

**EAST AYRSHIRE COALFIELD AREA SOCIAL INCLUSION
PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2002 AT 1410
HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, BARRHILL COMMUNITY EDUCATION
CENTRE, BANK AVENUE, CUMNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors David Macrae and Elaine Dinwoodie, East Ayrshire Council; Heather Knox, Director of Estates and Facilities, Ayrshire & Arran Primary Health Care Trust; Steve Shanta, Manager (Inclusive Economy Team), Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire; Sheila White, Co-opted Member; Margaret McWilliam, Ayrshire & Arran Health Board; Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight, Strathclyde Police; Bob Gardiner, Ayr College; Dave Wilcock, Kilmarnock College; Jim Burns, Action Team Manager; and Ciss McCreadie, Development Worker, East Ayrshire Council of Voluntary Organisations; and Community Representatives: Caroline McBride; Billy Lees; Tony Foote; Billy Crawford; Iain Smith; Ronnie Hamilton; Jack Campbell; and John Weir.

ATTENDING: Gwen Barker, Manager Social Inclusion; Kirsten Nichols, Accountant; Shirley Laidlaw, Resource Worker; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Julie Faulds; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources; and Geraldine O'Donnell, Corporate Services Manager, Ayrshire & Arran Primary Health Care Trust.

CHAIR: Councillor David Macrae, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Shirley Laidlaw, recently appointed Resource Worker as an observer to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair agreed to take an additional item as the next item on the Agenda.

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER

2. The Chair advised and it was agreed that as a result of the dissolution of the East Ayrshire Business Partnership, that Sheila White be appointed as a co-opted member.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There was submitted (circulated) and agreed as a correct record, the Minutes of previous meeting held on 20 September 2001.

3.1 MATTERS ARISING

3.1.1 Annual Report- 2000/2001

Noted that printed copies of the Annual Report had now been published and copies were available from the Manager Social Inclusion.

3.1.2 Draft Strategy Document

Noted that the strategy document had now been published and copies were available from the Manager Social Inclusion.

3.1.3 Launch of Annual Progress Report

Noted that the Celebration of Social Inclusion would be held at the Lochside Hotel, near Cumnock and that Margaret Curan, MSP, Depute Minister for Social Inclusion would be the guest speaker at the event.

3.1.4 Staffing Report

Noted that interviews for the post of Social Inclusion Co-ordinator would take place on Thursday 24 January 2002 and that Iain Smith would be participating on the Panel.

3.1.5 Action Team for Jobs

The Action Team for Jobs Project Manager circulated (tabled) a January 2002 Newsletter which gave a programme of services provided by the Action Team for Jobs in the Coalfield Area.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP FUND TO 16 DECEMBER 2001

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 19 December 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Finance, East Ayrshire Council which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year in respect of the services within the remit of the East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership for the period ended 16 December 2001 (Period 9).

PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT

5. There was submitted a report dated 17 December 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised Members of progress made by projects meeting their agreed targets for 2001/2002.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made by the projects against their set targets for 2001/02 as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to approve the revised targets as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to approve the implementation of targets for the projects as detailed within the report; and
- (iv) otherwise, note the contents of the report.

FINANCE REPORT

6. There was submitted a report dated 24 December 2001 (circulated) which advised on a range of financial measures pertinent to the projects supported by funding available to the East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership and which made proposals for expenditure in the current and future financial years.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the underspend against the SIP core budget and approve the reallocation of these resources as detailed within the report;

- (ii) to note the potential underspend against the Tackling Drugs Misuse budget for 2001/02 and approve the reallocation of these resources to the Recreation Partnership Project as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to note the declared underspend by yipworld.com against the Tackling Drugs Misuse Fund for 2000/01, to endorse the Implementation Group's recommendation to reclaim these resources and to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to reallocate, ensuring a full spend, in consultation with the Implementation Group;
- (iv) to note the underspend against the Community Empowerment budget as detailed within the report and to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to ensure a full spend on this budget in consultation with the Implementation Group and the Coalfield Communities Federation;
- (v) to endorse the proposal to spend Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire's funding allocation to the SIP for 2001/02 and to note that a bid for funding for 2002/03 had been submitted;
- (vi) to note that a funding bid had been submitted for Phase 2 of the Scottish Executive's Tackling Drugs Misuse budget;
- (vii) to note the comments made to the Strathclyde European Partnership, as ratified by the Implementation Group at their meeting of 6 December 2001;
- (viii) to note the success of the SIP's bid to the Scottish Arts Council;
- (ix) to approve the budget allocation for 2002/03 for existing SIP projects as detailed within the report;
- (x) to approve the budget allocation for 2002/03 for new projects as detailed within the report;
- (xi) to approve the indicative budget allocation against projects for 2003/04;
- (xii) to endorse the range of projects recommended for refusal as detailed within the report;
- (xiii) to request that the development plan preparation process undertaken by Muirkirk Enterprise Group (MEG) be made available to other groups within the area and to remit to the Manager Social Inclusion to include this as a condition of grant;
- (xiv) that the Project Manager of yipworld.com be informed that the group has a further opportunity to re-bid for the remaining balance of 2000/01 funding and that the Social Inclusion Manager facilitate this matter; and
- (xv) otherwise, to note the report.

Ronnie Hamilton, Ciss McCreadie and Heather Knox, all declared a direct non-pecuniary interest in the above item.

TACKLING DRUG MISUSE FUND PHASE 2

7. There was submitted a report dated 11 December 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of the proposals submitted to the Scottish Executive by the East Ayrshire Coalfield Area (SIP) for Phase 2 of Tackling Drug Misuse funding.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the proposals as detailed within the report; and
- (ii) to submit to the Manager Social Inclusion to report back on the outcome of the submission to Phase 2 of the Tackling Drug Misuse Fund.

REPORT BY EMPLOYMENT WORKING GROUP

8. There was submitted a report dated 18 December 2001 (circulated) by the Chairperson of the Employment Working Group which presented the findings of the Employment Working Group.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the action plan as detailed within the report; and
- (ii) to remit to the Employment Working Group to continue the development of the actions contained within the action plan and explore further the remaining identified issues detailed within the report.

Steve Shanta left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLANS AND PROJECTS FUTURE APPROACH

9. There was submitted a report dated 20 December 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which provided an update on the Community Environmental Community Action Plans and associated projects and which set out the proposed future approach.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the selection criteria for future environmental improvement projects presented for consideration to the SIP, as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to approve the recommended small scale environmental improvement projects identified for implementation in finance year 2002/03, as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to approve the two strand approach to the environmental improvement action plans incorporating the Restoring Communities Programme, as detailed within the report;
- (iv) to approve the proposed appointment of a consultant for the production of a feasibility study for the Restoring Communities Programme; and
- (v) to request the Manager Social Inclusion to liaise with Shire Housing Association to ascertain if there was any possibility of partnership working on environmental improvement issues.

STAFFING ISSUES

10. There was submitted a report dated 18 December 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which sought approval to realign the Social Inclusion Partnership Staff Support Team to meet the current needs of the Partnership and extend staff contracts to 31 March 2004.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to carry out a review of existing workloads, remits and responsibilities and report back to the next Board Meeting;
- (ii) to submit a request to East Ayrshire Council to extend the contract for the Administration Officer until 31 March 2004; and
- (iii) to extend the contracts of the staff support group until 31 March 2004.

WORKING TOGETHER LEARNING TOGETHER

- 11.** There was submitted a report dated 18 December 2001 (circulated) by the Manager, Social Inclusion which advised of the Working Together Learning Together (WTLT) module which took place at Oswald Hall, Auchincruive on 1-2 November 2001 and which gave details of the follow-up event.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the date for the final module of WTLT as Wednesday 20 March 2002; and
- (ii) to note the proposed topics for this module;
- (iii) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to seek comment on the choice of topic and subsequently arrange the event.

AYRSHIRE KEY FUND REPORT

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 24 December 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of the success of the Ayrshire European Regional European Development Fund (ERDF) application to establish an Ayrshire Key Fund and which sought nominations to represent the SIP on the Key Fund Board.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the success of the ERDF Key Fund application;
- (ii) to nominate Sheila White, Board Co-optee and Iain Smith, Community Representative to sit on the Ayrshire Key Fund Board on behalf of the SIP;
- (iii) to receive further progress reports on the establishment of the Fund; and
- (iv) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to ensure effective implementation of the Fund.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 13.** It was noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 7 March 2002 at 1400 hours and the venue would be determined in consultation with the Chair.

The meeting terminated at 1555 hours.

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