

Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee
28 August 1996

Kilwinning, 28 August 1996 - At a Meeting of the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.30 a.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson, Patrick Browne, James Clements, Gena Seales, Jane Gorman and Irene Oldfather.

In Attendance

W. Simpson, Area Community Services Development Officer; R. Lee, Assistant Principal Officer, Accountancy (Financial Services); A. Weir, Parks and Horticultural Services Manager, (Community and Recreational Services); G. Clark, Operations Manager (Commercial Services); E. Watson, Senior Social Worker, Kilwinning, L Campbell, Senior Social Worker, Dreghorn (Social Work); S. Paxton, Administration Officer and D. McCaw, Assistant Administration Officer (Chief Executive and Corporate Support Services).

Chair

Mr. Clarkson in the Chair.

1. Minutes Confirmed

The minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 19 June 1996, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Publicity for Area Committees

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Publicity Strategy for Area Committees which had been approved by the Corporate Strategy Committee on 30 July 1996.

The Committee agreed to the immediate implementation of the Publicity Strategy as the best framework within which to publicise the activities of the Area Committee to the residents of the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside.

3. Environmental Improvements

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on progress in relation to addressing environmental improvement issues in accordance with the remit from the Corporate Strategy Committee on 21 May 1996.

The Corporate Strategy Committee on 30 July 1996 considered a report on Local Agenda 21 with proposals on how the Council might seek to progress its application in relation to environmental activities. They agreed that a team of Officers draft an environmental policy and prepare a programme of action with costs and report.

The Committee agreed (a) to support, in the meantime, prior to the draft environmental policy etc. being drawn up, local proposals for environmental improvements by identifying assistance available both financial and in kind; and (b) to encourage the submission of grant applications from

community groups to promote environmental improvements and that such applications be viewed favourably.

4. Strathclyde Police: Community Safety Seminar/Attendance at Meetings

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on (a) an invitation from Strathclyde Police to attend a Community Safety Seminar; and (b) representation from Strathclyde Police at meetings of Area Committees.

The one-day Community Safety Seminar will be hosted by Strathclyde Police on 17 September 1996 in the Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow.

A formal request has also been received from Strathclyde Police that they be represented by an Officer at the level of Inspector at Meetings of the five Area Committees. The request has been welcomed by the Chairs of the five Area Committees and it was confirmed that a representative from Strathclyde Police will attend all meetings of the Kilwinning, Dregghorn and Springside Area Committee.

The Chair welcomed Inspector G. Lanaghan to his first meeting of the Committee. Inspector Lanaghan explained his role in the Police Service and expressed his wish to work closely with the Area Committee.

The Committee agreed (a) that the Chair be authorised to attend the Community Safety Seminar in Glasgow on 17 September 1996; and (b) to note that a representative from Strathclyde Police will attend Area Committee Meetings on a regular basis.

5. Community Safety

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the key issues affecting Community Safety and ways of addressing these.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) that a Member/Officer Working Group comprising of the Chair, Councillors Clements and Gorman along with appropriate Officers be established to (i) identify the ways in which the services are addressing this issue locally; and (ii) meet with relevant local community and voluntary groups to discuss local concerns and report back within two cycles of Area Committee Meetings; (b) that local community organisations be invited to submit proposals for local Community Safety Initiatives against the Challenge Budget of £10,000 for 1996/97, currently held by the Corporate Strategy Committee; (c) that priority be given to Community Grant applications which addressed Community Safety Initiatives; and (d) that Community Safety issues be highlighted when meeting with local groups/organisations as part of the Community Consultation process being undertaken by the Committee.

6. Springside Community Centre

Submitted report by the Director of Community and Recreational Services regarding Springside Community Centre.

The Community Association, which had been charged with the management of Springside Community Centre recently became inquorate and consequently the Council assumed responsibility for the management of the Centre in early August 1996.

At an "Open Forum" meeting following the Committee's meeting on 19th June 1996 issues of concern were raised by local people who used the Centre including dog fouling at the Craigview Play area, grass cutting at the Centre, and the removal of spiked railings below overhanging tress which have or are being addressed by the Council. Internal adaptations to the hall have been requested by the Springside Youth and Boxing Club which would have a major impact on the internal layout of the building and it is proposed that further consideration of the Club's proposals

be postponed until the establishment of a Centre User's Group.

The Committee requested that the Director of Community and Recreational Services (a) report at a future meeting on progress made to establish a Centre User's Group and re-constitute a Community Association and Centre Management Group; and (b) continue to manage the Centre until the re-constitution of a Community Association and Centre Management Group.

7. Monitoring Reports

(a) Future Format

Submitted report by the Chief Executive giving details of the proposed format for the future submission of Monitoring Reports to the Committee.

It is the intention to provide a minimum of three Monitoring Reports to each Meeting of the Committee. The "Analysis of Grants" Monitoring Report will be a standard item on the agenda while other reports will be phased in to ensure that each agenda features reports from two other Directorates.

The Committee agreed to approve the format in the terms indicated in the report.

(b) Garden Tidy Scheme

Submitted report by the Director of Commercial Services on the service delivery in relation to the Garden Tidy Summer Scheme.

The Grounds Maintenance Manager provided details including statistical information on the operation of the scheme for this year.

Noted.

(c) Social Work

Submitted report by the Director of Social Work on the delivery of Social Work services within the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside area.

The report outlined the staffing structures in the Directorate's Irvine Area Office and detailed the services provided by the Directorate which included respite care, specialist counselling, child protection and community care services. There is a high demand for all social work services in the Irvine area, especially child protection and community and home care services.

In accordance with the Directorate's Service Development Plan, the delivery of social work services to the people of Irvine will be further decentralised which should enhance service delivery.

Noted.

(d) Analysis of Grants Paid to 9 August 1996

Submitted report by the Chief Executive detailing various categories of grants paid and balances remaining to 9 August 1996.

Noted.

8. Requests for Financial Assistance - Community Grants

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application by (a) Springside Women's Health Group; (b) Springside Boxing and Youth Club; and (c) the Little Smarties Playgroup.

The Committee agreed to award (a) £1,400 to the Springside Women's Health Group to cover the

cost of a tutor and crèche worker's expenses; (b) £1,500 to the Springside Youth and Boxing Club, the release of grant deferred until the issues of accommodation available to the Club are resolved; and (c) £500 to the Little Smarties Playgroup to purchase safety equipment essential for table top toys.

9. Request for Financial Assistance

Submitted two reports by the Chief Executive on applications for financial assistance from the Woodgreen Mortification Trust.

The Committee agreed (a) to approve a payment of £282 to Miss A.; and (b) to refer the application by Miss B. to a Sub-Group consisting of the Chair and members for Kilwinning for further consideration.

10. Kilwinning: Common Good Funds

Submitted report by the Director of Financial Services regarding the Kilwinning Common Good Fund.

The Fund, which has no capital or other assets, has a small revenue balance of £68.99 which earns a small amount of interest each year. The available balance would take many years to earn sufficient interest to generate a meaningful level of disbursement and it is proposed that the Committee consider disbursing the balance currently available which would result in the closure of the Fund.

The Committee agreed (a) to disburse the balance of the fund; and (b) to consider projects for the receipt of the balance at its next meeting.

The Meeting ended at 11.35 a.m.