

Ardrossan and Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston Area Committee
29 September 2011

STEVENSTON, 29 September 2011 - At a Meeting of the Ardrossan and Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston Area Committee at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Anthony Gurney, Margie Currie, William Gibson, John Hunter, Ronnie McNicol, Jim Montgomerie and Alan Munro.

In Attendance

J. McKnight, Manager Community Development and B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer (Education and Skills); J. Cumming, Project Officer (Economic Development), and P. Shiach, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service)

Also In Attendance

C. Tymon, Station Commander (Strathclyde Fire and Rescue); and Inspector B. Skimming, (Strathclyde Police).

Chair

Councillor Gurney in the Chair.

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 Committee held on 18 August 2011 were signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Strathclyde Police

Inspector Skimming provided information on the following:-

- statistics comparing performance for 2011/12 with 2010/11, which indicated a 20% reduction in crimes of violence reported, and a detection rate for crimes of violence at 87%, which was above the Force's target of 69%, and
- statistics on persons reported for the supply of drugs, which indicated that a total of 168 persons reported Ayrshire, of whom 74 were in North Ayrshire.

Inspector Skimming referred to the introduction of problem profile area Action Plans in relation to:-

- break-ins in huts and garages in Saltcoats, the Ardeer, Foreshore and Hayocks area of Stevenston, and Montgomerie Street, Glasgow Street and Princes Street in Ardrossan;
- special arrangements to cover anticipated disorder during the Highland Games weekend on Arran,
- targeting disorder in town centres and licensed premises;
- youth disorder in North in North Saltcoats;
- continuing problems in all three towns relating to scrap metal thefts, and
- a reduction in anti-social behaviour and street drinking incidents since the end of the school holidays.

Members referred to:-

- problems relating to underage drinking;
- incidents at Saltcoats Ice Rink;
- problems in relation to quad bikes, and
- the effect of social network sites,

and were advised of the legal position as it relates to these types of incident, and the measures taken to address the position.

Noted.

4. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on activity from 8 August 2011 to 25 September 2011.

Station Commander Tymon provided information on various activities undertaken by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue since the last meeting.

He further advised the following:-

- Home Fire Safety Visits were continuing, with 10 year smoke alarms fitted if required, and that 68 visits were completed during the reporting period;
- Firereach and Work Experience courses were continuing and had proven successful, and

- Community initiatives included Ardrossan Community Fire Station raising awareness through an initiative relating to car parking in Sydney Street, Saltcoats to address the issue of access to the street, and the residential care home within, an appliance from Kilwinning to attend a health and wellbeing day in Stevenston in October to promote fire safety, meetings in terms of partnership working with Sainsburys who have expressed an interest in being involved in community initiatives with a major partner, and ongoing workstreams with a variety of partner agencies to maintain and improve safety for those within the local community.

Members referred to incidents at Seafield School, Ardrossan, and an access issue relating to Sydney Street in Saltcoats.

The Committee noted the information and agreed that the Roads Network Manager be invited to attend the next meeting of the Area Committee in relation to access issues at Sydney Street, Saltcoats .

5. Community Benefit Fund: Applications for Grant Aid

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on applications for grant received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
Three Towns Duke of Edinburgh Award Group	£2,500
St. Anthony's PS Parent Council and Parent Forum	£550
Arran Youth Foundation	£2,000

6. Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund 2011/12: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on applications for financial assistance under the Council's Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund.

The Chair voiced concerns about the allocation of grant funding to support ongoing revenue costs of applicants.

The Committee agreed to (a) make the following award:-

Community Development Grant Awards

Organisation	Award
The Thursday Club	£500

and (b) continue consideration of the applications submitted by The Ayrshire Community Trust for further information.

7. Stevenston Common Good Fund

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on applications for financial assistance from the Stevenston Common Good Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
The International Historical Cultural and Geographical Agency	£1012
CLASP	£3000

8. Date and Venue of Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Area Committee will be held on Thursday 10 November 2011 at 2.00 p.m. in the Ardeer Neighbourhood Centre.

In relation to a proposed future meeting on Arran, the Committee agreed that a special meeting be arranged for Spring 2012.

9. Future Agenda Items

The Committee agreed (a) that the Clerk report to the next meeting on arrangements for rotating the Chairmanship or otherwise; and (b) that any additional items for consideration at the next meeting of the Area Committee should be submitted to M. Anderson or D. McCaw.

The Meeting ended at 3.05 p.m.