

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 1999 AT 1400 HOURS IN PATNA COMMUNITY CENTRE, DOONSIDE AVENUE, PATNA

PRESENT: Councillors Elaine Dinwoodie, Robert Taylor and Tommy Farrell; and Community Representatives George McCaig, Iain Brown, Tom Russell, Grace Garrity and Edward Torrance.

ATTENDING: Bill Hunter, Area Community Education Officer; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; Helen Sinclair, Service Officer (Social Work); Morven Buchanan, Environment Officer (Community Services); Stuart Norval, Roads Engineer; and Ian Gemmell, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Chief Inspector James Thomson, Strathclyde Police.

CHAIR: Councillor Elaine Dinwoodie, Chair.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

1. It was agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1402 hours in order to allow for a 15 minute maximum public question and answer session.

RECONVENTION OF MEETING

2. The meeting was reconvened at 1403 hours with the same Councillors, Community Representatives and Officers present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

3. The Chair, in exercise of her discretion under Standing Order 15.1 agreed to alter the order of business to enable the item of business relating to the Strathclyde Police Spotlight report, to be taken at the end of the meeting; and in terms of Standing Order 13 for reasons of urgency the Chair also agreed to allow two additional items to be discussed, i.e. the selection of a local topic for the next Doon Valley Community Forum and a verbal report by Mr Gordon Christie of Scottish Power under items 11 and 12.

MINUTES

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4. There were submitted for information and noted, the Minutes of the Doon Valley Local Committee of 8 June 1999 (circulated).

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S

INTERIM COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FROM THE LOCAL COMMITTEE ON THE EAST AYRSHIRE SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

5. There was submitted a report dated 3 August 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which requested that the Committee nominate a Community

Representative and Substitute Representative to attend the East Ayrshire Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group on an interim basis until March 2000.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to nominate Community Representative Edward Torrance and Community Representative Iain Brown as Substitute, to attend the East Ayrshire Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group on behalf of the Local Committee until March 2000; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

“PUTTING THE COMMUNITY FIRST” - REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL’S DECENTRALISATION SCHEME

6. There was submitted a report dated 6 August 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which advised the Committee of the outcome of the Council’s Review of the Decentralisation Scheme and which sought the nomination of a Community Representative to participate in the Working Party of Community Representatives to progress and monitor initiatives and issues detailed in the report.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to appoint Community Representative Iain Brown to participate in the Working Party of Community Representatives; and
- (ii) to note the action proposed by the Council in relation to the review of the Council’s Decentralisation Scheme, as referred to in the report.

CORPORATE SERVICES

MEETINGS OF DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE: PERIOD TO 7 APRIL 2000

7. There was submitted a report dated 26 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which advised the Committee of the dates on which meetings of the Local Committee were scheduled to take place during the period to 7 April 2000, and which invited the Committee to determine the venues at which each of these meetings should be held.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the dates fixed for meetings of the Committee during the period to 7 April 2000 as detailed in (ii) below; and
- (ii) that the four meetings of the Committee which would take place during the period in question be held at the undernoted venues:-
 - (a) Tuesday 19 October 1999 - Drongan Community Centre;
 - (b) Tuesday 30 November 1999 - Dalmellington Community Centre;
 - (c) Tuesday 8 February 2000 - Dalrymple Community Centre; and
 - (d) Tuesday 21 March 2000 - Rankinston Community Centre.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

PROGRAMMES FOR THE STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND FOOTWAYS 2000/01

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 22 July 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Development Services which advised the Committee that the programme for the structural maintenance of roads and footways for the year 2000/01 would be drawn up in the Autumn of the current year, and requesting that any carriageway or footway resurfacing schemes which Committee Members considered desirable should be notified to the Head of Roads and Transportation by mid October 1999.

LOCAL ITEMS

9. The Senior Administrative Officer reported and it was noted that following the review of the Council's Decentralisation Scheme:-
- (i) that the intention of a local item was to give Community Representatives an opportunity to raise local issues which would become the subject of further reports by appropriate Officers for consideration at future meetings; and
 - (ii) that local items of interest raised by Community Representatives would be considered for inclusion in the Forward Planning of Committee business currently being developed.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

10.1 FUNDING FOR PRIZES/AWARDS ETC

It was reported and noted that the Policy and Resources Committee had agreed that the remit of Local Committees should be extended to allow disbursement of funds from the local Community Grants Scheme in respect of prizes or awards etc for certain activities which the Local Committee may promote from time to time, subject to a maximum annual expenditure per Committee of £300.

10.2 GENERAL APPLICATIONS

There was submitted a report dated 1 September 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Corporate Services which summarised the pertinent information relative to outstanding applications for Community Grants received from local organisations, together with a financial statement which outlined the financial position in respect of Community Grants for the financial year 1999/2000.

10.2.1 Applications Approved (for the purpose specified in the application):-

- (a) Disability
 - (i) Bonnie Doon PHAB Club - £900;
- (b) Health Issues
 - (i) Dalmellington Self Help Group - £568;
 - (ii) Doon Valley First Aid Section - £350;
- (c) Leisure Activities
 - (i) Drongan and District Horticultural Society - £200;

- (ii) Drongan and District Canine Society - £500;

Councillor Farrell joined the meeting at this point.

(d) Older People

- (i) Bellsbank Street Wardens - £604.80;

(e) Sport

- (i) Rankinston Bowling Club - £588.08;
- (ii) Doon Valley Roller Hockey Club - £552;

(f) Voluntary Organisation Support (Community Associations Etc)

- (i) Patna Community House Management Committee - £700;

(g) Women (including Lone Parents)

- (i) Ladies Wednesday Group - £62.50;

(h) Young People

- (i) Doon Valley Toy Library Steering Group - £250;
- (ii) Ayrshire South Guide Association (Running Costs) - £167;
- (iii) Ayrshire South Guide Association (Attendance at Commissioners Conference) - £100;
- (iv) Bellsbank Adventure Playground Playscheme - £900; and
- (v) Drongan Summer Playscheme - £900.

10.3 MATTER ARISING

With respect to the Bellsbank Adventure Playground Summer Playscheme, it was agreed to request the Policy and Resources Committee to reconsider for future years, the funding of the project, which is mainly funded from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations budget, to take account of the Group's playscheme activities.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

11. DOON VALLEY COMMUNITY FORUM

The Committee were requested to determine a local topic for discussion at the next Doon Valley Community Forum.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the local topic for discussion at the next Doon Valley Community Forum should be Access for the Disabled;
- (ii) to note the suggestion for a future Forum local item would be Road Safety; and
- (iii) that Community Representatives be invited to bring forward suggested topics for further Community Forums, after consultation with their respective organisations.

12. SCOTTISH POWER: INTERRUPTIONS TO POWER SUPPLIES DUE TO HURRICANE DAMAGE

The Chair welcomed Mr Gordon Christie of Scottish Power, who gave a verbal report on the actions taken by Scottish Power following the interruptions to power supplies because of severe hurricane conditions in December 1998, including improvements to the Company's telephone answering service, the need for programming and prioritising of repairs and the provision of information to the public in this connection, and a consultation process entered into by Scottish Power with respect to addressing problems related to power lines in forested areas.

The Committee agreed to note the terms of the verbal report.

Councillor Taylor left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

STRATHCLYDE POLICE SPOTLIGHT REPORT

- 13.** There was submitted and noted a report dated 31 August 1999 (circulated) by Chief Inspector James Thomson, Strathclyde Police, advising of "Spotlight" activity and other crime trends over the recent period.

The meeting terminated at 1450 hours.