

Irvine Area Committee
16 February 2011

IRVINE, 16 February 2011 - At a Meeting of the Irvine Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Pat McPhee, Tom Barr, Ian Clarkson, John Moffat and David O'Neill.

In Attendance

J. McConnachie, Transportation Manager (Finance and Infrastructure) and A. Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Provost McPhee in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Matthew Brown, Ruby Kirkwood and Joan Sturgeon.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 3 November 2010 were signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on activity in the Irvine area between 1 November 2010 and 31 January 2011.

Noted.

4. Burns Street, Irvine: Traffic Regulation Order and Pedestrian Safety Measures

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Infrastructure) on the introduction of pedestrian safety measures in conjunction with the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) imposing no waiting at any time and limited waiting restrictions on Burns Street, Irvine.

In April 2009, the A71 route in Irvine between the Milgarholm and Merryvale roundabouts was closed to traffic to facilitate the replacement of the Bailey Bridge. A diversion route was identified and temporary TROs were introduced for a period of 18 months imposing no waiting at any time on the west side of Burns Street, between Castle Street and Marress Road, and introducing limited waiting in 4 parking bays on Burns Street and 2 parking bays in Castle Street.

In the interest of pedestrian safety and as a form of traffic calming, it is proposed to construct two "build-outs" on Burns Street, approximately 25 metres north of the mini-roundabout to narrow the carriageway to two lanes. An additional parking bay to offset the loss of one parking space will also be provided. A TRO will also be promoted to include a continuation of the no waiting at any time on the west side of Burns Street, with the exception of the loading bay, 4 limited waiting parking bays on the east side of Burn Street and 2 limited waiting parking bays on Castle Street.

The Committee agreed to approve the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Order, should no objections be received.

5. Traffic Regulation Order: A737 Ayr Road at Junction with Carson Drive, Irvine: Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit Extension

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Infrastructure) on a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a 30 mph speed limit extension and the retention of the mini-roundabout at Ayr Road, Irvine.

During the reconstruction of the Foulertoun Arches, the A737 Ayr Road was part of the diversion route. This road also serves the residential developments of Carson Drive and Gray Crescent and the increase in traffic made it more difficult for residents to gain vehicular access/egress to their homes. Consequently, the Council introduced measures to facilitate drivers and pedestrians by providing a mini-roundabout, traffic island and a temporary extension of the current 30 mph speed limit.

A survey was carried out with the residents of Carson Drive and Gray Crescent. Of the 67 households contacted, 73% of the residents responded and indicated their support for the retention of the above measures, with 32 for and 17 against the proposal. Strathclyde Police have indicated they would only support the existing temporary 30 mph limit being made permanent if the mini-roundabout was made a permanent feature. It is therefore proposed to investigate and prepare a new Traffic Regulation Order for the 30 mph speed limit and retention of the mini-roundabout at Ayr Road, Irvine. These measures will be implemented if no objections are received.

Members discussed driver confusion at mini-roundabouts and the narrow turning circle at the Heatherhouse mini-roundabout.

The Committee agreed (a) to approve the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Order, should no objections be received; and (b) that the Corporate Director (Finance and Infrastructure) be requested to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the feasibility of improving the Heatherhouse mini-roundabout to prevent driver confusion and to provide a wider turning circle for vehicles.

6. Community Development Grants Scheme 2010/11: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on applications received in respect of the Community Development Grants Scheme 2010/11.

The Community Development Grants Scheme for the Irvine area has a balance of £20,485.88 available for disbursement.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
Dreghorn Co-op Women's Guild	£400
Chinese Information and Advice Centre	£500
The Pegasus Club	£1,680
Drybridge Hall Management Committee	£5,090
Irvine Community Art Club	£800

7. Future Agenda Items

The Committee requested that a representative from NHS Ayrshire and Arran be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to provide an update on Health Centres within the Irvine area and the appointment system in place at the Townhead Surgery.

The meeting ended at 2.20 p.m.