

Education Appeal Committee
2 June 2016

IRVINE, 2 June 2016 - At a Meeting of the Education Appeal Committee at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson (North Ayrshire Council); and T. Grayston and G. Killin (lay members).

In Attendance

L. Taylor, Senior Manager (Resources and Infrastructure), M. Thomas, Head Teacher (Mayfield Primary School) and C. Reid, Project Officer (Education and Youth Employment); and N. Shearer, Team Manager (Contracts and Licensing).

Also In Attendance

Appellant.

Chair

Councillor Clarkson in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 May 2016 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Appointment of Chairperson

Councillor Clarkson was appointed to chair this meeting of the Education Appeal Committee.

4. Conduct of the Meeting

The Clerk briefed the Committee on the conduct of the meeting.

5. Exclusion of the Public and Press

The Committee resolved, in terms of Section 50(A)4 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting the press and the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

6. Appeals Against the Education Authority's Decision to Refuse a Placement within Mayfield Primary School, Saltcoats

6.1 Appellant 4 in respect of Child 4

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an appeal against the Education Authority's decision to refuse a placement within Mayfield Primary School.

The appellant, having been invited to attend, was present. Senior Manager (Resources and Infrastructure), the Head Teacher (Mayfield Primary School) and Project Officer (Education and Youth Employment) were also in attendance.

The Chair introduced those present and explained their role in the proceedings. He then outlined the procedures to be followed by the Committee and advised on how the decision of the Committee would be intimated to the appellant and the Education Authority, before inviting the Education and Youth Employment representatives to make their case. The appellant and Committee Members were afforded the opportunity to question the Education and Youth Employment representatives.

The appellant was then invited to present her case. The Education and Youth Employment representatives and the Committee Members had the opportunity to question the appellant.

The Education and Youth Employment representatives and the appellant summed up their cases, before withdrawing to allow the Committee to deliberate.

Decision

The Committee unanimously agreed to refuse the appeal on the grounds that, if granted, it would make it necessary for the Education Authority to take additional teaching staff into employment at the preferred school, Mayfield Primary School, and it would give rise to significant expenditure on extending or otherwise altering the accommodation or facilities provided in connection with Mayfield Primary School.

The Meeting ended at 3.00 p.m.