

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COTTAGE, BEHIND JOHN KNOX CHURCH, STEWARTON**

PRESENT: Councillors Jim O'Neill and Bob Beattie; Community Representatives, Mr J McFadden JP, Mr W Muirhead, Mrs K Currie and May Clark.

ATTENDING: Ken Robinson, Principal Administrative Officer; Alan Hasson, Libraries and Information Services Manager; Gerry Darroch, Area Manager (Housing); George Fraser, Senior Policy Advisor (Development Services); John Trakalo, Senior Engineer (Roads and Transportation); Fiona McKinnon, Senior Social Worker; Fiona Meikle, Welfare Rights Officer (Social Work) and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Kathleen Hall and Community Representative, Mr W Ferguson.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim O'Neill, Chair.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

1. There was submitted for information and noted Minutes of meeting of the Northern Area Local Committee held on 13 May 1997 (circulated).

LOCAL COMMITTEES - FORWARD PLANNING 1997/98 (Item 4, Page 2237)

2. There was submitted and noted a report dated 28 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on arrangements for the provisional forward planning programme in respect of the Agenda and timescales 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 OPENCAST COAL SITE AND KNOCKSHINNOCH DISPOSAL POINT, NEW CUMNOCK: 24 APRIL 1997 (Item 1, Page 1977)

3. There was submitted and noted a report on the outcome of a site visit made by Elected Members of the Council and Community Representatives of the Cumnock Area, Doon Valley and Northern Area Local Committees to the House of Water Opencast Coal Site and Knockshinnoch Disposal Point, New Cumnock.

PRESENTATION TO EMMA MCKAY

4. The Chair referred to the resignation from the Northern Area Local Committee of Ms Emma McKay to study at Durham University and on behalf of the Committee presented Emma with two small gifts as a mark of appreciation.

The Committee noted Emma's commitment as Youth Representative on the Committee and in particular her conviction to the initiative: Consultation With Youth - Giving Young People a Voice and the very public lead she gave to young people, not only in the Northern Area but throughout Scotland.

NORTHERN AREA COMMUNITY FORUM - 3 JUNE 1997

5. There was submitted a report dated 11 June 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on the first meeting of the Northern Area Community Forum for the 1997/98 year, on 3 June 1997 held in Dunlop Public Hall, Dunlop and seeking suggestions for the local item for the next Northern Area Community Forum to be held on 19 August 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the next Local Forum would be held at Lainshaw Primary School, Stewarton on 19 August 1997;
- (ii) that the Local Item for discussion would be "Provision of Leisure Facilities in Northern Area";
- (iii) to request the Chief Executive to consider "Food Hygiene" as a Council Issue for Community Forums throughout East Ayrshire to be held in November/December 1997; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

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

6. There was submitted a report dated 29 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on the judging requirements and amended prize format for the 1997 East Ayrshire Garden Competition.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to elect a stand-by judging panel comprising one Elected Member and three Community Representatives, viz:-
Councillor Bob Beattie;
Mr John McFadden JP;
Mr Watson Muirhead; and
Mrs Katherine Currie; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

NAMING OF STREETS BY LOCAL COMMITTEES - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS AT SOUTHCRAIGS, KILMARNOCK

7. The Chair informed the Committee that this item had been withdrawn.

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

8. There was submitted a report dated 20 May 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on the 1998/99 Programmes for the Structural Maintenance of Roads and Footways which would be drawn up in Autumn of 1997 and requesting any carriageway or footway re-surfacing schemes which the Local Committee Members consider desirable to be notified to the Head of Roads and Transportation by the end of September 1997.

It was agreed that suggestions by Local Committee Members regarding re-surfacing schemes for the 1998/99 Programme for the Structural Maintenance of Roads and

Footways be submitted to the Head of Roads and Transportation by the end of September 1997.

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

9. 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 signs within their area and; (iii) the possible location of additional East Ayrshire boundary signs, where appropriate.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the decision of the Development Services Committee of 3 June 1997 agreeing to the erection of town and village signs in Northern Area Local Committee Area in financial year 1998/99;
- (ii) that Community Representatives would consult with their relevant organisations on suggestions for a message to be incorporated on the bottom line of town and village signs to be submitted to the Head of Roads and Transportation by the end of October 1997;
- (iii) that Community Representatives would consult with their relevant organisations on suggestions for the possible location of further East Ayrshire boundary signs to be submitted to the Head of Roads and Transportation by the end of October 1997; and
- (iv) to note that a further report by the Director of Development Services would be submitted to this Committee on proposals received on (ii) and (iii) above.

COMMUNITY REGENERATION STRATEGIES

10. There was submitted a report dated 16 June 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services on progress with regard to the development of Community Regeneration Strategies.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the process dealing with local participation as detailed in Section 5.3 of the report;
- (ii) to note the progress which had been made with regard to the development of Local Regeneration Strategies; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ANTI-POVERTY ACTIVITIES: ANNUAL REPORT

11. There was submitted a report dated 18 June 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which provided an update on the various pieces of Anti-Poverty work which had been undertaken by Social Work staff in the period 1 April 1996 to 31 March 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Director of Social Work would submit further reports to the Local Committee on Anti-Poverty work on a regular basis; and

- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

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

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

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Local Committee members and their representative organisations would submit comments on the draft consultation document on the Council's Leisure Strategy to the Director of Community Services; and
- (ii) to remit to the Director of Support Services in consultation with the Director of Community Services to advise relevant parties of the closing date for receipt of comments on the draft consultation document on the Council's Leisure Strategy.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

13. There was submitted a report dated 18 June 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services on applications received from local organisations for grant assistance in terms of the Community Grant Scheme.

The Committee took the following decisions:-

- (i) **Applications Approved** (for the purpose specified on the application), viz:-
- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| (a) | <u>Social Welfare</u> | |
| | St Marnock Youth Club (ENABLE) | £231 |
| (b) | <u>Young People</u> | |
| | Kilmarnock and Loudoun Crime Prevention Panel | £60 |
| (c) | <u>Playschemes</u> | |
| | Nether Robertland - Rascals | £500 |
- (ii) to approve in principal a grant award of £285 being awarded to Dunlop Playscheme (*Playschemes*) subject to:-
- (a) the Director of Education being satisfied that any requirements in terms of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 were met;
- (b) consultation with the Chair and Local Member; and
- (c) the other members of the Committee being advised of the decision taken in respect of the above grant application;
- (iii) to approve in principal a grant award of £450 being awarded to Our Lady of St Carmel Church (*Elderly/Disabled Groups*) subject to:-
- (a) the Director of Support Services being satisfied that any requirements in terms of planning permission and building warrant were met;
- (b) consultation with the Chair; and
- (c) the other members of the Committee being advised of the decision taken in respect of the above grant application.

- (iv) to approve in principle a grant award of £200 being awarded to 35th Ayrshire Scout (Fenwick) Scout Group (*Young People*) subject to:-
 - (a) the Director of Support Services in consultation with the Director of Education being satisfied that equipment specified by the 35th Ayrshire (Fenwick) Scout Group is beneficial to the activities of Scout Group;
 - (b) consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair; and
 - (c) the other members of the Committee being advised of the decision in respect of the above grant application.
- (v) to note that the grant of £950 awarded in principle by the Committee on 13 May 1997, to Waterside Community Association (*Playschemes*) had been processed, following:-
 - (a) the Director of Education being satisfied that any requirements in terms of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 had been met; and
 - (b) consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.

POLICE REPORT

- 14.** The Chair welcomed Inspector Henry Barr, Strathclyde Police, who reported on local policing matters. It was noted:-
- (i) that incidences of housebreaking had decreased in the period 12 February to 25 June 1997;
 - (ii) that Strathclyde Police Officers were targeting drinking in public places and the illegitimate sale of liquor from Off-sales premises to under-age persons;
 - (iii) that Strathclyde Police welcomed East Ayrshire's "blanket ban" approach to the problem of consumption of alcohol in public places; and
 - (iv) that the opening date of the new Police Station, located in the Town House, Stewarton, would be October 1997 and that local facilities currently located on the first floor of the Town House would be unaffected by the re-location of the Police Station.

The meeting terminated at 1519 hours.