

Three Towns Area Committee
28 February 2007

STEVENSTON, 28 February 2007 - At a Meeting of the Three Towns Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 am.

Present

David Munn, Margaret Munn, Alan Munro, Sam Taylor and Nan Wallace.

Also Present

A Milson, Learning Manager and B Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer, Community Learning and Development (Educational Services); T Paterson, Assistant Transportation Manager (Roads); and M Anderson and E Fisher, Corporate Support Officers (Chief Executive's).

In Attendance

Inspector I Ness (Strathclyde Police); and L Brady, Community Safety Co-ordinator (Strathclyde Fire and Rescue).

Chair

Councillor D Munn in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Gordon Allison and Peter McNamara.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 17 January 2007, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Support to Organisations

A presentation was given by Robert McGuire of the International, Historical, Cultural and Geographical Agency on its work within the Three Towns Area.

The Committee was advised that the group was involved in a range of historical, cultural and environmental projects which includes:-

- working with different nationalities and their cultures, including staging shows;
- visiting older people's complexes and church guilds to show archive film footage of the area and films of the different cultures within the area;
- working with schools on environmental projects, including the trail at Kerelaw Castle and Scotland in Bloom projects;
- staging, as part of the Burns and a'that Festival, a Cultural Evening and a Scottish Night.

Noted.

3. Strathclyde Police

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police detailing the number and types of crime in the Committee's area to 28 February 2007.

There has been an overall decrease in crimes of violence over the period, as well as a decrease in domestic housebreakings. However, non-domestic housebreakings have increased and the Community Safety department have been visiting these locations to offer security advice. Vandalism figures continue to be at an unacceptable level, but excellent work by the Community Officers in conjunction with the Campus Officers is continuing to produce an increase in detections. Operations relating to the 'Drug Dealers Don't Care' campaign have been successful with a number of individuals charged.

Following a successful pilot in the 3 Towns Area, the bottle marking scheme to tackle sales of alcohol to underage consumers has now been rolled out across Ayrshire. An 8 week campaign, which has the partner backing of the 3 Ayrshire Councils and Licensing Boards, ADAT, Community Wardens, Trading Standards and local Licensing Officers, will allow the police to trace bottles to retailers.

There was discussion on the following issues:-

- the success of Campus Officers in schools and the desirability of extending this provision to all schools, including Seafield School; and
- drug dealing at Stevenston Cross and begging within Saltcoats Town Centre.

Noted.

4. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue detailing response figures and activities in the Committee's area between 8 January and 19 February 2007. There were 88 incidents in the Three Towns area for that period and the report gave details of these.

There were 17 incidents which resulted in a fire report during the period. Despite widespread local media coverage and awareness raising, 5 of these fires involved the careless use of cooking equipment and materials. There was also an increase in secondary fires and Strathclyde Fire and Rescue are working in partnership with Strathclyde Police, Environmental Services and the Community Wardens to address this trend.

The Community Safety Co-ordinator reported on community intervention activities, including an Emergency Services Day planned for 15 June 2007 at Ardrossan Academy.

There was discussion on the issue of road safety and the value of the live presentation 'Reckless Driving Wrecks Lives' shown by South Ayrshire Community Safety Partnership in Ayr. Concern was expressed that not all North Ayrshire schools have taken the opportunity of attending this event.

The Committee agreed that the Clerk write to those schools who have not been represented at the presentation 'Reckless Driving Wrecks Lives' to establish why they have not yet taken up this opportunity.

5. Traffic Regulation Order: Caledonia Road, Ardrossan: One Way Operation

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on Traffic Regulation Order: Caledonia Road, Ardrossan: One Way Operation.

Clydeport PLC have been granted outline planning consent for a Masterplan proposal to redevelop the Ardrossan harbourside area and former Shell site. This plan proposes to develop new residential, retail, industrial and leisure developments over a period of several years.

Caledonia Road is 2-way a residential road located between A738 Eglinton Road and North Crescent Road, Ardrossan. In the interests of road safety and management of the predicted increase in both vehicular and pedestrian traffic by development in the area, the junction of Dalry Road, Eglinton Road, Caledonia Road is to have traffic signals installed as part of the Clydeport planning consent. In addition, it is proposed to introduce one-way operations, namely northbound from Young Street to Eglinton Street (A738) and southbound from Young Street to North Crescent Road, as indicated in the appendix to the report.

The Committee (a) noted that the investigation, preparation and statutory process is underway for a Traffic Regulation Order identified in the report; and (b) agreed to implement the Order should no objections be received.

6. Community Development Grants Scheme: Applications for Financial Assistance

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

The Community Development Grants Scheme has a balance of £5,412.53 and the Local Action Fund has a balance of £5,942, (the latter including a refund of £2,000 in terms of unspent grant funding awarded to Auchendarvie Hillwalking Club in June 2006.

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

Community Development Grants Scheme

Organisation	Award
Saltcoats Young Mums	£1,500
Add it Up	£1,500
F.R.I.E.N.D.S.	£ 210
1138 Ardrossan Squadron ATC	£1,430
1st Ardrossan Girls Brigade	£ 700

Local Action Fund

Organisation	Award
Saltcoats Youth Action	£1,500
Ardrossan Youth Association	£1,185.45
Tate Hall Youth Group	£2,000*

*To be held in trust by Ardrossan Youth Association

and (b) remitted to the Clerk in consultation with the Chair (i) to award the sum of £1,000, to HCTP the Pilgrimage Trust Group 207 subject to satisfactory assessment of the group's application; and (ii) to disburse the remaining Local Action Fund funding for 2006/07, subject to satisfactory assessment.

7. Ardrossan Common Good Fund: Request for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application from Ardrossan Christmas Decorations Committee for financial assistance from Ardrossan Common Good Fund.

The balance of funding available for disbursement from Ardrossan Common Good Fund is £1,060.

The Committee agreed to award a grant of £1,000 to Ardrossan Christmas Decorations Committee.

The Meeting ended at 11.20 am.