

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 1999 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Robert Taylor, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Daniel Coffey, Drew McIntyre, David Macrae, Iain Linton, Jane Darnbrough, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, Tommy Farrell, Julie Faulds, William Menzies, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; Bobby McCulloch, Outdoor Amenities Manager; Tim Baulk, Financial Services Manager; Charlie Woodward, Museums and Arts Manager; Gerard Cairns, Library and Information Services Manager; David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; David Morgan, Public Relations Officer; and Ian Gemmell, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors, Ann Hay, John Weir and Harry Wilson.

CHAIR: Councillor Robert Taylor (Chair).

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There was submitted and approved, both as a correct record and in respect of the recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minute (circulated):-
- 1.1 **LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE - 18 AUGUST 1999 - APPENDIX I**

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: COMMUNITY SERVICES TO 30 JULY 1999 (PERIOD 4)

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Finance and the Director of Community Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Community Services Department for the period ending 30 July 1999 (Period 4).

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 14 NOVEMBER 1999

3. There was submitted a report dated 5 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the arrangements made in respect of Remembrance Day Services held in East Ayrshire in 1998 and which proposed arrangements to be made for the current year's Services.

It was agreed to continue consideration of the above matter in order that the Director of Community Services could meet with Church representatives to try to resolve problems with having a morning service and report to a future meeting.

NATIONAL WASTE STRATEGY SCOTLAND - DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

4. There was submitted a report dated 27 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the National Waste Strategy for Scotland recently published by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency in draft form, in respect of which appropriate observations had been submitted by the Director of Community Services following consultation with the Chair of this Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the action taken by the Director of Community Services; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

REVISED CODE OF PRACTICE ON LITTER AND REFUSE

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 July 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised of a revision to the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse, and the resultant implications for the Council.

LICENSING OF BUTCHERS SHOPS IN SCOTLAND

6. There was submitted a report dated 16 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised the Committee that the Scottish Executive had agreed that consultation should take place on a licensing scheme for butchers shops in Scotland.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Community Services submit comprehensive observations to the Scottish Executive by 16 September 1999; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSUMER WHITE PAPER: MODERN MARKETS: CONFIDENT CONSUMERS

7. There was submitted a report dated 16 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on proposed legislative developments contained in the Government's White Paper "Modern Markets": Confident Consumers", which contained proposals which would affect the work of the Trading Standards Service.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Community Services monitor the progress of the White Paper proposals and assess the resource implications associated with implementation;
- (ii) that the Director submit a further report on the above matter to this Committee at the appropriate time; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

CHARGES AT DEAN CASTLE

8. There was submitted a report dated 11 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for changes to the charging structure for tours at Dean Castle, Kilmarnock, to be effective from 1 April 2000. It was pointed out that the proposed changes were in response to recent communications from the Museums and Galleries Commission and the Scottish Museums Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to amend the report at Paragraph 4.1 as follows:-
 - (a) to delete the figure of £6,200 and to substitute therefor the figure £6,700; and
 - (b) in respect of (a) "group within working hours - adult" and "group visits within working hours - child" to delete the proposed charges for the year 2000/2001 and to substitute therefor the word "free" in each case.
- (ii) to approve the charging structure as proposed in the Director's report for tours at Dean Castle with effect from 1 April 2000; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

MUSEUMS AND ARTS SECTION: KILMAURS HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

9. There was submitted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for the acquisition of appropriate items from the museum collection of Kilmaurs Historical Society.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the acquisition of appropriate items from the Museum collections of the Kilmaurs Historical Society; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

MUSEUMS AND ARTS SECTION: TRANSFER OF TWO MEDALS

10. There was submitted a report dated 11 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for the transfer of ownership of two medals to the Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth, in accordance with the Museums and Arts Acquisition and Disposal Policy.

It was agreed to approve the transfer of ownership of the medals referred to.

INTERNET ACCESS POLICY

11. There was submitted a report dated 2 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for proposed rules and guidance governing public use of Internet facilities from East Ayrshire Council libraries.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the guidance contained in the Director's report; and

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

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS BOOKS

12. There was submitted a report dated 2 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for amendments to the current process for disposal of surplus library stock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the implementation of the amended process for disposal of discarded books, as set out in the Director's report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

NATIONAL INFORMATION STRATEGY FOR SCOTLAND

13. There was submitted a report dated 7 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which advised the Committee of the case for a National Information Strategy for Scotland and sought support for the creation of a National Information Task Group to develop, manage and implement a National Strategy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to accept the need for debate on an Information Strategy for Scotland and to support the establishment of a National Information Strategy Task Force; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

AYRSHIRE LIBRARIES FORUM (ALF)

14. There was submitted a report dated 7 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which informed the Committee of the development of an inter-library network in Ayrshire, known as the Ayrshire Libraries Forum ("ALF") of which the East Ayrshire Library and Information Services was a key member.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to support the formal establishment of the "Ayrshire Libraries Forum";
- (ii) that the East Ayrshire Library and Information Services become a member of the formally constituted organisation; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

STEWARTON IN-LINE SKATING GROUP

15. There was submitted a report dated 8 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which outlined the background to the above Group, and its progress in developing proposals for an in-line skating area and which requested the use by the Group of an area within Strandhead Park, Stewarton for this purpose.

It was agreed:-

- (i) in principle, to lease an area of ground at Strandhead Park, Stewarton to Stewarton In-Line Skating Group;

- (ii) that the Director of Community Services liaise with Property Services to draw up an appropriate lease for a suitable defined area within Strandhead Park for this purpose; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

AYRSHIRE CURLING DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

- 16.** There was submitted a report dated 6 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for funding for the establishment of an Ayrshire Curling Development Officer post in conjunction with the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, North and South Ayrshire Councils and the Bank of Scotland.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the allocation of partnership funding for a three year period as outlined in paragraph 4.3 of the Director's report;
- (ii) that the Director of Community Services provide to this Committee regular progress reports on the performance of the project; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

MILLENNIUM YOUTH SPORT EXCHANGE WITH MALTA

17.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Carmichael declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and took no part in consideration of the matter or the decision relating thereto.

- 17.2** There was submitted a report dated 9 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for a potential Millennium project incorporating exchange visits between young sports people from East Ayrshire and Malta.

It was agreed:-

- (i) in principle, that the sum of £5,000 be allocated from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations budget in the financial year 2000/2001 in respect of East Ayrshire Council's contribution to the project; making the total grant to, the Sports Council approximately £16,000.
- (ii) that the Director of Community Services provide regular updates of progress of this Millennium initiative; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Carmichael rejoined the meeting.

HARMONISATION OF FOOTBALL PROVISION

18. It was reported and noted that the above item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS SCHEME: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

19. There was submitted a report dated 6 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on applications for financial assistance under the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Scheme.

In respect of the submitted applications, the following decisions were made:-

Applications Approved (for the purposes stated in the report):-

- (i) Friends of the Earth (Scotland) Ltd - £1,000
- (ii) Auchinleck Indoor Bowling Club - £300
- (iii) Sport for Special Needs - £1,776
- (iv) Scottish Poetry Library - £500
- (v) Kilmarnock Folk Club - £2,000
- (vi) Scottish Ballet - £250
- (vii) The Ayrshire Music Festival - £500

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS: AWARDS TO BANDS

20. There was submitted a report dated 11 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on applications for financial assistance under the Awards to Bands Scheme.

In respect of the submitted applications, the following decisions were made:-

Applications Approved

- (i) Cumnock Crown Defenders Flute Band - £800; and
- (ii) Dunaskin Doon Band - £800

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

21. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which provided for information details of the lowest satisfactory tender in respect of a contract which had been awarded as follows:-

CONTRACT	SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
CCTV Installations at Mauchline and Dalmellington	ADT Fire and Security Plc, Uddingston	£58,597.35

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT

22. There was submitted a report dated 18 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the progress within the Community Service Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director convey the Committee's best wishes to an employee within the Refuse Collection Service who had been injured in an accident at work; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT: QUARTER 5 APRIL - 2 JULY 1999

23. There was submitted and noted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on absence rates for the Department of Community Services for the quarterly period ending 2 July 1999.

SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO YOUNG PEOPLE

24. There was submitted a report dated 16 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services on the enforcement action taken over 1998/99 to satisfy the legal measures introduced by the Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991, and which invited the Committee to consider the enforcement strategy in this connection.

It was agreed to approve the enforcement strategy as set out in the Director's report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

25. The Committee resolved that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND LEISURE MANAGEMENT TO 30 JULY 1999 (PERIOD 4) (PARA 6)

26. There was submitted a joint report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Community Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Grounds Maintenance and Leisure Management to 30 July 199 (Period 4).

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Community Services take steps to ensure the budgets would out-turn on target ; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: REFUSE COLLECTION AND STREET CLEANSING TO 30 JULY 1999 (PERIOD 4) (PARA 6)

27. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Community Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Refuse Collection and Street Cleansing to 30 July 1999 (Period 4).

CLEANSING - VEHICLE REPLACEMENT (PARA 10)

28. There was submitted a report dated 13 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which requested approval for the acceptance of tenders for the provision of two refuse collection vehicles.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve acceptance of the tender from PDE Geesink, being the lowest bid which fully met the award criteria for the vehicles concerned, at a total capital cost of £230,640; and
- (ii) to instruct the Director of Finance to secure appropriate operating leases of 7 years in respect of each vehicle at an annual revenue cost of approximately £20,000 per vehicle; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

LEASE OF LAND AT REAR OF SPORT HALL/SWIMMING POOL, NEW CUMNOCK (PARA 9)

29.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Carmichael declared an interest in this item and left the meeting.

- 29.2 There was submitted a joint report dated 16 August 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Community Services which sought approval in principle for the lease of an area of Council land to Nerv plc of New Cumnock, to provide new sport and play facilities.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the request from Nerv plc to lease the land identified in the report;
- (ii) to refer the matter to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for their consideration; and
- (iii) that the Director of Community Services, the Director of Development Services and the Solicitor to the Council conclude a suitable lease in respect of the land concerned with Nerv plc in due course.

Councillor Carmichael rejoined the meeting.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE - COMPETITIVE TENDERING PROCESS (PARA 10)

30. There was submitted a report dated 26 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Community Services which sought approval for a tender package for Grounds

Maintenance and the use of consultants to prepare a tender bid for the in-house DSO.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the appointment of Groundserve Consultants to produce a tender bid for the Grounds Maintenance DSO;
- (ii) to approve the VCT package including Kilmarnock Central, Kilmarnock South and the former Mitchell and Struthers contract area, the Director of Community Services to seek tenders for this work; and
- (iii) that the Director of Community Services continue discussions with the Trade Unions on this matter; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1100 hours.