

Irvine Area Committee
17 March 1999

Irvine, 17 March 1999 - At a Meeting of the Irvine Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 4.00 p.m.

Present

Joseph McKinney, Thomas Barr, Jack Carson, Stewart Dewar, and Elliot Gray.

In Attendance

J. Ferguson, Assistant Principal Estates Officer (Legal and Regulatory); M. Gillies, Assistant Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance Officer (Property Services); A. Paxton, Adviser, D. Gilliland, Area Community Development Worker, and F. McKinnon, Grounds Maintenance Clients Services (Educational Services); and M. McKeown, Administration Officer (Chief Executive)

Also In Attendance

A. Kane, Community Fire Safety Officer, Strathclyde Fire Brigade and Inspector I. McFadden, Strathclyde Police.

Chair

Mr McKinney in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

John Donn, David O'Neill and George Steven.

1. Minutes Confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 3rd February 1999, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Monitoring Reports

Submitted monitoring reports on the undernoted matters:-

(a) Litter Awareness

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on litter awareness.

The Litter Hotline continues to be well used with some 26 calls received and acted upon in the Irvine area during January and February 1999. Discussion centred on the continuing problem of litter on the Wimpey Site at Fleming Terrace, Irvine.

The Committee agreed that the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Regulatory Services) investigate further the matter of littering on the Wimpey Site, with a view to possible enforcement action to compel the developer to maintain the site.

(b) North Ayrshire Industrial Estates: Maintenance of Land

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on progress to date in the maintenance of land within Industrial Estates.

The Grounds Maintenance and Estates Sections are drawing up plans indicating the ownership of land in and around industrial estates within North Ayrshire. On completion of this

exercise, the owners of such land will be approached and informed of their duties and responsibilities for maintaining their land to an adopted standard.

The Committee agreed that the Corporate Director (Property Services) report on progress in due course.

(c) Educational Services

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) providing statistical information on attendance, running costs and leaver destinations in relation to schools serving pupils from within the Irvine area.

The Committee agreed that similar reports be submitted on an annual basis.

(d) Community Development Grants Scheme: Expenditure Analysis 1996 - 99

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the expenditure of the Community Development Grants budgets from 1996/99.

Noted.

3. Community Development Grants Scheme: Applications for Grant Aid

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on applications for financial assistance.

(a) Girdle Toll Boys Club

The Committee agreed to award £200 to Girdle Toll Boys Club.

(b) Irvine Adult Education Voluntary Forum

The Committee agreed (a) to award £350 to Irvine Adult Education Voluntary Forum; and (b) that the provision of Information and Display Boards from surplus Council stock be investigated.

(c) Towerlands Farm Senior Citizens Club

The Committee agreed to award £600 to Towerlands Farm Senior Citizens Club.

(d) Redburn Community Association

The Committee agreed to award £700 to Redburn Community Association.

4. Irvine Common Good Fund - Request for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a request for financial assistance from Irvine Common Good Fund.

In December 1998 the Committee awarded Irvine Incorporated Trades £350 towards the repair of the Trades Shields and agreed that the costs of replacing the shield depicting the arms of the Royal Burgh of Irvine, which had been damaged beyond repair, be investigated. A local artist has now submitted an estimate to replace the 'Burgh Shield' at a cost of £250.

The Committee agreed to award £250 to Irvine Incorporated Trades to replace the Burgh

Shield.

5. Common Good/Trust Funds: Standard Application Form

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the proposed introduction of a standard application form for requests for financial assistance from Common Good/Trust Fund with effect from 1st April 1999.

Noted.

6. Marymass Festival

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on the 1998 Festival statement of income and expenditure, and on the proposed budget for the 1999 Festival.

The Committee agreed a budget of £35,105 for the 1999 event, which includes appropriate increases from the 1998 budget, hall let costs, and a £300 community event development fund.

7. Templars Hall

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on the current situation in respect of the Templars Hall, Bank Street, Irvine.

In January 1999 the Committee was advised of a proposal by local groups to re-open and manage the Templars Hall, Irvine, which the Council had declared surplus to requirements, and agreed to receive information on the running costs of the hall, and other associated expenses prior to meeting with the proposed Management Group to discuss their proposals. Information on the costs of running the Hall was set out in the report.

The Committee agreed that the Chair and local Members, together with the Community Services Development Manager and an Officer from the Estates Section, meet with the Management Group to discuss the proposal.

8. Community Safety

(a) Fire Statistics

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire Brigade on Fire Incidents in the Irvine area in the period 1st July 1998 to 28th February 1999.

Noted.

(b) Crime Statistics

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police on the level of recorded crime within the Irvine Area Committee's boundaries.

Noted.

9. Urgent Items

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

(a) Almswall Park Portacabins: Proposal to relocate to Magnum Leisure Centre

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on a proposal to purchase a Portacabin, currently situated at Almswall Park, Kilwinning, and to relocate it to the Magnum Leisure Centre, Irvine, to provide changing facilities for the two 7-a-side pitches recently provided. The portacabin was previously purchased by the Stevenston Common Good and would cost £5,250 to purchase and £12,485 to relocate.

The proposal was reported to the Committee in December 1998 when it was agreed that further information was required on (i) the appropriateness of meeting the proposed costs from the Common Good Fund; and (ii) sports pitch provision in the Irvine area, including the possible use of school facilities in the evenings and at weekends.

There are currently 12 full-sized and 4 seven-a-side sports pitches in the Irvine area, located at four sites, as well as 4 schools with sports pitches which are used for football and other outdoor activities. The proposed relocation of a Portacabin to the rear of the Magnum Leisure Centre would bring one full sized pitch into use as well as two 7-a-side pitches.

After a full discussion, Councillor Dewar, seconded by Councillor Barr, moved that the Committee agree to purchase the portacabin from Stevenston Common Good at a cost of £5,250, and to relocate it to the Magnum Leisure Centre, Irvine, at cost of £12,485, the costs to be met from Irvine Common Good.

As an amendment Councillor Carson, seconded by Councillor Gray, moved that the Committee agree not to purchase the portacabin.

On a division, there voted for the motion 3, for the amendment 2, and the motion was declared carried.

The Committee accordingly agreed to purchase the portacabin at a cost of £5,250, to be met from the Irvine Common Good Fund, and to relocate it to the Magnum Leisure Centre, Irvine.

Meeting ended at 4.55. p.m.