

Ardrossan and Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston Area Committee
3 February 2011

STEVENSTON, 3 February 2011 - At a meeting of the Ardrossan and Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Anthony Gurney, William Gibson, John Hunter, Peter McNamara, Ronnie McNicol and Alan Munro.

In Attendance

J. McHarg, Assistant Manager (Community Services), N. Marshall, Resource Co-ordinator and B. Anderson, Performance/Grants Information Officer (Education and Skills); J. Cumming, Project Officer (Economic Development) and M. Anderson, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Also In Attendance

Station Commanders Mark Gallacher and Derek Davidson (Strathclyde Fire and Rescue); and Sergeant. S. McLintock (Strathclyde Police).

Chair

Councillor Gurney in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Margie Currie and David Munn.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 25 November 2010 were signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Tall Ships

Submitted report and received a presentation by Nigel Marshall, Outdoor Education Learning Manager on the possibility of the Tall Ships visiting the Lamlash Bay area, Isle of Arran in the summer of 2011.

The Tall Ships are due to visit the Firth of Clyde during the week of 6 July 2011 as part of the 2011 Tall Ships Race. Although the exact position of the fleet will be weather dependent, an interest has been expressed in using Lamlash Bay as a staging stop on the way to Greenock. It is possible that at least as many vessels (20) and crew (480) could visit in 2011 as during the last race to visit the Clyde in 1999.

A number of proposals associated with the visit have been developed and costed by a Community Steering Group, led by Lamlash Yacht Club. The latter has invested some £4,000 to meet the cost of toilet and shower facilities for the event. However, a recent application for funding was unsuccessful and, as a result, other costs, such as advertising and promotion, transport and welcome packs, still require to be met. The group is, therefore, seeking support and advice from the Council on promoting, and securing community benefit, from the event.

Members discussed the event's potential and considered possible avenues of funding and support.

The Committee agreed (a) to note its support for the project; (b) that the Assistant Manager (Community Services) contact the group regarding making application to the Community Development Grant Fund and, if applicable, the Local Youth Action Fund; (c) that the Project Officer (Economic Development) discuss with the group the project's eligibility for Community Benefit funding; and (d) that the Clerk to the Committee liaise with the Council's Communications Manager and Economic Development Manager to discuss any advice or support which might be offered in terms of the promotion of the event and securing funding and support from other public bodies and the local business community.

4. Strathclyde Police

Sergeant McIntock provided information on the following:-

- an arrest in connection with an attempted murder in Glasgow Street, Ardrossan, on 22 January 2011;
- ongoing enquiries in relation to an incident of rape at Glencairn Street, Stevenston on 24 January 2011;
- 3 arrests, and an ongoing action plan, associated with more than 30 house-breakings in the local area;
- a number of Community Policing action plans covering issues such as dog fouling and problems associated with parking near schools; and
- the appointment of the new Area Commander, Chief Inspector Gary Ritchie.

Sergeant McIntock also gave an update on issues raised previously by the Area Committee. He confirmed that the Police would not support the use by taxis of bus lanes on Kilwinning Road, Stevenston and advised that the matter of buses waiting on Princes Street, Ardrossan had been referred to the Traffic Management section in Ayr. Sergeant McIntock also informed Members that speeding traffic at Saltcoats seafront would continue to be monitored.

Members discussed the following issues:-

- the recent use of temporary CCTV cameras attached to lighting columns in the Eglinton Road area of Ardrossan;
- the number, and shift patterns, of Community Police Officers serving the Ardrossan area;
- cars and taxis parking on 'school keep clear' lines, in particular outside St Peter's and Winton Primary Schools;
- difficulties associated with tracing items of stolen property, such as jewellery; and
- a recent incident involving an adult apparently passing alcohol to a number of young teenagers in the lane adjacent to the Jaipur Indian Restaurant on Glasgow Street, Ardrossan.

The Committee agreed (a) to note that Sergeant McLintock will (i) seek to advise Members on the background to the use of temporary CCTV cameras on lighting columns on Eglinton Road, Ardrossan; and (ii) raise an action plan in connection with the alleged supply of alcohol to young teenagers by an adult in the lane off Glasgow Street, Ardrossan; (b) that the Clerk liaise with the Council's Education and Health Service to address the issue of taxis hired by the Council waiting on 'school keep clear' lines; and (c) otherwise, to note the information provided.

5. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on activity from 15 November 2010 to 20 January 2011, which included information on 12 accidental dwelling fires, accidental and deliberate non-domestic fires, refuse fires, a grass and heath fire, false alarms, 2 road traffic collisions and other special services.

Station Commanders Derek Davidson and Mark Gallacher provided further information on the following:-

- the focus on educating the public as means of preventing fires;
- the provision of funding for events on Arran, to allow every primary school pupil to receive fire safety information at Lamlash Fire Station and for all second-year pupils at Arran High School to undertake a tailored Firereach course;
- the importance of working with the Council to promote the availability of Home Fire Safety Visits, particularly among high risk groups; and
- the planned refurbishment of the Community Fire Station on Kilwinning Road, Stevenston.

Members discussed the possibility of becoming directly involved in promoting Home Fire Safety Visits and received further information, on:-

- the need to address the incidence of fire casualties in the Committee's area and made up almost 50% of the figure for North Ayrshire as a whole in the period from 15 November 2010 to 20 January 2011; and
- the new fire and rescue appliances stationed within the Committee's area.

The Committee agreed (a) that the Council's Communications Manager be requested to liaise with the Fire and Rescue Service, to explore the possibility of involving Elected Members in promoting the availability of Home Fire Safety Visits; and (b) to otherwise note the information provided.

6. Community Benefit Fund

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on applications for grant received in respect of the Community Benefit Fund.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
The International Historical Cultural and Geographical Agency	£1,500
Whiting Bay Public Hall	£2,000

7. Community Development Grants Scheme 2010/11: Applications for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on applications for financial assistance under the Council's Community Development Grants Scheme.

The Assistant Manager (Community Services) referred to the Committee's decision of 14 October 2010 to grant £4,500, in principle, to Saltcoats Victoria Football Club, subject to the club being able to demonstrate by the February 2011 meeting of the Area Committee that it had raised the balance of monies needed for the project. Members were advised that the club has now secured the balance of funding required.

Members requested further information on grants awarded in 2010/11, broken down by geographical area.

The Committee agreed (a) to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
Arran Elderly Forum	£654
1st Stevenston Boys Brigade	£766

(b) that the Assistant Manager (Community Services) provide information to the next meeting on the disbursement of Community Development and Local Youth Action Fund monies by the Area Committee in 2010/11, broken down by geographical area; and (c) to note that Saltcoats Victoria Football Club has now secured the balance of funding required for its project, allowing the Committee's grant award of £4,500 to be released.

8. Saltcoats: Canal Street (formerly Reid Terrace): Street Naming for Housing Development by Cunninghame Housing Association

Submitted report by the Solicitor to the Council on a proposed name for a new street within the development of a site at Canal Street, Saltcoats.

The Committee agreed that the new street within the development be named "Canal View", excluding the flats on Canal Street and Guthrie Road, which will be given numbers of those streets.

9. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting of the Area Committee will be held on Thursday 17 March 2011 at 2.00 p.m. in the Ardeer Neighbourhood Centre.

10. Future Agenda Items

The Committee agreed that any items for consideration at the next meeting of the Area Committee should be submitted to M. Anderson or D. McCaw.

The Meeting ended at 3.40 p.m.