

North Ayrshire Council
25 April 2007

IRVINE, 25 April 2007 - At a Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Drew Duncan, Jane Gorman, Gordon Allison, Thomas Barr, John Bell, Jacqueline Browne, Jack Carson, Gordon Clarkson, Ian Clarkson, Margie Currie, Stewart Dewar, Jean Highgate, Alan Hill, Margaret McDougall, Elizabeth McLardy, Peter McNamara, John Moffat, David Munn, Margaret Munn, Alan Munro, David O'Neill, Robert Rae, Donald Reid, John Reid, Ian Richardson, Samuel Taylor, Nan Wallace and Richard Wilkinson.

In Attendance

I. Snodgrass, Chief Executive; J. Travers, Corporate Director (Educational Services); T. Orr, Corporate Director (Property Services); B., Docherty, Corporate Director (Social Services); I.T. Mackay, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective); J. M. Macfarlane, Assistant Chief Executive (Personnel); J. Barrett, Assistant Chief Executive (Information Technology); D. Nibloe, Chief Accountant (Finance); A. Wattie, Communications Officer, G. Lawson, Corporate Support Manager and S. Bale, Policy Officer (Chief Executive's).

Chair

Provost Duncan in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Elisabeth Marshall.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 27 March 2007 were confirmed.

2. Leader's Report

The Leader of the Council highlighted the many achievements during the last four years of this Council administration, including the following items:-

Educational Services

Four new primary schools; three state of the art secondary and one primary school currently being constructed; the expansion of nursery education; the healthy eating initiative in schools; investment in a new Outdoor Education Centre; and continuing improvement in attainment levels.

Housing

Substantial investment in improvements to Council housing.

Social Services

The Community Care Plan; the expansion of the Community Alarm system; free personal care; the opening of the David White Centre in Saltcoats; and the development of Montgomery Court, Kilbirnie as an Intermediate Care Centre.

Regeneration

The establishment of Irvine Bay Urban Regeneration Company; the regeneration of town centres; continued development at Ardrossan Harbour; Lochshore Masterplan; Beith Town Centre Heritage Initiative; and West Kilbride Craft Town.

Property Services

Mobile CCTV throughout North Ayrshire; the expansion of recycling and the implementation of the safer schools plan.

All Services

Investors in People Awards to schools and other departments; and the positive Best Value Audit.

Partnership Working

The development of Brooksby, Largs and the Garrison, Millport.

He thanked elected members and Council staff and expressed his pride in the achievements of the Council over the last four years.

3. Committee Minutes

Submitted the annexed reports of Committees, being the Minutes of the meetings held on the undernoted dates, which were approved as follows:-

Appeals Committee of North Ayrshire Council: 29 March 2007

Moved by Councillor D. Munn and seconded by Councillor Gorman (Pages 1 - 2).

Planning Committee: 2 April 2007

Moved by Councillor D. Munn and seconded by Councillor Barr (Pages 3 - 14).

Planning Committee: 16 April 2007

Moved by Councillor D. Munn and seconded by Councillor Barr (Pages 15 - 29).

Licensing Sub Committee of Corporate Services Committee: 17 April 2007

Moved by Councillor D. Munn and seconded by Councillor Moffat (pages 30 - 38).

Corporate Policy Committee: 23 April 2007

Moved by Councillor D. O'Neill and seconded by Councillor J. Reid.

4. Administrative Arrangements Following Council Elections

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the administrative arrangements in place to deal with all Council business to be undertaken between 25 April and the first meeting of the Council following the election on 3 May 2007.

The Council approved the arrangements in place in terms of the Scheme of Delegation to Officers and other constitutional documentation.

5. Valedictory

The Leader of the Council paid tribute individually to the following seven members of the Council, who will not be standing for re-election, and thanked them for their services.

Anna Donn, Gordon Clarkson, Jacqueline Browne, Richard Wilkinson, Stewart Dewar, Jack Carson and Drew Duncan.

Councillors Wilkinson, Carson and Dewar thanked the Leader for his kind remarks, as well as thanking all elected members and officers of the Council for their support.

The Chief Executive on behalf of the Corporate Management Team and all officers of the Council referred to the strong working relationship between the elected members and officers of the Council, and expressed his best wishes to those elected members standing down and to those who were standing for election.

The Provost thanked all elected members and officers for their support and expressed his hope that the good working relationship would continue.

The meeting ended at 2.35 p.m.