

Irvine Area Committee
3 December 2015

Irvine, 3 December 2015 - At a Meeting of the Irvine Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Joan Sturgeon, Matthew Brown, Marie Burns, Ian Clarkson and Ruth Maguire.

In Attendance

A. Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities), J. McHarg, Senior Manager (Participation and Empowerment), L. Forsyth, Cultural Development Manager and B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer (Economy and Communities); C. Dempster, Assistant Network Manager (Place); M. Sugden, Communications Officer, A. Little, Committee Services Officer and E. Gray, Committee Services Support Officer (Chief Executive's).

Also In Attendance

Inspector J. McMillan (Police Scotland); G. Durkin (Scottish Book Trust); and D. Dunlop (Chair, Irvine Youth Forum).

Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

John Easdale, Irene Oldfather and David O'Neill.

Chair's Remarks

In terms of Standing Order 9.1, the Chair agreed to vary the order of business to allow earlier consideration of Item 5 - Proposal for the naming of the new Cultural, Community and Leisure Centre in Irvine.

1. Declarations of Interest

In terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Councillor Burns, as a member of KA Leisure Board, declared an interest in Agenda Item 3 Proposal for the naming of the new Cultural, Community and Leisure Centre in Irvine.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 October 2015 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Proposal for the naming of the new Cultural, Community and Leisure Centre in Irvine

Submitted report by Executive Director (Economy & Communities) on (a) the community engagement process relating to the naming of the new Cultural, Community and Leisure Centre in Irvine; (b) the information gathered from the focus groups and events in the local community; (c) information on the range of themes considered by the focus groups; and (d) the involvement of local creative media companies at an early stage to allow them to bid for the contracts to develop a branding proposal for the centre.

Gerry Durkin, visiting Reader-in-Residence with North Ayrshire Council and David Dunlop, Chair of Irvine Youth Forum provided information on their involvement in the focus groups that took place to engage the local community in the consultation process.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet that the new cultural, community and leisure centre be named "The Portal".

4. Community Planning

4.1 Police Scotland

Inspector McMillan circulated a report on activity within the Irvine area during October 2015 and provided information on crimes reported and detected in the Committee's area, which included:-

- an increase in hate crime in the Irvine West area;
- an increase in youth disorder at the construction site at Ayrshire Centre Hospital and support and advice that will be provided to the site security to prevent youths gaining entry to the site; and
- work with Streetscene and Scottish Fire and Rescue to address the increase in the theft of wheelie bins and the fire setting of these stolen bins.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to:-

- the increase in knives/offensive weapons incidents which includes individuals who have picked up objects from the street;
- the inclusion of verbal abuse of Police Officers and emergency services staff within the hate crimes category;
- crimes that are recorded and included in crime data, but following investigation/analysis proved to be unfounded; and
- information that will be provided to Members on traffic offences in the High Street, Irvine, including the number of vehicles driven through the one-way system in the wrong direction.

Noted.

4.2 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 30 September 2015.

Noted.

5. Winter Service and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the Roads Winter Service and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015, in support of the Council's statutory duties under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. The Winter Action Plan, which detailed service improvements, was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The Roads Winter Services and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015, was attached at Appendix 2 and identified and highlighted the priorities for winter treatment.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to gritting of priority 1 footway routes that includes access to schools, but does not include the safe walking routes to schools.

The Committee agreed (a) to note (i) the Roads Winter Services and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015; and (ii) the continued development and improvement in the winter service; and (b) that the Executive Director (Place) examine the requirement for gritting of the safe walking route from Bank Street to St. Marks Primary School, Irvine and the route from Tarryholm to Glebe Primary, Irvine, which includes the area from the Fullartoun Arches to the footbridge.

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

Submitted report by 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

Dreghorn Community Association	£2,000.00
Friends of the Harbour Arts Centre	£1,500.00
Drybridge Hall Management Association	£2,000.00
North Ayrshire Food Bank	£99.20

Local Youth Action Fund Grants

Fullartoun Community Association	£750
Irvine Rugby Club	£500
Springside Youth Group	£1,584
Bourtreehill Youth Group	£1,200

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Irvine Area Committee will be held on 28 January 2016, in Cunninghame House, Irvine.

The meeting ended at 2.40 p.m.