

Irvine Area Committee
1 June 2009

IRVINE, 1 June 2009 - At a Meeting of the Irvine Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m.

Present

Tom Barr, Matthew Brown, Ian Clarkson, John Moffat, David O'Neill and Joan Sturgeon.

Also Present

William Gibson.

In Attendance

N. Alexander, Chief Legal Officer Licensing and District Court (Legal and Protective); J. McHarg, Learning Manager, Capacity Building and B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer, (Community Learning and Development) (Educational Services); M. McKeown, Team Leader Committee Services and A. Little, Committee Services Support Officer (Chief Executive's).

Also In Attendance

Inspector S. Irvine (Strathclyde Police) and Station Commander N. Galloway, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue.

Chair

Councillor Barr in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Pat McPhee.

1. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Clarkson declared an interest in Agenda Item 5 (Community Development Grants Scheme) in relation to the applications by Marymass Chess Congress and Marymass Development Committee and took no part in the discussion thereon and Agenda Item 7 (Irvine Common Good Fund) in relation to the application by Marymass Development Committee and withdrew from the meeting for that item of business.

2. Strathclyde Police

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police on incidents and crime figures in the Committee's area during March and April 2009.

The Committee was provided with details of:-

- A domestic murder
- Serious assaults
- A number of robberies
- A malicious mischief incident

- A drowning
- The Homecoming Music Festival in Irvine
- Operation Fleet
- Additional Officer allocations

Discussion took place on a number of issues, including:-

- Travelling people moving between sites at Riverside Business Park, South Newmoor and McIntosh Place, Irvine
- Fly-tipping at the sites used by travelling people
- The deployment of Police on bicycles in the Dreghorn area
- The use of CCTV as evidence
- The transfer of traffic warden operations to local authorities

The Committee agreed (a) to note the report; and (b) that the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective) be requested to report on progress in relation to managing unauthorised travelling people encampments.

3. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on incidents and activities in the Committee's area.

Information was provided in relation to:-

- Fires involving property
- Special Service - emergency
- Secondary fires
- Malicious Calls
- Fire Alarm Apparatus False Alarms
- Home Fire Safety Visits
- Firereach and Work Experience Courses
- Community Safety Education

Noted.

4. Operation of Taxi Rank, Bank Street, Irvine

The Chair of the Licensing Committee and the Chief Legal Officer (Licensing and District Court) provided information in relation to the proposed "feeder stance" at Bank Street, Irvine.

In an effort to resolve difficulties in relation to the capacity of the existing taxi rank, the Licensing Committee, at its meeting on 3 March 2009, agreed that the existing taxi stance at Bank Street, Irvine be extended to provide a feeder stance. Consultations had taken place with the public, taxi operators in the Irvine area, Strathclyde Police and Roads. No adverse representations had been received.

The Area Committee had previously expressed concerns at problems with double parking and the use of loading bays by taxis in Bank Street, Irvine. The Committee had considered that the addition of a condition to all taxi driver licences, which required compliance with road rules and restrictions, would help to alleviate these problems.

Discussion took place on the existing traffic management system of the town centre, the best central location for the taxi rank and access to the pedestrianised section of the High Street by buses and taxis for drop offs and pick ups.

The Committee agreed that (a) the operation of the extension to the existing taxi rank and its impact on the traffic management system in Irvine town centre be monitored and reported to the next meeting of the Committee; and (b) the Committee be consulted on any future issues in respect of the operation of the taxi rank within Irvine town centre.

5. Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund 2008/09: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on applications for funding from the Community Development Grants Scheme and the Local Youth Action Fund.

The Committee agreed (a) to make the following awards:-

Community Development Grants Scheme

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Award</u>
Marymass Chess Congress	£500
Irvine Horticultural Society	£600
Marymass Development Committee	£2,400
Irvine Folk Club	£1,000
Crafty Crafters	£465
Irvine Rugby Club	£2,000
Irvine Sea Angling Club	£500
Fullarton Community Association	£2,500

Local Youth Action Fund

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Award</u>
Irvine Rugby Club	£2,000
Fullarton Community Association	£1,450

and (b) that Educational Services report to the next meeting on the funding of Fullarton Community Association.

6. Grants to Elderly Groups

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the distribution of Corporate Grants for elderly groups within the Committee's area in 2009/10.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Award</u>
Age Concern Broomlands/Bourtreehill	£2,506.66
Age Concern Lanfine Lawthorn Bowhouse and Girdle Toll	£923.01
Dreghorn Old People's Welfare Committee	£1,643.87
Drybridge and District Senior Citizens Association	£94.84
Joint Wards Old Folks' Committee	£11,755.73
Springside Welfare Committee	£774.43

7. Irvine Common Good Fund

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on historical annual commitments and an application for financial assistance from Irvine Common Good Fund.

An indicative budget of £87,300 will be available for disbursement in 2009/10. Appendix 1 to the report provided details of awards that the Committee previously agreed to meet annually from the Common Good Fund. The Committee was invited to endorse the continuation of these awards. Appendix 2 to the report set out an application from the Marymass Development Committee for an award of £55,171.18 in respect of the 2009 Marymass Festival.

The Committee agreed (a) to continue to set aside funds to meet annual commitments to the Marymass Development Committee and Irvine Old Folks Joint Wards, and to contribute towards the provision of Christmas lights in Irvine, all subject to satisfactory applications being received; and (b) to award Marymass Development Committee £55,171.18 in respect of the 2009 Marymass Festival.

8. Irvine Christmas Lights

The Committee was advised that the Chair will provide an update on progress in the organisation of Irvine Christmas lights at the next meeting.

Noted.

9. Future Agenda items

The Committee agreed that any items for inclusion on future agendas be submitted to M. McKeown, Team Leader Committee Services and A. Little, Committee Services Support Officer.

10. Date of Future Meetings

The Committee, at its meeting on 6 April 2009, requested that the Chief Executive investigate moving future meetings to a more suitable day within the Committee calendar.

A calendar of dates for future meetings in 2009/10 was submitted for the Committee's consideration.

The Committee agreed to meet on the following dates:-

Wednesday 5 August 2009 at 2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 30 September 2009 at 2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 2 December 2009 at 2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 27 January 2010 at 2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 24 March 2010 at 2.00 p.m.
Wednesday 19 May 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 11.25 a.m.