

Ardrossan and Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston Area Committee
12 November 2015

IRVINE, 12 November 2015 - At a Meeting of the Ardrossan and Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

John Hunter, Ronnie McNicol and Peter McNamara.

In Attendance

J. Butcher, Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment); D. Mackay, Waste Services Manager and C. Dempster, Assistant Network Manager (Place); B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Officer and J. Cumming, Project Officer (Economy and Communities); P. Barrett, Finance Officer (Treasury and Cash) (Finance and Corporate Support); and H. Clancy, Committee Services Support Officer and D. McCaw, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Also In Attendance

M. Francis and A. Smillie, Irvine Bay Regeneration Company; Sergeant D. Dougan (Police Scotland); and Station Managers L. Elliot and G. Fleming (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Chair

Councillor Hunter in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

John Bruce, Willie Gibson, Tony Gurney, Jim Montgomerie and Alan Munro.

1. Appointment of Chair

The Committee agreed that Councillor Hunter assume the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

In terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Councillor McNamara, as a volunteer with the Group, declared an indirect financial interest in Agenda Item 12.2 (North Ayrshire Council (Ardrossan) Charitable Trust: Application for Financial Assistance) in relation to the grant application by Ardrossan Music Experience.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of (i) the special meeting held on 11 August 2015 and (ii) the ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 17 September 2015 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, subject to the amendment in item 3 of the Minute of the meeting held on 17 September, that the parking issues relate to Dockhead Street and Hamilton Street, Saltcoats, rather than Windmill Street and Hamilton Street.

3. Presentation: National Attainment Challenge: North Ayrshire Strategy

The Committee received a presentation by the Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) on the National Attainment Challenge and on providing transformational change within North Ayrshire schools through the introduction of a professional learning academy rationale.

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

- reconstructing and redesigning the education workforce to enable the delivery of long term support for children and families;
- providing a breakdown on deprivation levels for the Three Towns area; and
- potential funding which will be available from the Scottish Government.

The Executive Director undertook to present information to the Area Committee at a future date on deprivation levels in relation to the Three Towns area.

Noted.

4. Presentation: Irvine Bay Regeneration Company

The Committee received a presentation by the Project Manager, Irvine Bay Regeneration Company on proposed works at Countess Street, Saltcoats.

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

- measures to mitigate any impact on weddings taking place at the Saltcoats Town Hall;
- the absence of parking bay provision within the design;
- the availability of over 800 car parking spaces within a 5 minute walk from Countess Street;
- the number of disabled parking spaces available in Bradshaw Street;
- the type of trees to be provided within the development; and
- the potential impact on retailers within the area.

Noted.

5. Community Planning Partnership Partner

5.1 Community Planning Partnership Partners: North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of Meeting held on 10 September 2015

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership Board held on 10 September 2015.

Noted.

5.2 Police Scotland

Sergeant Dougan reported on recent crime and offences, community policing actions and initiatives from June to September, directed patrol plans and the festive policing plan.

Noted.

5.3 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Submitted report on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity within the Committee's area during the period 1 September to 25 October 2015.

Members asked a question and were provided with information in relation to arrangements in place to address obstructed access for fire vehicles to the Sidney Street/Eglington Street area of Saltcoats from parked cars. Station Manager Elliot advised that he would speak to colleagues to ascertain any areas of concern regarding obstruction to fire vehicles in the Sidney Street area.

Noted.

6. Arran Economic Group

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on progress with the formation a new Partnership for taking forward economic development on Arran and on the appointment of an Arran Development Director.

Members intimated that Ardrossan Harbour was an area which could benefit from Government funding for redevelopment and the Project Officer undertook to pass on the views of the Committee.

The Committee noted the work of the Arran Economic Group including the appointment of an Arran Development Director.

7. Sustainable Waste Management - Arran

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the progress being made in developing a suite of sustainable waste management options for Arran.

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

- difficulties in calculating the breakdown between household and commercial waste;
- costs associated with the installation of a weigh bridge facility at the Brodick transfer station; and
- the locations of the 10 recycling points on Arran.

The Committee noted the progress being made in developing a suite of sustainable waste management options for Arran.

8. Winter Service and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the Roads Winter Service and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015, in support of the Council's statutory duties under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.

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

- difficulties involved with providing generators to the island of Arran;
- brine spraying being carried out in the Irvine and Kilwinning Town Centre public realms;
- arrangements in place for other Town Centre footpath areas to be treated; and
- exploring the potential to utilise the Community Payback Team to supplement resources.

The Committee noted (a) the Roads Winter Services and Weather Emergencies Plan 2015; and (b) the continued development and improvement in the winter service.

9. Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on applications received in respect of the Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund.

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

Community Development Grant Scheme

Organisation	Award
Saving St. Bride's Chapel Arran	£2,000
Mayfield Out of School Care	£ 850
Church of the Nazarene	
- North Ayrshire Food Bank	£ 902
Ardeer Parish Church	£2,000
Stevenston Christmas Lights	£1,305
Saltcoats Community Action Group	£1,340

Local Youth Action Fund

Organisation	Award
Evolution Skatepark	£ 500

and (b) in relation to the application for Community Development Grant Scheme funding from St. Anthony's Primary School Parent Council, (i) not to make an award in relation to the bus hire for the theatre trip; and (ii) to defer consideration of the second part of the grant request in relation to musical instruments to the next meeting to allow additional information to be requested.

10. Community Benefit Fund Applications for Grant Aid

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the applications received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund.

The Committee agreed to make an award of £4,000 to Ardrossan Christmas Decorations Committee.

11. Stevenston Common Good Fund: Application for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application received in respect of the Stevenston Common Good Fund for 2015/16.

The Committee agreed to make an award of £4,000 to RSBP Scotland.

12. Charitable Trusts

12.1 North Ayrshire Council (Ardrossan) Charitable Trust

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the implications of both the dissolution of the North Ayrshire Council (Ardrossan) Charitable Trust and of not utilising the remaining funds.

Noted.

12.2 North Ayrshire Council (Ardrossan) Charitable Trust: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on applications received in respect of the North Ayrshire Council (Ardrossan Charitable Trust).

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this item to the next meeting as consideration of one of the applications was inquorate due to Councillor McNamara's declaration of interest.

12.3 North Ayrshire Council (Saltcoats) Charitable Trust: Applications for Financial Assistance

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

The Committee agreed to award (a) £1,500 to 3TFM Community Radio for Health; and (b) the remaining capital balance of the Trust Fund currently in the amount of £6,654 to Saltcoats Community Action Group, both payments being subject to confirmation from OSCR that it is satisfied regarding the depletion of the Trust balance.

13. Urgent Items

The Chair agreed that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency.

13.1 The International, Historical, Cultural and Geographical Agency

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the application from the International, Historical, Cultural and Geographical Agency to the next meeting to allow further information to be requested.

The meeting ended at 3.50 p.m.