

Garnock Valley and West Kilbride Area Committee
21 April 2011

WEST KILBRIDE, 21 April 2011 - At a Meeting of the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride Area Committee at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Robert Barr, Anthea Dickson, Jean Highgate and Elizabeth McLardy.

In Attendance

D. Wilson, Streetscene Manager (Environment and Related Services) (Finance and Infrastructure); J. McHarg, Assistant Manager, Community Development (Community and Culture) (Education and Skills); and A. Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Also In Attendance

Sergeant Oliphant, Strathclyde Police.

Chair

Councillor Barr in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

John Bell and John Reid.

1. Declarations of Interest

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

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride Area Committee held on 10 March 2011 were signed in accordance with paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on activity within the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride area in the period 1 March to 3 April 2011.

Noted.

4. Strathclyde Police

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police on activity within the Garnock Valley and West Kilbride area for February 2011.

Sergeant Oliphant provided information on the following:-

- the timeframe for the collation of statistical information and the delay in the provision of this information;
- dedicated patrols to address a number of housebreakings in the West Kilbride area;
- 23 action plans in operation for the North Coast area and the preparation of a further 4 plans to target resources in areas identified by the community in conjunction with the Police;
- incidents of anti-social behaviour in Scholars Wynd, Beith, additional patrols in this area and partnership working with the Council to provide diversionary activities for young people;
- plain clothed patrols to combat an increase in the theft of metal from both unoccupied and occupied buildings;
- the sharing of intelligence that enables known hotspots to be included in the Police helicopter's flightplan;
- changes within the Traffic Department that has resulted in road policing being linked to local Community Police Teams;
- sneak-in thefts from homes where the residents have been working in their gardens and have left their homes unlocked; and
- the use of the media to publicise the theft of a violin from a young promising musician and the subsequent return of the instrument.

Members asked questions, and received further information, on the following:-

- the preparation of an action plan to combat fire raising along the cycle track in Beith;
- the reduction of speeding in Barrmill as a result of speed reduction measures;
- the reporting of individuals purchasing alcohol for young people;
- the decriminalisation of parking enforcement; and
- the reporting of an incident at the Strand in Beith and the confidential nature of CrimeStoppers.

Noted.

5. Flytipping

The Streetscene Manager provided information on the restructuring of Environment and Related Services that took place in 2010. The restructure resulted in the formation of Streetscene operations for the provision of direct operational services and Streetscene non-operations for the strategic development and associated administration and management of assets within the public realm.

The Streetscene Manager highlighted the following:-

- the inspection of flytipping material in order to identify ownership and the involvement of the Police where ownership is established;
- statistical information that illustrates an increase in flytipping;

- a national website for recording of flytipping;
- anti dog fouling campaigns in conjunction with the Police and the issue of fixed penalty notices;
- the increased landfill tax charges and the associated increase in commercial flytipping;
- the installation of kissing gates and chicanes to prevent flytipping;
- tree felling; and
- the presentation of the Local Environmental Audit and Management System (LEAMS) to Headteachers and plans to introduce this into schools via the eco schools project.

Members discussed the following issues:-

- the provision of litter bins at the entrances to Beith cycle track;
- publicity for the anti dog fouling campaigns, including the issue of any fixed penalty fines;
- the financial and aesthetic costs to the community as a result of flytipping;
- the excellent facilities at Kilbrinie Household Waste Recycling Centre; and
- the introduction of charges for special uplifts.

The Streetscene Manager undertook to provide Members with a range of statistical information in relation to flytipping and to report regularly on incidents in the Committee's area.

Noted.

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

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund awards paid to date in 2010/11 and on applications received.

The Committee agreed to make the following award from the Community Development Grant Scheme:-

Organisation	Award
West Kilbride Public Hall	£2,032

7. Margaret Archibald Bequest

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the financial position of the Margaret Bequest and applications for financial assistance received in respect of the Bequest.

The report provided information on the capital and revenue balances as at 31 March 2011, the amounts from these balances available for disbursement, and the recommendation that expenditure should not exceed the anticipated income of £7,500 in financial year 2011/12.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
Rosearden OAP Club	£850
St Margaret's Guild	£548
Dalry Leisure Club	£700
St Palladius Guild	£500

8. Request for Change of Street Name at William Tricker Crescent, Beith

Submitted report by the Solicitor to the Council seeking approval for public consultation to be undertaken in relation to a proposed change of street name.

Representation has been made on behalf of the residents of William Tricker Crescent, that the street be renamed "Lochlands Grove". The development was originally marketed as "Lochlands Grove", however in line with Section 97 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the former General Purposes Committee of 5 April 1991, approved the name "William Tricker Crescent" and this was formally entered in to the Royal Mail's Postal Address File as the official postal address. Since that time there has been reputed opposition to the name "William Tricker Crescent" with some residents continuing to use "Lochlands Grove" in their postal address.

There are concerns that the use of the two names could give rise to some confusion and that the emergency services could be hampered when requested to attend situations in that locality. The name "Lochlands Grove" is used by most if not all of the residents of the street and is widely used within Beith. The Solicitor to the Council intends to advertise in the local newspaper the proposed change of name from "William Tricker Crescent" to "Lochlands Grove" and report back on any representations received.

The Committee agreed that the Solicitor to the Council advertise the proposed change of name from "William Tricker Crescent" to "Lochlands Grove" and report the outcome of the consultation exercise to a future meeting of the Committee.

9. Future Agenda Items

The Committee agreed that any items for consideration at the next meeting of the Area Committee should be submitted to P. Shiach, Committee Services Officer.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Area Committee will be held on 2 June 2011 in Bridgend Centre, Kilbirnie.

The meeting ended at 3.45 p.m.