

North Coast and Arran Area Committee
22 June 1998

Arran, 22 June 1998 - At a Meeting of the North Coast and Arran Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 11.00 a.m.

Present

John Sillars, Margaret Highet, Elizabeth McLardy, Robert Rae and Richard Wilkinson.

In Attendance

D. Anderson, Head of Cultural and Community Services, I. Frame, Area Community Development Officer, Arran (Community and Recreational Services); R. Lee, Assistant Principal Accountant (Financial Services); J. Lockhart, Area Cleansing/Grounds Maintenance Officer (Commercial Services); G. MacLeod, Assistant Local Officer, Arran and J. Bannatyne, Administration Officer (Chief Executive).

Also In Attendance

Inspector R. Kirk and Sergeant J. Weir (Strathclyde Police); and J. Milligan, Assistant Divisional Officer and T. Barr, Community Fire Officer (Strathclyde Fire Brigade).

Chair

Mr. Sillars in the Chair.

1. Minutes Confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 May 1998, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Monitoring Reports

(a) Legal Services: North Ayrshire Council Industrial Estate Factories

Submitted quarterly report by the Legal Services Manager on the letting/availability of factories on Council Industrial Estates within the North Coast and Arran area.

The Keppenburn Workshops, Main Road Fairlie comprise 6 units. The current occupancy rate is 100% and 13 full-time staff are employed in connection with these units.

Noted.

(b) Commercial Services: Litter Awareness

Submitted report by the Director of Commercial Services on service delivery regarding litter awareness.

The report detailed instances of fly tipping at three separate locations and calls to the litter hotline for the North Coast and Arran area [i.e. March (7), April(4) and May (7)].

Noted.

(c) Community Development Grants Scheme: Analysis of Grants Paid to 12 May 1998

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on Community Development Grants paid to 12 May 1998 in respect of the North Coast and Arran area, including details of the balance of funding remaining.

Noted.

3. Community Development Grants Scheme: Requests for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Director of Community and Recreational Services on requests for financial assistance.

(a) Brodick Highland Games

The Committee agreed to award the Brodick Highland Games £300;

(b) Lamlash Playgroup

The Committee agreed to award the Lamlash Playgroup £250;

(c) Arran Duke of Edinburgh Award Group

The Committee agreed to award the Arran Duke of Edinburgh Award Group £350;

(d) Gunn Clan Trust

The Committee agreed to award the Gunn Clan Trust £140;

(e) Arran Junior Sailing Club

The Committee agreed (a) subject to the Arran Junior Sailing Club being unsuccessful in their application for lottery funding, to approve a grant of £500; and (b) to defer payment meantime to enable the Area Community Development Officer to report to a future meeting on the outcome of the application;

(f) Lamlash Gala Committee

The Committee agreed to award the Lamlash Gala Committee £300;

(g) Arran Music Society

The Committee agreed to award the Arran Music Society £500;

(h) Lamlash Friday Club

The Committee agreed to award the Lamlash Friday Club £180;

(i) Largs Brisbane Queen Festival

The Committee agreed to award the Largs Brisbane Queen Festival £300. It was further agreed that the Director of Community and Recreational Services arrange for officers to meet with representatives of the Brisbane Queen Festival Committee to give advice/assistance in relation to the future development of the Festival, and report to a future meeting;

(j) Skelmorlie Gala

The Committee agreed to award the Skelmorlie Gala £200

(k) West Kilbride Disabled Club

The Committee was advised that the West Kilbride Disabled Club had indicated that the regular use of a Social Work mini-bus has now been withdrawn and club members are now faced with a £16 per week hire charge. The total amount of grant for which the club made application is £940, of which £768 is to cover these transport costs.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) to award the West Kilbride Disabled Club £170 to cover programme costs; and (b) to refer the problems relating to the transport costs incurred as a result of the introduction of the charges by the Social Work Directorate to the Corporate Strategy Committee for consideration;

(l) Largs Athletic Football Club

The Committee agreed to award the Largs Athletic Football Club £100;

(m) Largs Tennis Club

The Committee agreed to award the Largs Tennis Club £200;

(n) 1st Ardrossan (15th Ayrshire) Scout Group

The Committee agreed to award the 1st Ardrossan (15th Ayrshire) Scout Group £200; and

(o) Ardrossan and Saltcoats Scouts

The Committee agreed to award the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Scouts £100.

4. Largs Viking Festival 1998

Submitted report by the Director of Community and Recreational Services giving full details of the proposed programme for the Largs Viking Festival 1998.

The Festival will commence on 26 August 1998 with the "Family Festival Ceilidh" which is free of charge. On the same day, an additional event in the form of a Viking Conference will be held, the theme of which will be to explore the use of 'Heritage Themes' as vehicles of development. The delegation from Karmoy will contribute to the Conference programme. Since the Events Company initially approached to erect the viking village fences and other grounds works are unable to undertake the work, a revised quotation amounting to £7,800 has been received from the Commercial Services Directorate resulting in the need for further savings to be made from the Marketing budget and for a greater contribution to be made from the Arts Development budget. Enterprise Ayrshire has contributed £1,500 towards the Festival costs in recognition of the potential tourism benefits to Largs. An offer has been received from the Largs and District Tourism Association to form a Sub-Group to actively participate in the Viking Festival. Since, in the past, support from the local business community in Largs has been mixed, it is hoped that the new commitment from the Tourism Association will help to promote a new approach to the Festival.

After discussion, the Committee agreed (a) to approve the involvement of a Sub-Group of the Largs and District Tourism Association in the Viking Festival Advisory Forum; and (b) otherwise to note the position.

5. Street Naming: West Kilbride: Off Hunterston Road: New Private Housing Development by Mr. Neil Jack

Submitted report by the Director of Planning, Roads and the Environment on the provision of a street name for a new private housing development off Hunterston Road, West Kilbride.

The Committee agreed that the street within the development be named "Hunters Court" in accordance with the recommendation of the Local Member.

6. Assistance to Organisations in Staging Events

The Committee was advised that in the past it has been the practice of the Community and Recreational Services Directorate to give support in kind to local organisations organising events in the form of assistance with the erection of staging and the provision of decorative plants, etc. Concern was expressed that this type of assistance is no longer available free of charge.

The Committee agreed that the Director of Community and Recreational Services investigate this matter and arrange for the submission of an appropriate report to the next meeting of the Committee.

7. Largs: Douglas Park Nursery: Use of Largs Tennis Pavilion

The Committee was advised that the Douglas Park Nursery are experiencing financial difficulties resulting from increased charges in respect of the rent of the Largs Tennis Pavilion from £23 to £69 per week following the take-up of the lease of the property by Largs Tennis Club. The Nursery were under the impression that changes in the leasing arrangements would not lead to these increases in charges and feel that had they known this, they would themselves have sought to take over the lease with resulting savings.

The Committee agreed that the Director of Community and Recreational Services further investigate this matter and arrange for the submission of an appropriate report to the next meeting of the Committee.

In connection with this item, Mrs. McLardy drew attention to the fact that despite earlier criticism of the condition of Douglas Park Largs resulting from vandalism, it has now been completely restored and is in excellent condition.

The Committee further agreed to congratulate the Director of Community and Recreational Services and his staff on the excellent work undertaken in this regard.

8. Strathclyde Fire Brigade: Fire Statistics

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on Fire Statistics within the North Coast and Arran area for the period 1 April to 1 June 1998.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 11.50 a.m.