

Garnock Valley and West Kilbride Area Committee
7 June 2011

IRVINE, 7 June 2011 - At a meeting of the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 9.30 a.m.

Present

Robert Barr, John Bell, Anthea Dickson, Elizabeth McLardy and John Reid.

In Attendance

J. McHarg, Assistant Manager, Community Development Team (Education and Skills); and P. Shiach, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Robert Barr in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Jean Highgate.

1. Declarations of Interest

1.1 Declarations of Interest: Advice to Elected Members

Submitted report by the Chief Executive highlighting the requirements of Standing Orders and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors in relation to declarations of interest.

In a recent investigation report, the Standards Commissioner for Scotland recommended that:-

- all Elected Members be made aware of the provisions of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct, including specifically paragraph 5.15, in relation to declarations of interest;
- that Elected Members receive training on how properly to make declarations of interest, including the need to state the nature of the interest; and
- Committee Chairs and officers with responsibility for the conduct of Council or committee meetings should ensure adherence to the proper mode and content of declarations of interest.

Standing Order 16 provides that if any Member of the Council has a financial or non-financial interest in any contract or any other matter as defined by Section 5 of the Councillors' Code Conduct, and is present at any meeting at which that matter is to be considered, he/she must, as soon as practicable after the meeting starts, disclose that he/she has an interest and importantly, state the nature of this interest. Section 5 of the Code, which was appended to the report, sets out the rules in relation to declarations of interest.

To facilitate such declarations, a heading "Declarations of Interest", routinely appears as the first item on agendas for all meetings of the Council and its Committees. The report provided information on the future arrangements for the Committee Chairs when dealing with the Declarations of Interest item on the agenda, the Commissioner's suggested wording for Members declaring an interest in an agenda item and induction training for Elected Members following next year's local government elections.

Noted.

1.2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16.

2. Community Development Grants Scheme/Local Youth Action Fund - Applications for Grant Aid

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education & Skills) on applications received in respect of the Community Development Grants Scheme and the Local Youth Action Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Community Development Grants Scheme

Organisation	Award
Dalry Action Group	£2,000
Dalry Horticultural Society	£ 415
Kilbirnie Horticultural Society	£ 500

3. Corporate 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 2011/12.

At its meeting on 12 October 2010, the Executive of North Ayrshire Council agreed the disbursement of the Corporate Policy Grants budget for 2011/12, awarding an allocation of £69,533 for disbursement to elderly groups. Of this, the sum of £13,697 has been allocated for disbursement by the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride Area Committee.

Traditionally, grants are paid to elderly groups to fund social events, such as summer outings and Christmas lunches. From 2009/10, it was agreed awards can also be used to support other activities for the benefit of the elderly population in the area, including running costs of centres. The budgets allocated to each Area Committee are distributed (in two instalments) to a number of identified groups in each area. Appendix 1 to the report set out the allocations by Area Committee, and provided a breakdown of how funding might be allocated to groups in the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride area based of previous practice.

The Committee agreed to make the following allocations from the 2011/12 budget:-

Elderly Grants

Organisation

Award

Age Concern (Scotland) Kilbirnie and Glengarnock	£4,146
Age Concern West Kilbride	£3,170
Beith Old People's Welfare Committee	£3,235
Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	£3,146

4. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Area Committee is scheduled for Thursday 11 August 2011 at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 9.40 a.m.