

Irvine Area Committee
22 October 2015

Irvine, 22 October 2015 - At a Meeting of the Irvine Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Joan Sturgeon, Marie Burns, Ian Clarkson, John Easdale, Ruth Maguire and David O'Neill.

In Attendance

G. Hunter, Town Centre Manager (Economy and Communities); J. McHarg, Senior Manager (Participation and Empowerment) (Economy and Communities); and A. Little, Committee Services Officer and E. Gray, Committee Services Support Officer (Chief Executive's).

Also In Attendance

M. Lawless, LA Architects, D. Ferguson and G. Smith (Design Team) (Item 3) and Inspector McMillan, Police Scotland (Item 4.2).

Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Oldfather.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 June 2015 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, subject to the following amendment:-

"The meeting ended at **2.45** p.m."

3. Presentation: Public Realm Areas in Irvine Town Centre

The Committee received a presentation from Mike Lawless, LA Architects on proposals regarding public realm areas in Irvine town centre.

The presentation provided information on the following:-

- existing arrangements for the traffic flow through the town centre, bus stops and car parks;

- early consultation with local retailers and a synopsis of the findings from this consultation;
- the recommendations from the consultation and a strategy for the repair and regeneration of the town centre;
- a number of options for hard landscaping, a contemporary green street and a traditional street;
- various appropriate and native planting schemes; and
- timescales for the proposals with the development of outline design options commencing in November 2015 and the phased construction planned for January 2017 - October 2018

Discussion took place on a number of areas including:-

- the location of bus stops and the direction of bus traffic flow through the town centre;
- shop entrances being blocked by vehicles parking and loading;
- the location of the taxi rank in Bank Street and the various queue systems that had previously been put in place to direct taxi users and avoid traffic congestion;
- a review of CCTV within the town centre;
- the replacement of the existing paving system and the introduction of shared paving surfaces with pedestrian priority; and
- consultation with disabled groups on the removal of disabled street parking and the provision of re-designated disabled parking within the car parks.

Noted.

4. Community Planning

4.1 North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of Meeting held on 10 September 2015

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership Board held on 10 September 2015.

Noted.

4.2 Police Scotland

Submitted report by Police Scotland on activity within the Irvine area for the period 1 May to 30 June 2015.

Inspector McMillan provided information on crimes reported and detected in the Committee's area and gave updates in relation to:-

- youth disturbance in and around the Riverway Retail Park and train station vicinity that would appear to be as a result of youths from outwith North Ayrshire congregating in this area;
- a fire risk inspection of the exterior fabric of the Ruby Tuesdays building that will be undertaken by Scottish Fire and Rescue;
- bogus caller incidents that have occurred where the caller has claimed to be ill or requiring an ambulance in order to gain access to the home;
- an assault that took place at the fairground;
- a review that is required of how best to inform local residents when planned events require road closures and re-routing of buses; and
- ongoing monitoring of traffic in the Main Street.

Noted.

4.3 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Submitted report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on activity within the Irvine area during the period 1 April 2015 to 31 July 2015.

At its meeting on 27 August 2015, the Committee requested further information in respect of false alarm calls within sheltered housing units. This information had not yet been provided.

The Committee agreed to make a further request for information in respect of false alarm calls within sheltered housing units from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

5. Community Development Grants Scheme Award and Local Youth Action Fund: Applications for Financial Assistance 2015/16

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on applications received in respect of the Community Development Grants Scheme Award and Local Youth Action Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Community Development Grants

| | |
|---|--------|
| Church of Nazarene - North Ayrshire | £656 |
| Foodbank | |
| Age Concern Broomlands and Bourtreehill | £1,000 |

6. North Ayrshire Council (Irvine) Charitable Trust

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application for financial assistance received in respect of the North Ayrshire Council (Ardrossan Charitable Trust) from Action for Hearing Loss Scotland.

The Committee was advised that the Trust had a balance of £22,673 and had fully expended the income generated from the capital balance.

The Committee agreed (a) not to make an award to Action for Hearing Loss Scotland at this time; and (b) to request the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) examine ways to maximise the use and disbursement of the Trust and report to the next meeting.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Irvine Area Committee will be held on 3 December 2015.

Noted.

8. Urgent Items

The Chair agreed that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency to allow the matter to be actioned without delay.

8.1 Community Development Grant Application

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) in respect of an application for financial assistance from Irvine Winton Bowling Club.

The Committee agreed to award the Club £1,800, with a condition that the funds will only be released on confirmation that the Club have secured the balance of £1,710 required to complete the project.

The meeting ended at 3.20 p.m.