

Garnock Valley Area Committee
8 February 1999

Dalry, 8 February 1999 - At a Meeting of the Garnock Valley Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.30 am.

Present

Robert Reilly, James Jennings, Thomas Morris, George Steven.

In Attendance

J Ferguson, Assistant Principal Estates Officer (Development & Promotion), W Simpson, Area Community Development Officer, A Pettigrew, Young People's Development Service Officer (Educational Services), F Roger, Assistant Manager (Area Services) (Social Services), W Chalmers, Area Foreman Cleansing (Property Services), J Bannatyne, Administration Officer (Chief Executive's).

Also In Attendance

T Barr, Community Fire Officer (Strathclyde Fire Brigade), Sub-Divisional Commander S Keenan and Inspector C McCreath (Strathclyde Police).

Chair

Mr Reilly in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Thomas Dickie.

1. Minutes Confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 December 1998, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Monitoring Reports

(a) Social Work

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Social Services) on issues relating to the quality of Social Work Services in the Garnock Valley area.

The report gave specific details including statistical information on (i) childcare and child protection services and (ii) community care services in respect of residential admission, home care services and other community care services in the Garnock Valley area.

Noted.

(b) North Ayrshire Council Industrial Estate Factories

Submitted report by the Assistant Chief Executive (Development and Promotion) on the letting/availability of factories on Council industrial estates within the Garnock Valley area.

Noted.

(c) Litter Awareness

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on service delivery regarding litter awareness. Details were provided of 2 instances of illegal dumping reported in January 1999. Two calls were made to the litter hotline during December 1998. Steps are currently being taken by the Council to further publicise the hot line number throughout North Ayrshire, to encourage its use.

Noted.

(d) Community Development Grant Scheme: Analysis of Grants Paid to 14 December 1998

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Community Development grants paid to 14 December 1998.

Noted.

3. Community Development Grants Scheme: Requests for Financial Assistance

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

- (a) the Committee agreed to award The Cunninghame Choir £750;
- (b) the Committee agreed to award the Garnock Valley Mental Health Group £450;
- (c) the Committee agreed to award the Glengarnock Mother and Toddler Group £400; and
- (d) the Committee agreed to award the Kilbirnie Fun Week £600.

4. Kilbirnie: Bridgend: Proposed Drop-in Centre

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on the current position regarding the proposed Youth Drop-in Centre at the Mission Hall, Kilbirnie.

The Corporate Strategy Committee in October 1997 agreed to allocate £5,000 towards essential maintenance work at the Mission Hall, Kilbirnie to enable the property to be used as a Youth Drop-in Centre. Negotiations have been undertaken with solicitors acting on behalf of the owners and although a Hall Management Group has been established and has begun the process of seeking assistance in-kind towards the necessary upgrading works, no formal lease agreement has yet been signed. A major project is currently under investigation by the Radio City Association involving the possible conversion of the existing cinema building in Kilbirnie into a social and recreational centre for young people. It was suggested that this matter be further investigated to ascertain the potential effects of the new proposals on the Mission Hall Youth Drop-in facility project.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) that a meeting be arranged between the Chair of the Area Committee, the local members for Kilbirnie, members of the Management Group of the proposed Youth Drop-in facility and representatives from the Radio City Association to discuss the

relationship between the 2 proposals; (b) that pending the outcome of this meeting no further steps be taken to formalise the lease agreement; and (c) that a further report be submitted to the next meeting.

5. Public Address Systems

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on Public Address Systems at community facilities with the Garnock Valley area.

After discussion, the Committee agreed (a) to express its dissatisfaction with the current position regarding the provision of permanent PA Systems within certain halls in the Garnock Valley area; (b) that the Corporate Director (Educational Services) be requested to investigate the possibility of extending the provision of permanent PA System equipment to those halls in the Garnock Valley area which currently have no PA System and which are of reasonable size and are regularly used for functions by a range of community and youth groups; and (c) that a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee on this matter including details of the present procedures which are adopted in relation to the booking of portable PA Systems.

6. Kilbirnie: Public Lighting

Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council have requested the provision of public lighting at the undernoted locations with a view to reducing vandalism:-

(i) Kilbirnie Public Park;

(ii) The garage site at the top of the High Street, Milton Scheme, Kilbirnie; and

(iii) The footpath from Milton Quadrant to the cul-de-sac at the High Street, Kilbirnie (old peoples houses).

The Committee agreed to remit the request to relevant officers of the Council to investigate and report to the next meeting.

7. Community Safety

(a) Crime Statistics

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on crime statistics in the Garnock Valley for November 1998, provided by Strathclyde Police.

Strathclyde Police reported on current reorganisation which will see the 2 North Ayrshire Sub Divisions merge to form a single Sub Division which will be coterminous with North Ayrshire. Superintendent John Young will be responsible for North Ayrshire and Sub Divisional Commander Keenan will take up responsibilities for East Ayrshire, based in Kilmarnock.

The Committee expressed its thanks to Sub Divisional Commander Keenan for his co-operation in the past and otherwise noted the position.

(b) Fire Statistics

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on fire statistics within the Garnock Valley for period 1 to 30 November 1998 and 1 to 31 December 1998.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 11.45 am.