

North Coast and Arran Area Committee  
21 June 1996

**Largs, 21 June 1996** - At a Meeting of the North Coast and Arran Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 11.15 a.m.

**Present**

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

**In Attendance**

C Hamilton, Area Services Manager, Social Work; R Lee, Assistant Principal Accountant; M Smyth and I Frame, Area Community Development Officers, Community and Recreational Services; G Beagrie, Local Officer, Cumbrae; and J Bannatyne, Administration Officer.

**Chair**

Mr Sillars in the Chair.

**1. Minutes Confirmed**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 3 May 1996, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

**2. Publicity for Area Committees**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the steps taken by the Principal Officer (Marketing and Publicity) to bring forward a Publicity Strategy for Area Committees.

The Principal Officer (Marketing and Publicity) met with each of the Chairs of the five Area Committees to seek their views on the proposed Strategy. The Chairman expressed the view that the dates, times and venues for future Area Committee Meetings should be publicised in local newspapers and that arrangements will require to be made to ensure that appropriate publicity is given to specific issues discussed at Area Committee Meetings. It was further suggested that steps be taken to ensure that members of the public are aware of the remit of Area Committees. A final report on the Publicity Strategy will be submitted to the Corporate Strategy Committee on 30 July 1996 incorporating any views expressed by the five Chairs and the Area Committee and will thereafter be submitted to the Area Committees for further consideration.

The Committee agreed (a) to welcome the proposed Publicity Strategy; (b) to note the progress to date; and (c) to await a final report on the approved Publicity Strategy following the meeting of the Corporate Strategy Committee on 30 July 1996.

**3. Monitoring Reports**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the progress made to date in formulating appropriate monitoring reports for consideration at future Area Committee Meetings.

The Committee agreed (a) that a final report on this matter be submitted to the next meeting; and (b) to note the position meantime.

#### **4. Community Consultation**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive giving details of a number of issues raised at a meeting between the Chief Executive and the Chairs of the five Area Committees which was held on 21 May 1996.

Reference was made to the previous decision by the Committee that the next Community Consultation Meeting involving local groups would be held in Skelmorlie. A list of voluntary groups which might be eligible to attend the meeting was now available and a date for the meeting was now being sought.

The Committee agreed (a) to continue the process of Community Consultation taking into account, where appropriate, the issues raised at the meeting of the five Chairs on 21 May 1996; (b) that as previously agreed a Community Consultation Meeting be arranged with local groups in Skelmorlie on Monday 19 August 1996 at 7.30 p.m. at a venue to be arranged; and (c) that Skelmorlie Residents Association be added to the list of local groups to be invited to attend the meeting.

#### **5. Environmental Improvements**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a proposal that the Area Committees be invited to examine, in conjunction with the interested parties in their communities, the possibilities for environmental improvements within their area, remitted by the Corporate Strategy Committee on 21 May 1996 for further consideration.

It was suggested that the Area Committees could act as a catalyst to ascertain the contribution which can be made by organisations/groups/individuals towards environmental improvement schemes for their area. Due to the financial implications all proposals for new schemes will require to be submitted to the Corporate Strategy Committee for approval.

The Committee agreed (a) in principle, to examine in conjunction with the interested parties in its communities, the possibilities for environmental improvement schemes within its area which could be submitted to the Corporate Strategy Committee for approval; and (b) to instruct the Chief Executive in consultation with the appropriate Chief Officers to investigate and report on the options available for the submission of environmental improvement schemes by Area Committees including the criteria to be adopted, alternative sources of funding etc. to enable the Committee to further consider their remit.

#### **6. Community Safety/Accident Prevention**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an invitation to the Area Committee to consider the manner in which issues relating to Community Safety and Accident Prevention can be addressed, remitted by the Corporate Strategy Committee on 21 May 1996.

The former Cunninghame District Council established an Accident Prevention Committee to which a number of local Accident Prevention Committees reported. These local Committees were disbanded some years ago and latterly only the main Committee which met on a quarterly basis, remained. The Committee is now requested to consider its future role in the promotion of the concept of Community Safety and the manner in which issues relating to Accident Prevention can best be incorporated within this overall strategy. The Council have recently taken up membership of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents Home Safety Division for 1996/97 and it is anticipated that the Council will in the near future be invited to take up membership of RoSPA's Road Safety and Water and Leisure Safety Divisions.

After discussion, the Committee agreed (a) to welcome the opportunity to consider in future the manner in which it would wish to address matters relating to Community Safety and Accident Prevention; and (b) to instruct the Chief Executive, in the meantime, to investigate further the options

available to progress these matters and report.

## **7. Largs: Haylie House Trustees Ltd: Appointment of Director**

The Clerk reported that following fire damage to the Haylie House Largs in 1991, the premises had been vacated and subsequently refurbished. Negotiations had subsequently taken place between the Trustees and representatives of the former Cunninghame District Council in relation to a new lease and the former Trustees subsequently formed a Limited Company. The provision of funding by the former Cunninghame District Council towards the costs of running the property entitled that Council to nominate a member to sit as a Director on the Board of Haylie House Trustees Ltd. Following re-organisation it had now become necessary for North Ayrshire Council to nominate a representative to Haylie House Trustees Ltd.

The Committee agreed to nominate Richard Wilkinson as North Ayrshire Council's representative on the Board of Directors.

## **8. Analysis of Grants Paid to 31 May 1996**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the various categories of grants paid to 31 May 1996 in relation to applications determined in respect of the North Coast and Arran area, including details of the balance of funding remaining.

Councillor Rae requested that consideration be given to the introduction of an 'elderly persons' factor in the determination of Community Grants by Area Committees. He further requested clarification in matters relating to the process of virement in relation to Community Grants.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) to note the current position; (b) that the Director of Financial Services be requested to seek clarification on the matters raised by Mr Rae and that the member be advised of the position; and (c) to note that a similar updated report will be submitted in future to each meeting of the Area Committee for information.

## **9. Requests for Financial Assistance**

Submitted reports by the Chief Executive on the undernoted requests for financial assistance:-

### **(a) Community Grants**

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>DECISION</u>
Lamlash Friday Club	£180
Largs Pop In Crèche	£500 (for the purchase of hard equipment)
West Kilbride Primary After School Care	£750  It was further agreed that the group be requested to consider sending staff to training events organised by the Community and Recreational Services at some point in the future.

### **(b) Festivals and Galas**

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<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>DECISION</u>
Fairlie Community Council	£300
Skelmorlie Gala Week Association	£300
Cumbræ Week Committee	£300 (subject to the submission of accounts for 1995)
Millport Country and Western Festival	£500 (subject to the provision of documentation indicating that this group have cleared the deficit accrued from last year amounting to £4,000)

**(c) Sports, Arts and Leisure**

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>DECISION</u>
Isle of Arran Music Society	£250
Arran Dramafest	To defer consideration pending receipt of a further application
Isle of Arran Gilbert and Sullivan Society	£300  It was further agreed that the organisation be advised of the Council's Equal Opportunity Policy and that assistance is available on request in drawing up a Policy Document.
Peggy Inglis School of Dancing	Agreed free use of Barrfields Pavilion Theatre on 14/15 June 1996.  It was further agreed that the organisation be advised that this is not be viewed as an annual award and does not set a precedent for future years

**(d) Playscheme Applications**

<u>PLAYSCHEME</u>	<u>DECISION</u>
Fairlie Summer Playscheme	Nil award (use of travel passes only)

## **10. Largs Common Good: Applications for Financial Assistance**

### **(a) Largs Community Council: Bunting for Largs**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a request from Largs Community Council for a contribution of £1800 towards the provision of bunting for Largs.

The Assistant Principal Accountant reported that recent investigations have revealed that the disposable annual income from the Largs Common Good Fund (approximately £18,000) is already fully committed for the current year. Consequently insufficient funds are currently available from this source to make a contribution of £1800 towards the provision of bunting as requested.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) to defer consideration of the request meantime; (b) that the Director of Finance (i) investigate alternative sources of funding for the provision of bunting for Largs; and (ii) arrange to meet with the representatives of the North Coast Area Committee to further discuss this application at the earliest possible opportunity; and (c) to remit the request for funding to the Corporate Strategy Committee on 30 July 1996 for determination.

### **(b) Largs Illuminations Committee**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a request from the Largs Illuminations Committee for a contribution of £5,000 from the Largs Common Good Fund towards the provision of Illuminations within Largs.

The Assistant Principal Accountant confirmed that provision has been made for this sum to be met from the annual disposable income for 1996/97 from the Largs Common Good Fund.

The Committee agreed to approve the contribution of £5,000 to the Illuminations Committee from the Largs Common Good Fund.

## **11. Provision of Activities for Young People in the North Coast Area**

Councillor Wilkinson reported that during the run-up to the recent Bye-Election for the Largs South Ward one of the issues raised by local people was the need to provide additional activities for the entertainment of young people particularly in the 12/13 age group. He suggested that the Committee investigate the concerns expressed by local people regarding the lack of facilities for young people in the area to determine the extent of the problem and how it might be addressed. Mrs McLardy confirmed that a Management Plan for Kirkton Glen West Kilbride had recently been approved by the Council which could be used for reference purposes in relation to this issue.

After discussion, the Committee agreed (a) to instruct the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chief Officers to investigate this matter and report; and (b) to remit to the Chair to raise the matter at the next meeting of the five Chairs to be held on 30 July 1996.

The meeting ended at 12.50 p.m.