

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20 AUGUST 1998 AT 1400 HOURS IN MUIRKIRK IFE WING, BURNS AVENUE, MUIRKIRK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Ross, George Smith, Jim Kelly, James Boyd and Jim Carmichael; and Community Representatives: Reverend Duncan Eddie, William Crawford, Douglas Blackwood, William Lees, Robert Gurney and Alex Currie.

ATTENDING: John Bryson, Area Engineer (Roads and Transportation); Bill Hunter, Area Community Education Officer; Fiona McKinnon, Assistant Divisional Manager (Social Work); David Hewet, Senior Policy Adviser (Development Services); Karl Doroszenko, Policy and Projects Manager (Development Services); Janie Allen, Principal Officer - Pre-Five Services (Education); Joe Cassidy, Principal Officer (Housing); James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer; Janet McComb, Community Worker (Social Work); and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Inspector John Merrylees, Strathclyde Police, "R" Division.

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Sneller and Eric Jackson; and Community Representatives Jean Smith, Hugh Murdoch, Lynne Irwin and Ronnie Hamilton.

CHAIR: Councillor George Smith, Vice-Chair, (Items 1 to 3 (part)) and Eric Ross, Chair, (Remaining Items).

MINUTES**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. There were submitted for information, and noted, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cumnock Area Local Committee held on 14 May 1998 (circulated).

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION**LOCAL CHURCHES: RESIGNATION OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE:
REVEREND MATTHEW SULLIVAN**

2. It was reported (a) that Reverend Matthew Sullivan, who had been appointed to the Local Committee as a Community Representative by the local Churches had intimated his resignation from the Committee; and (b) that the Churches had appointed Reverend Duncan Eddie, Minister at the Church of Scotland, Chrichton West, Ayr Road, Cumnock, as their new Community Representative.

The Committee noted the matter and remitted to the Director of Support Services, in consultation with the Chair, to write to Reverend Sullivan on behalf of the Committee acknowledging his contribution as a Community Representative.

COMMUNITY GRANTS**GENERAL APPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There was submitted a statement dated 13 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which summarised the pertinent information relative to

outstanding applications for Community Grants received from local organisations and outlined the financial position in respect of Community Grants for the financial year 1998/99.

3.1.1 Declaration of Interest

Community Representative Robert Gurney declared an interest in the application for grant submitted by the Cumnock and Doon Valley Independent Living Friendship Group and took no part in consideration or determination of this application.

3.1.2 Applications Approved (for the purpose specified in the application), viz:-

(a) Conservation/History

- (i) New Cumnock Historical Society - £100;

(b) Disability

- (i) Cumnock and District Blind Club (East Ayrshire South) - £900;

- (ii) South East Ayrshire Disabled Club - It was agreed:-

(a) that, having regard to the apparently high cost of heating the Club's meeting venue, it be remitted to the Officials concerned to undertake, in consultation with the Club, a trawl of premises within the Doon Valley area in order to identify alternative accommodation which would involve lower heating costs and at the same time meet the other specific requirements of the members, a report on the outcome to be submitted to this Committee at the earliest opportunity; and

(b) that, in the meantime, an interim grant award of £160 be made to the Club in respect of this application in order to assist the Club in meeting heating expenses pending final determination of this application.

- (iii) Cumnock and Doon Valley Independent Living Friendship Group - £300;

(c) Information and Advice

- (i) Cumnock and Doon Valley Access Panel - £750;

(d) Leisure

- (i) Catrine Arts and Crafts Class - £340; and

- (ii) Catrine Drama Group - £300;

(e) Older People

- (i) Auchinleck Senior Citizens' Club (Gents' Section) - £500;

- (ii) The Cabin, Muirkirk - £200; and

- (iii) The National Association of Widows (Cumnock and District Branch) - £500;

(f) Pre Fives

- (i) Muirkirk Mothers and Toddlers - £600 (including sum of £420 to be reimbursed to the Council by the organisation from last year's grant which was not fully spent);

(g) Sport

- (i) Cumnock Rugby Football Club - £1,000;

(h) Voluntary Organisation Support

- (i) Cumnock Gala Day Committee - Noted that a grant of £250 had been approved under delegated powers and agreed that an additional grant award of £50 be made; and

- (ii) Catrine Community Association - £1,000;

(i) Women

- (i) Netherthird and District Wives and Mothers Group - £150;

(j) Young People

- (i) Mauchline Parish Church Holiday Club - Noted that a grant of £200 had been approved under delegated powers;

- (ii) Keir Hardie Hill Tenants and Residents Association, Cumnock - Noted that a grant of £250 had been approved under delegated powers;

- (iii) Catrine Community Dance Group - Noted that a grant of £250 had been approved under delegated powers and agreed that an additional grant award of £300 be made;

- (iv) 3rd Cumnock Brownies - Noted that a grant of £60 had been made to this group in respect of operating expenses, in terms of the decision of this Committee on 2 April 1998;

- (v) Muirkirk Brownies - £60; and

- (vi) 1st Cumnock Company Boys Brigade - It was agreed that a grant of £2,000 be made in respect of this application subject to investigation by the appropriate Officials as to whether the boiler system removed from the former Youth Club premises at The Castle, New Cumnock, could be utilised for the purpose of this application.

3.1.3 Application Refused(a) Conservation/History

- (i) Muirkirk Enterprise Group - Because the Cumnock and Doon Valley Minerals Trust had awarded the Group a grant in the amount applied for and for the purpose in question, i.e. the purchase and erection of directional/heritage signs within the village of Muirkirk.

Community Representative Reverend Duncan Eddie joined the meeting during consideration of the above sub-item.

Councillor Eric Ross joined the meeting during consideration of the above sub-item (immediately following determination of the application for grant submitted by Catrine Community Association and before consideration of the application submitted by Netherthird and District Wives and Mothers Group) and took the Chair.

3.2 AUCHINLECK TALBOT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

It was reported that Auchinleck Talbot Junior Football Club had written thanking the Committee for the grant award of £350 approved on 14 May 1998 in order to assist in

meeting the cost of works to the Club's ground at Beechwood Park in order to improve spectator safety; and inviting two representatives of the Committee to attend one of the Club's home matches during the coming season.

It was agreed that the two Elected Members whose Wards partly include the community of Auchinleck should take up the Club's invitation.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

OPERATION SPOTLIGHT

4. There was submitted a report dated 5 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which proposed that "Operation Spotlight" be made a standing item on the Agenda of the Local Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that "Operation Spotlight" be a standing item on the Agendas for future meetings of the Local Committee; and
- (ii) that Chief Inspector Thomson be requested to consult with the Chair and Vice-Chair in respect of the nature of the information to be presented to the Local Committee under this item.

DECENTRALISATION ISSUES

CUMNOCK AREA COMMUNITY FORUM: 19 MAY 1998

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 June 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which advised of the outcome of the latest meeting of the Cumnock Area Community Forum held as part of the Council's Scheme of Decentralisation.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

PROGRAMMES FOR THE STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS 1999/2000

6. There was submitted a report dated 3 June 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which (a) advised that the programmes for the Structural Maintenance of Roads and Footways 1999/2000 would be drawn up in the Autumn of this year; and (b) requested that any carriageway or footway resurfacing schemes which Members of the Committee considered desirable be notified to the Head of Roads and Transportation by the end of October 1998.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that Members of the Committee would, if they so wished, and on an individual basis, submit any additional suggestions as to the works which could be included within these programmes, directly to the Head of Roads and Transportation no later than 31 October 1998.

PROVISION OF DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING BAYS (Item 10, Page 3223)

7. There was submitted a report dated 11 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which sought the Committee's views on the current criteria for the provision of residential disabled persons' parking bays on public roads.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to advise the Head of Roads and Transportation that the Committee are of the view, since many people obtain a great deal of enjoyment and pleasure from their gardens, that the current criteria should be amended to the effect that there would be no mandatory requirement upon the use of garden ground for the formation of off-road parking, in lieu of the provision of a residential disabled person's parking bay on the public road; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

A PROGRAMME FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

8. There was submitted a report dated 23 July 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which (i) set out a list of potential environmental improvement projects for the financial year 1998/99 through to the financial year 2001/02; (ii) requested that any other potential projects be identified so that the list can be prioritised initially for the financial year 1998/99 and thereafter developed into a programme to the financial year 2001/02; and (iii) suggested a method to secure proper and regular consultation on Capital Plan Projects.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Capital Plan (Environmental Improvements) consultation arrangements as outlined in paragraphs 4.4 to 4.12 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the selection criteria for prioritising schemes as set out in Section 3 of the report;
- (iii) that Members of the Committee would, if they so wished, and on an individual basis, advise the Head of Planning and Building Control of suggestions for further projects which would fit the selection criteria, no later than 11 September 1998;
- (iv) that the Head of Planning and Building Control would also seek, directly from the Community Councils within the Local Committee's area, suggestions as to projects which could be included within this programme; and
- (v) that a further report on this matter be submitted to an early meeting of this Committee to enable further consideration to be given to the prioritisation of projects to be carried out within the Cumnock Area, the report also to include an examination of the possibility of "ring fencing" income from the Cumnock and Doon Valley Initiative for expenditure within the Cumnock Area and Doon Valley Local Committee areas.

FLOODING IN CUMNOCK

9. There was submitted a report dated 7 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised of work being undertaken by the Roads Division in the aftermath of the flooding in Cumnock on 30 July 1998.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that Members of the Committee would, if they so wished, and on an individual basis, advise the Head of Roads and Transportation of any information which they feel might assist the Roads Division in their investigations into the flooding problem;
- (ii) that the Head of Roads and Transportation would:-
 - (a) take account of matters highlighted by Councillor Eric Ross at the meeting concerning the flooding problem in Cumnock, specifically in relation to difficulties at Forbes Avenue and the fields at the eastern side of Barshare School; and
 - (b) seek directly the comments of Cumnock Community Council and the local Fishing Club on this matter; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

RECHAR II COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

- 10.** There was submitted a report dated 28 July 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised of the outcomes of the Rechar II Programme Management Committee meeting of 30 June 1998, as they related to projects within the Local Committee's area.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the action taken regarding the preparation and submission of applications for funding support for local projects for the Rechar II Initiative;
- (ii) to note the outcome of the Programme Management Committee meeting of 30 June 1998; and
- (ii) to acknowledge the good work and efforts of the Officers concerned in expediting arrangements for the preparation and submission of applications for funding under this heading.

EDUCATION

THE CHILDREN ACT 1989: REVIEW OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN UNDER EIGHT

- 11.** There was submitted a report dated 3 July 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the progress of the third Triennial Review of Childminding, Daycare and Education Services for Children Under Eight.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made in the review of services for children under eight years; and
- (ii) to note the progress made in the expansion of nursery provision for children aged 3-5 years in East Ayrshire.

PRE-FIVE EXPANSION PROGRAMME

The Chair agreed to consider item 13 on the Agenda prior to item 12.

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 6 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the decisions of the Education Sub-Committee on 10

February 1998 and of the Education Committee on 28 May 1998 to establish pre-five provision in Logan Primary School, Greenmill Primary School (Cumnock) and Barshare Primary School (Cumnock) and to expand provision in Netherthird Primary School (Cumnock).

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made by East Ayrshire Council in the expansion of pre-five nursery education within the Local Committee's area; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

PROVISION OF COMMUNITY WORKER DEDICATED TO NEW CUMNOCK

13. There was submitted a report dated 15 May 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the feasibility of a dedicated worker to the community of New Cumnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the terms of the report; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education prepare, for submission to the next meeting of this Committee, a report providing an audit of work being carried out by Community Education Workers in the Cumnock Area Local Committee area and an assessment of where further assistance could be provided by Community Workers in this area.

HOUSING

MCCLYMONT COURT TENANTS' ASSOCIATION, CUMNOCK - REQUEST FOR GRANT

14. There was submitted a report dated 3 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Housing on an application for annual operating grant and start-up grant submitted by McClymont Court Tenants' Association, Cumnock.

It was agreed that a start-up grant of £100 be made to the Association together with an operating grant of £50 in respect of the current financial year, this expenditure to be met from the Housing Revenue account (HRA) for 1998/99.

SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK ANTI-POVERTY ACTIVITY

15. There was submitted a report dated 13 August 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which provided an update on Anti-Poverty Activity undertaken by Social Work staff during the period 1 April 1998 to 31 March 1998.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the work undertaken and outcomes achieved in anti-poverty work within the Social Work Department during 1997/98, as outlined in the report;
- (ii) to congratulate the Social Work Department on the success of the work being undertaken in this area and to endorse the approach being taken; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

SUPPORT SERVICES

STREET NAMING: DEVELOPMENT AT AYR ROAD, CUMNOCK

- 16.** The Committee were asked to determine a name for a new street to be created by the development of private housing at a site adjacent to Ayr Road, Cumnock.

It was agreed that the new street be called "Harperbank Grove", as suggested by the local Member, and that the Head of Contracting and Technical Services be advised accordingly.

The meeting terminated at 1620 hours.