

Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee
2 April 1997

Kilwinning, 2 April 1997 - At a Meeting of the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.30 a.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson, Patrick Browne, James Clements, Jane Gorman and Gena Seales.

In Attendance

W. Simpson, Area Community Development Officer (Community and Recreational Services); J. Mason, Principal Engineer and J. Fulton, Senior Environmental Health Officer (Planning, Roads and the Environment); H. Hunter, Senior Accountant (Financial Services); A. Osborne, Corporate Policy Officer, S Paxton, Administration Officer and D. McCaw, Assistant Administration Officer (Chief Executive).

Superintendent D. Johnstone, Strathclyde Police.

Chair

Mr. Clarkson in the Chair.

1. Minutes Confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 19 February 1997, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Monitoring Reports

(a) Planning, Roads and Environment

Submitted reports by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment on the performance of the following services for the period April to December 1996:-

(i) Dog Warden Service

The Dog Warden Service uplifted a total of 254 dogs during the period referred to. 116 were returned, rehoused or reclaimed and 138 destroyed. Within the Committee's area 54 dogs were uplifted of which 23 were returned, rehoused or reclaimed and 31 destroyed.

Noted.

(ii) Food Safety and Health and Safety

The Council is responsible for implementing food safety and health and safety legislation in certain categories of premises, namely manufacturers, retailers, offices, restaurants and other caterers. The premises are graded according to the perceived level of risk, in line with Scottish Office Guidelines, and are inspected regularly. The guidelines also enable inspection target quotas to be set for various types of premises which are subject to performance indicator monitoring by the Audit Commission. A total of 227 food hygiene inspections were undertaken by the Environment Section in the Committee's area during the period April to December 1996.

Noted.

(iii) Investigation of Noise Complaints

The Council has a statutory duty in terms of the Environmental Protection Act, 1990 to undertake inspections to detect noise nuisance. The Environment Section has received 153 complaints in total (18 from the Committee's area) during the period April to December 1996. 148 of these complaints were established with 77% being responded to within 2 working days.

Noted.

(iv) Pest Control Service

The Council has a statutory duty in terms of the Control of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 to survey the area it covers and to treat any infestations of rats or mice. The service provided by the Council has expanded beyond statutory requirements and now includes a service dealing with insects, viz. wasps, bees, ants and fleas.

In November 1996 the Council adopted a service delivery plan designed to ensure that all members of the public who contact the Environment Section receive an efficient, professional and effective service. During the period April to December 1996 the Pest Control Service carried out a total of 2052 treatments. The service provided exceeds the standard required as performance indicators under national bench mark standards set by the Accounts Commission.

Noted.

(b) Community Grants Expenditure Analysis 1996/97

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the analysis of Community Grants expenditure for 1996/97 in relation to applications in respect of the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside area. The Committee fully expended its budget of Community Grants £11,759; Sports, Arts, Festivals and Galas £2,232; and Voluntary Playschemes £3,734. The Playschemes budget proved unevenly spread relative to the demand across Area Committees. In order to address this imbalance, the Playschemes budget for 1997/98 will be held within the Central Corporate Strategy Budget.

Noted.

3. Community Development Grants Budget for Area Committees 1997

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Community Development Grants Budget for Area Committees for 1997/98.

The Community Development Grants budgets for 1997/98 were approved by the Corporate Strategy Committee on 4 March 1997. The budget for the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee in 1997/98 is £14,091.

Noted.

4. Requests for Financial Assistance: Community Grants

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the undernoted applications for community grants to voluntary organisations.

(a) Crown Flyfishers

The Committee agreed to grant £100 to the Crown Flyfishers.

(b) St. Michael's Parent Support Group

The Committee agreed to grant £500 to the St. Michael's Parent Support Group.

(c) 1st Pennyburn Brownies

The Committee agreed to grant £500 to the 1st Pennyburn Brownies.

(d) Corsehill Boys and Girls Club, Kilwinning

The Committee agreed to grant £300 to the Corsehill Boys and Girls Club, Kilwinning.

(e) Dreghorn Under 15s Boys Club

The Committee agreed to grant £300 to the Dreghorn Under 15s Boys Club subject to a statement of accounts or a bank statement being provided by the Club to the satisfaction of the Director of Community and Recreational Services.

(f) Dreghorn Co-operative Women's Guild

The Committee agreed to grant £150 to the Dreghorn Co-operative Women's Guild.

(g) Dreghorn Gala Committee

The Committee agreed to grant £400 to the Dreghorn Gala Committee.

5. Easter Playschemes 1997

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the award of grants to Easter Playschemes.

The Chair had agreed to award a grant of £429.28 from the underspend within the Playscheme Support budget 1996/97 to the Muirfield Place, Kilwinning Special Needs Easter Playscheme.

The Committee agreed to homologate the award of funding to the Muirfield Place, Kilwinning Special Needs Easter Playscheme.

6. Roads Management and Maintenance: Revenue Budget Programme

Submitted report by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment on the roads maintenance programme for 1997/98 as approved by the Infrastructure and Environment Services Committee.

The programme involves various types of work, viz. screeding/surface dressing and carriageway and footway resurfacing, to be carried out at various locations throughout the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside area. Members may raise any concerns with the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment as minor amendments to the programme can be considered at a later stage.

Noted.

7. Kilwinning: Corsehill: Traffic Conditions

Submitted report by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment regarding road safety and traffic conditions on Corsehill and adjoining roads, Kilwinning.

On Corsehill there are no particular problems with accident levels, traffic volumes or

speeding but in order to provide improved guidance and information for drivers it is proposed to

- i. erect warning signs at the children's playground and at the narrow points on the road;
- ii. provide centreline markings along the bus route; and
- iii. renew all junction markings.

These measures will be carried out as part of the 1997/98 works programme.

The surface of the Corsehill junction with Wierston Road will be repaired in association with the works on Moncur Road and the junction warning signs will be upgraded. The owners of Eglinton Country Park will be approached with a view to making adjustments to the timber fence to improve visibility. In the longer term an investigation will be carried out into the feasibility of closing part of Corsehill to vehicle use in order to reduce the traffic conflicts at the junction.

It is not proposed to carry out any works at the junction with Five Roads at this time but the area will be monitored to identify any adverse changes.

Noted.

8. Street Naming

Submitted report by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment on street naming of a new development by Cunninghame Housing Association off Aberlour Place, Lawthorn, Irvine.

The Director of Planning, Roads and Environment consulted the Local Member who submitted "Aberlour Road" as an appropriate name for the development.

The Committee agreed to name the street "Aberlour Road".

9. Community Safety: Strathclyde Police: Crime Statistics

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police "UA" division regarding levels of recorded crime within the Area Committee's boundaries.

In comparison with February 1996 crime within the Strathclyde Police 'UA' Sub-Division has shown a decrease of 54 crimes for the same period last year, a reduction of 12.9%.

Superintendent Johnstone reported that it is envisaged that over 5000 licensed premises visits and 5000 stop searches for weapons will be carried out in the next year and his intention is to deploy additional community police officers in Bourtreehill, Irvine and Dreghorn and Springside.

Noted.

The Meeting ended at 11.40 a.m.