, Page 2095) - that a grant of £200 be made;
- (iii) Afton Lone Parents Playscheme - that a grant of £700 be made;

Young Persons Groups

- (i) Netherthird and District Wives and Mothers Group - that a grant of £150 be made;
- (ii) Beats the Streets, Muirkirk - that the application in respect of funding to assist in meeting the cost of a yachting course for members be refused in view of the comparatively high overall cost of the proposal but that a grant of £300 be made to this organisation to assist with the cost of their general activities;

- (iii) Doon Valley Link-Up Group (Item 6~3, Page 2096) that this application be refused, the Local Committee being of the view that there was unlikely to be significant demand for the provision of creche facilities at future Forum meetings and therefore the award of grant in this case would not represent value for money.

Disabled/Handicapped Persons Groups

- (i) Cumnock and Doon Valley Mental Health Forum (Item 6.3, Page 2096) - that this application be refused, the Local Committee being of the view that the group was not a voluntary organisation in terms of the Community Grants Scheme and because the group had funding remaining from a grant award made to them last year by Rural Challenge and the Health Board;
- (ii) South East Ayrshire Disabled Club - that a grant of £400 be made.

Leisure/Recreational Groups

- (i) Catrine Drama Group - that a grant of £400 be made;
- (ii) South West of Scotland Begonia Society - that a grant of £100 be made;
- (iii) Land O'Burns Budgerigar Society - that a grant of £400 be made; and
- (iv) Mauchline Arts and Crafts Group - that a grant of £200 be made.

Miscellaneous

- (i) Muirkirk Community Association (Gala Day) - that a grant of £300 be made;
- (ii) Auchencloigh Community Hall (Renewal of Electric Fuse Boxes and Switch Gear) - that a grant of £250 be made;
- (iii) Auchinleck Self-Help Group - that a grant of £400 be made;
- (iv) Cumnock and District Round Table (Fireworks Display) - that a grant of £500 be made; and
- (v) Cumnock Gala Day Committee (Gala Day) - that a grant of £300 be made.

The meeting terminated at 1600 hours.