

Irvine, Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Committee
31 October 2001

IRVINE, 31 October 2001 - At a Meeting of the Irvine, Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 3.00 p.m.

Present

Elliot Gray, Drew Duncan, Jacqueline Browne, Jack Carson, Ian Clarkson, Stewart Dewar, John Donn, Margaret McDougall and John Moffat.

In Attendance

A. Beattie, Principal Officer, Children and Families and F. Roger, Local Manager (Social Services); A. Milson, Area Community Education Officer and Frances Rodman, Adviser (Educational Services); C. McEwing, Area Housing Manager, (Property Services); A. Grossart, Senior Accountant (Finance), S. King, J. Bannatyne and A. Little, Corporate and Democratic Support Officers (Chief Executive's).

Also In Attendance

Sergeant C Ferguson, Local Authority Police Liaison Officer (Strathclyde Police) and Assistant Divisional Officer P Nelis (Strathclyde Fire Brigade).

Chair

Mr Gray in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Thomas Barr, Jane Gorman and David O'Neill.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 September 2001, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Community Safety

2.1 Strathclyde Police Crime Statistics

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police on the level of recorded crime within the Committee's boundaries. The Committee was also advised that the Scottish Executive had awarded £93,806 towards community safety initiatives in North Ayrshire which include the provision of CCTV.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) that a meeting be arranged between Strathclyde Police and the members of the Divisional Committee to discuss local issues of concern; and (b) to note the report.

2.2 Strathclyde Fire Brigade: Fire Statistics for the Period 1 May to 30 June 2001

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire Brigade on fire incidents within the Irvine, Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside areas.

Noted.

3. Scrutiny Reports

3.1 Educational Services: Services for Children (0 - 5 years)

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on the current position and proposals for the development of services for children aged 0-5 and their families.

Noted.

3.2 Social Services: Children & Families (Services)

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Social Services) on changes to service priorities in residential care, day care and family placements.

Noted.

3.3 Property Services: Voids

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on the number of voids received since 1 April 2001 and on the average number of weeks to re-let.

After a full discussion on the various reasons for the number and duration of voids the Committee agreed (a) to advise the Corporate Director (Property Services) of the specific issues raised; and (b) that he be asked to report directly to members on the actions which are being and will be taken by his services to address these areas of ongoing concern.

4. Community Development Grants

4.1 Analysis of Grants

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Community Development Grants paid to 17 September 2001 in respect of the Irvine, Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside areas, including details of the balance of £12,376 available for disbursement.

Noted.

4.2 Requests for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on requests for grant aid from the Community Development Grants Scheme for 2001/2002.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
Irvine Community Woodwork Workshop Group	£ 500
Kilwinning Development Association	£1,250

5. Remembrance Day: Proposed Erection of Flagpole

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a proposal to purchase and erect a 6m flagpole in the vicinity of the War Memorial at Irvine Cross at an estimated cost of £310.

The Committee agreed (a) to approve the proposals for the new flagpole; and (b) that the costs be met from Irvine Common Good Fund.

6. Urgent Items

The Chair agreed that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency.

7. Irvine Christmas Lights

The Committee at its meeting on 20 June 2001 agreed to contribute £5,500 towards the costs of upgrading and improving Irvine Christmas lights. The total costs of the proposals submitted amounted to £7,550 and the Irvine Town Centre Partnership had agreed to contribute the remaining balance of £2,000.

Irvine Town Centre Partnership have now advised they are unable to meet their commitment in full, but are in a position to contribute £500 this year.

The Committee agreed that in the circumstances the shortfall of £1,500 be met from Irvine Common Good Fund to ensure the intended upgrade and improvement programme can be completed.

The meeting ended at 4.15 p.m.