

Three Towns Area Committee  
15 November 2006

**ARDROSSAN, 15 November 2006** - At a Meeting of the Three Towns Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 am.

**Present**

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

**In Attendance**

A Milson, Learning Manager, Community Learning and Development (Educational Services); and M Anderson and E Fisher, Corporate Support Officers (Chief Executive's).

**Also In Attendance**

Inspector I Ness and Sergeant S Leary (Strathclyde Police); Station Manager L Elliot (Strathclyde Fire and Rescue); and J Watson, Manager (North Ayrshire CCTV Limited).

**Chair**

Councillor D Munn in the Chair.

**Apologies for Absence**

Gordon Allison.

**1. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 27 September 2006, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

**2. North Ayrshire CCTV Limited**

A presentation was given by John Watson, Manager, North Ayrshire CCTV Limited.

There are 31 cameras throughout North Ayrshire, 14 of which are located in the Three Towns area. Images from the camera are monitored from the CCTV control room based at Saltcoats Police Station and the system is currently being updated to provide better quality digital recording. In addition, a new mobile CCTV unit was recently introduced and appears to be showing early success as a deterrent to disorderly behaviour.

There has been a request for an additional camera in Dockhead Street, Saltcoats. However, issues regarding funding and other considerations will require to be addressed.

In the course of Mr Watson's presentation, the Committee was shown examples of an ongoing issue with some of the CCTV cameras which, because they are situated behind street lighting, do not give a good image, especially at night. Meanwhile, in other areas, there is a need for better street lighting to aid identification. The Committee discussed the importance of improved liaison between the Roads Service and the CCTV company, particularly in the context of the Council's street lighting replacement programme.

The Committee agreed that the Clerk contact the Roads Service to request that they liaise with North Ayrshire CCTV Limited with regard to the provision of street lighting and its positioning in relation to CCTV cameras.

### **3. Strathclyde Police**

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police detailing the number and types of crime in the Committee's area to 15 November 2006.

There has been a recent increase in incidents of vandalism. However, measures are now in place to improve the speed of the local response to disorderly behaviour and it is hoped that this will have a positive impact in deterring associated acts of vandalism.

The Committee was advised of a joint initiative to highlight the dangers of drink driving, involving Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue, the Ambulance Service and the Council entitled "Party's over - where now?"

Inspector Ness referred to concerns about recent pressures on local police resources and advised that the Divisional Commander has now moved 9 personnel from South and East Ayrshire to North Ayrshire on a permanent basis. He also made reference to the positive work being done by Community Police Officers and by the 3 Campus Officers. There was discussion about the value of having a Campus Officer based at the new St Matthew's Secondary School. This will be considered subject to the availability of suitable funding.

Noted.

### **4. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue**

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue detailing response figures and activities in the Committee's area between 21 September and 6 November 2006. There were 191 incidents in the Three Towns area for that period and the report gave details of these.

Station Manager Elliot reported that fire crews have visited various schools over the last few weeks to give safety talks about bonfires and fireworks. Whilst there were no serious incidents over this period, there was an increased number of call-outs to rubbish-fires, possibly linked to the absence of any organised Guy Fawkes night event in the Three Towns.

There was discussion on dangers associated with derelict buildings in the area, particularly the building at Jack's Place, Saltcoats.

The Committee agreed that the Clerk attempt to establish who owns the building at Jack's Place, Saltcoats so that appropriate action can be taken to improve its safety.

## **5. George Aitken Court, Ardrossan: 20th Anniversary**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a donation of £200 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the opening of the sheltered housing unit at George Aitken Court, Ardrossan.

Following consultation with the Chair and the local Member, a donation of £200 was provided from the Provost's budget to help meet the cost of an event marking the unit's 20th anniversary. The Warden will advise the Council on how the money has been spent.

Noted.

## **6. 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 £8,278.28 and the Local Action Fund has a balance of £7,925.00.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

### **Community Development Grants Scheme**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Award</b>
4th Saltcoats Girls Brigade	£967.54

## **Local Action Fund**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Award</b>
Ardrossan Sea Cadets	£2,000
Kilwinning Community Sports Club	£1,000

The meeting ended at 11.20 am.