

Irvine Area Committee
4 June 2015

IRVINE, 4 June 2015 - At a Meeting of the Irvine Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 1.30 p.m.

Present

Joan Sturgeon, Matthew Brown, Marie Burns, Ian Clarkson, John Easdale, Ruth Maguire and David O'Neill.

In Attendance

S. Quinn, Head of Service (Schools) and E. McCall, Head Teacher, Lawthorn Primary School and Early Years Class (Education and Youth Employment); C. Forsyth, Team Manager Transportation and M. Gorman, Streetscene Officer (Place); B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer (Community Development Team) (Economy and Communities); D. Griffith, Community Planning Partnership Analyst and D. McCaw, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Also In Attendance

Inspector J. McMillan (Police Scotland); and Station Manager Lawson Elliot (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Chair

Provost Sturgeon in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Irene Oldfather.

1. Declarations of Interest

In terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Councillor Easdale, due to his membership of the Group, declared an indirect pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 8 (Community Development Grants Scheme and Local Youth Action Fund: Applications for Financial Assistance) in relation to the grant application by Irvine and District Pipe Band.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 March 2015 was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3.1 North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of Meeting held on 19 March 2015

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership Board held on 19 March 2015.

Noted.

3.2 Police Scotland

Inspector McMillan provided information on crimes reported and detected in the Committee's from 1 March to 30 April 2015 and gave updates in relation to:-

- Ward 1 and 2 crime statistics and priorities;
- directed patrol plans which will focus on violence, vandalism, anti-social behaviour and road crime;
- future events, including an Orange Walk, a Royal Black Perceptory Walk and Marymass; and
- that local community multi member ward plans are now available on the internet.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

- the specific areas within Irvine West where housebreakings are taking place; and
- traffic management proposals and monitoring arrangements in the Montgomerie Park area of Irvine.

Noted.

3.3 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Submitted report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on activity within the Committee's area in the period 3 March to 19 May 2015.

Information, on an individual ward basis, was provided on the following:-

- accidental dwelling fires being mainly attributed to cooking distraction;
- accidental and deliberate vehicle fires;
- a number of rubbish and grass fires during the month of April;
- Prevention First meetings taking place in the Irvine Police Office, together with fortnightly partner meetings, to discuss anti social behaviour;
- the number of malicious, good intent and equipment fault false alarms;
- a road traffic collision incident; and
- the summer thematic action plan taking place from June to the end of August.

Members asked questions and received further information in relation to:-

- the instances of equipment fault false alarms in the Cheviot Court, Irvine area and on the sensitivity of the alarms; and
- the numbers provided in the graphs in relation to equipment fault false alarms being different from the totals provided in the report.

Station Manager Elliot undertook to check the information provided in the graph in relation to the equipment fault false alarms.

Noted.

4. Lawthorn Primary School and Early Years Class: Education Scotland Report

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment) and received a presentation by the Head Teacher, on the Education Scotland Report in respect of Lawthorn Primary School and Early Years Class.

The inspection, undertaken in February 2015, evaluated the quality of the young people's experience in learning and teaching and the impact of parental involvement to support school improvement, pupil voice and the use of digital technology to deepen learning. The presentation by the Head Teacher provided more detail in relation to the key strengths and 2 areas for improvement as detailed in the report.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

- any changes made to the physical environment within the school; and
- the visit by Singapore delegates to the school in February and the presentation by pupils of the Glow system.

The Committee (a) asked that the Head Teacher pass on its congratulations to the staff at the school; and (b) noted (i) the steps taken to address key points for action; and (ii) that, in terms of follow-through, HMIE will make no further visits.

5. Neighbourhood Planning Approach

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on key developments regarding the Neighbourhood Planning Approach.

The report provided Members with information outlining the final implementation phase over the next 12 months which will see the introduction of locally accountable fora across six neighbourhoods. There are a number of proposals for the next stages in implementing the neighbourhood planning approach including a dedicated Programme Board to oversee key elements of its implementation in 2016 and beyond and further stakeholder consultation. A full report on formal governance arrangements will be submitted to the CPP Board.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the consultation which had taken place with local Community Associations throughout the process.

Noted.

6. Drummond Crescent, Irvine: Stopping Up Order

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on the proposal to promote a Stopping-Up Order at Drummond Crescent, Irvine which is currently an adopted public road which serves 4 commercial units within the i3 Enterprise Area in Irvine.

Scottish Enterprise/Irvine Bay approached the Council in 2014 regarding abuse of the road and surrounding land by unauthorised encampments and expressed a wish to erect a gate across the road in order to control access/egress at this location. The report detailed legal advice in relation to the Council's responsibilities and authority under the Roads Scotland Act, 1984 and provided information on the only feasible

method of co-operating with Scottish Enterprise in relation to the promotion the Order.

The Committee noted the proposed actions to control access to Drummond Crescent, Irvine.

7. Scottish Water Reinstatement Works, Irvine

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Place) on progress with the reinstatement of landscaped areas within the Low Green area of Irvine following infrastructure works undertaken by Scottish Water.

The Committee, at its meeting on 4 December 2014, noted that the formal handover of the Low Green to North Ayrshire Council would not be considered until the satisfactory completion of outstanding works by Scottish Water. Works to improve drainage have now been completed in the area of Merryvale and Greenbank Road and the lockable bollards have now been installed at vehicle access points.

The Committee noted (a) completion of (i) the additional drainage works in the Merryvale and Greenbank Road areas and (ii) the replacement bollards at vehicle access points to the Low Green; (b) that the formal handover of re-instated areas can now progress as all outstanding works are complete; and (c) that Streetscene will continue to monitor the area of the drainage works.

8. 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 the Local Youth Action Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Community Development Grants Scheme

Organisation	Award
Townend Camera Club	£1,400
Townend Squash Club	£1,080
The Butterfly Club	£ 292
Irvine Town Twinning Association	£1,000
Irvine Horticultural Society	£ 517
Springside Gala Committee	£1,711
Irvine Toxophilites Archery	£1,000
Irvine and Dreghorn Brass Band	£1,000
Irvine and District Pipe Band	£1,650
Marymass Festival	£2,000 conditional on the Community Engagement Manager being satisfied with receipt of a copy of the most recent bank statement from the Festival Committee.

Local Youth Action Fund

Organisation

Dreghorn Youth Group

Award

£1,140

9. Grants to Elderly Groups

Submitted report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on the level of funding available for disbursement in the Committee's area in 2015/16

Appendix 1 to the report provided details of the allocation of elderly grant funding across the Committee's area as follows:-

Broomlands/Bourtreehill	£1,293
Lawthorn/Girdle Toll etc	£2,708
Dreghorn	£1,642
Drybridge	£ 212
Springside	£ 657
Rest of Irvine	£8,632

Noted.

10. Irvine Common Good Fund: Application for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application received in respect of the Irvine Common Good Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation

Irvine Joint Wards Old Folks Committee

Award

£ 8,000 subject to (i) the portion payable to Joint Ward 5 being conditional on Finance being satisfied with the signed letter received in respect of the loss of receipts for the previous grant application; and (ii) that the Community Learning and Development Team meet with the Joint Ward 5 Committee Members to give advice on record keeping.
£48,994.10

Marymass Festival Committee

11. North Ayrshire Council Town Charitable Trusts (Irvine): Application for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application received for grant from the North Ayrshire Council (Irvine) Charitable Trust.

The Committee agreed to (a) make an award of £122 to the Irvine Joint Wards Old

Folks Committee; and (b) note that the funding available for disbursement from the Irvine Charitable Trust is now fully expended for 2015/16.

12. Future Agenda Items

The Committee agreed that the Clerk request that the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) provide a report to the next meeting on 27 August 2015 giving an update on the Conservation and Regeneration Scheme and any applications received.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Irvine Area Committee will be held on 27 August 2015.

The meeting ended at 2.55 p.m.