

Three Towns Area Committee  
16 August 2006

**SALTCOATS, 16 August 2006** - At a Meeting of the Three Towns Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 am.

**Present**

David Munn, Gordon Allison, Peter McNamara, Margaret Munn, Alan Munro, Samuel Taylor and Nan Wallace.

**In Attendance**

A Milson, Learning Manager, Quality Development and B Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer (Educational Services); M Anderson and E Fisher, Corporate and Democratic Support Officers (Chief Executive's).

**Also In Attendance**

Inspector I Ness and Sergeant S Leary (Strathclyde Police) and Station Manager D Davidson (Strathclyde Fire and Rescue).

**Chair**

Councillor D Munn in the Chair.

**1. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 31 May 2006, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

**2. Strathclyde Police**

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police detailing the number and types of incidents of crime in the Committee's area from 19 June to 30 July 2006.

Inspector Ness reported an increase in the number of assaults over the 6 week period, but indicated that the detection rate for these crimes is high and searches for offensive weapons remain central to Police Action Plans. Action Plans continue to be developed specifically to target anti-social behaviour hotspots that have been identified as causing the greatest concern in the community.

There has been a reduction in vandalism, with work in this area continuing as part of the anti-disorder strategy. The School Watch Programme has helped to reduce incidences of vandalism to schools, as has the addition of more security shutters and ongoing education to pupils.

Members referred to an incident in Hamilton Street, Saltcoats and the lack of an immediate police response. Inspector Ness reported that there had been a shortage of manpower that night owing to increased security at both Prestwick and Glasgow Airports, but advised there was CCTV evidence of the incident, which had led to 7 detections to date.

There was also discussion on the need for additional CCTV cameras and improved street lighting in Hamilton Street and Green Street, Saltcoats.

The Committee agreed that the Clerk write to (a) Strathclyde Police Board regarding the shortage of manpower in the Committee area; and (b) I T Mackay, Clerk to North Ayrshire CCTV, regarding the possibility of an additional CCTV camera and better lighting in the Hamilton Street/Green Street area of Saltcoats.

### **3. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue**

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue detailing response figures and activities in the Committee's area between 24 June and 2 August 2006. There were 183 emergency calls in the Three Towns and West Kilbride area for that period and the report gave details of these.

Station Officer Davidson reported that, to date, a total of 488 home fire safety visits have been completed, with 576 smoke detectors fitted and many chip pans replaced with deep fat fryers. He expressed disappointment at the lack of response to the offer of home fire safety visits within the Committee's area and asked if a Member of the Committee would be willing to be filmed in their home to help raise the awareness of home safety.

Fire crews from the Kilwinning and Ardrossan Stations have attended numerous gala days and fetes throughout the summer months. Whilst in attendance, the crews have taken the opportunity to talk to visitors, participants and organisers and educate them in matters of home safety.

Kilwinning Station has had visitations from various groups throughout the period including pupils from Auchenhavie Academy who attended the summer school organised by youth workers and the Community Police Officer.

It was reported that the "Grim Reaper" radio advertising campaign has been well received. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue is looking at other means of advertising, with the possibility of an advert being placed on the back of buses or on the side of taxis.

The Committee (a) noted the report; and (b) agreed that Councillor Wallace discuss with Station Manager Davidson the possibility of participating in the proposal to help raise awareness of home safety.

#### **4. Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Action Fund: 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 £12,001.50 and the Local Action Fund has a balance of £9,125.00.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

##### **Community Development Grants Scheme**

| <b>Organisation</b>                     | <b>Award</b> |
|---|--------------|
| Writer's Cramp                          | £532.00      |
| Hayocks Tenants & Residents Association | £300.00      |
| New Cunninghame Arts Club               | £1,162.00    |
| Ardrossan Winton Rovers Football Club   | £300.00      |
| Ardrossan Wednesday Pensioners Club     | £300.00      |

##### **Local Action Fund**

| <b>Organisation</b>         | <b>Award</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Stevenston Boys Brigade | £500.00      |
| St John's Youth Group       | £700.00      |

#### **5. Stevenston Common Good Fund: Applications for Financial Assistance**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on applications from The Cronies Social Club of Stevenston and District, 1st Stevenston Boys' Brigade and Stevenston Age Concern for financial assistance from Stevenston Common Good Fund.

The balance of funding available for disbursement from Stevenston Common Good Fund is £16,106.54.

The Committee (a) agreed to grant the following awards from Stevenston Common Good Fund:-

| <b>Organisation</b>                         | <b>Award</b>                                    |
|---|---|
| The Cronies Club of Stevenston and District | £1,500  |
| Stevenston Age Concern                      | £7,000 in instalments as the project progresses |

and (b) noted that the application from 1st Stevenston Boys Brigade had been withdrawn.

The Meeting ended at 11.10 am.