Kilwinning Area Committee 26 March 2015

Kilwinning, 26 March 2015 - At a Meeting of the Kilwinning Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

John Ferguson, Donald Reid, Joe Cullinane and Robert Steel.

In Attendance

A. Sutton, Head of Connected Communities, C. Sharp, Country Parks Manager; J. McHarg, Community Engagement Manager and B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer (Economy and Communities); J. Smith, Senior Manager (Roads and Transportation) (Place); A. Little, Committee Services Officer and H. Clancy, Committee Services Support Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Also In Attendance

Inspector Conway (Police Scotland).

Chair

Councillor Ferguson in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16 and Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 February 2015 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Community Planning

3.1 Police Scotland

Inspector Conway circulated a report on crimes reported and detections in the Committee's area for the period 1 January to 28 February 2015 and gave updates in relation to:-

- a range of crime prevention initiatives that have taken place, including leaflet drops, and work by the Multi Agency Problem Solving Group in the Kilwinning area; and
- work with partners, including the Community Wardens, to deter anti social behaviour.

Noted.

3.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Submitted report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on activity within the Kilwinning area during the period 2 February 2015 to 12 March 2015.

Discussion took place on dumping of rubbish at Longford Avenue, Kilwinning and joint working that is required between Scottish Fire and Rescue and Streetscene to clear the rubbish and remove the fire risk.

The Committee agreed that (a) the Clerk write to Scottish Fire and Rescue and advise of the fire risk at Longford Avenue, Kilwinning; and (b) the Executive Director (Place) arrange, in partnership with Scottish Fire and Rescue, for the rubbish at Longford Avenue, Kilwinning to be removed.

4. Maintenance of Cycle Paths

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on (a) the arrangements for the maintenance of the cycle path network around Kilwinning; (b) an exercise that is underway to identify and record assets; and (c) the introduction of a new inspection regime for the cycle paths across the network.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to:-

- condition surveys that are being undertaken of cyclepaths in North Ayrshire;
- work by the Rangers Service to maintain the cyclepaths in Eglinton Country Park;
 and
- the centralisation of cyclepath maintenance funding.

Noted.

5. Eglinton Country Park

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on (a) the preparation of a Master Plan to guide the next 5 years of development at the Park; (b) the restructure of the Country Parks Section; (c) statistical information on visitor numbers to the Park; (d) events and activities that took place in 2014/15; (e) work with schools on a range of topics; (f) the development of the Council's Local Biodiversity Action Plan; (g) positive progress with the factory development; (h) works to improve the infrastructure and security within the Park; and (i) work with trainees, volunteers and Project Groups.

Members asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to:-

- the large number of cyclists entering the Country Park from the national cycle routes;
- poor drainage and soil tests at potential sites within the Park that has resulted in The Ayrshire Community Trust Sampler Garden being located in a field near the entrance of the Park; and

• funding issues that resulted in the cancellation of the management of the formal garden landscaping by the Enable Project.

Noted.

6. Community Development Grants Scheme: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on applications for financial assistance received in respect of the Community Development Grants Scheme.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Ayrshire Communities Education and Sport £1,500.00

The Ancient Society of Kilwinning Archers £1,355.80

7. North Ayrshire Council (Kilwinning) Charitable Trust

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application received in respect of the North Ayrshire Council (Kilwinning) Charitable Trust.

The Committee agreed to (a) award Kilwinning Weight-lifting Club £1,500; and (b) to advise the Club that this award will not set a precedent for future similar applications.

8. Future Agenda Items

The Committee agreed to invite Ayrshire College to a future meeting to provide information on the future strategy for North Ayrshire, the business case for the College and new classes planned for the new term.

9. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Kilwinning Area Committee will be held on 11 June 2015 in Kilwinning Library, Kilwinning.

The meeting ended at 3.40 p.m.