

North Ayrshire Council
2 April 1996

Irvine, 2 April 1996 - Minutes of the Meeting of the North Ayrshire Council held in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine on Tuesday 2 April 1996 at 6.00 p.m.

Present

George Steven, John Donn, Thomas Barr, Patrick Browne, Jack Carson, Ian Clarkson, James Clements, Stewart Dewar, Thomas Dickie, David Gallagher, Jane Gorman, Elliot Gray, Margaret Highet, James Jennings, Joseph McKinney, Elizabeth McLardy, Peter McNamara, Thomas Morris, David Munn, Margaret Munn, Alan Munro, Irene Oldfather, David O'Neill, Robert Rae, Robert Reilly, Gena Seales, John Sillars and Samuel Taylor.

In Attendance

George Steven, John Donn, Thomas Barr, Patrick Browne, Jack Carson, Ian Clarkson, James Clements, Stewart Dewar, Thomas Dickie, David Gallagher, Jane Gorman, Elliot Gray, Margaret Highet, James Jennings, Joseph McKinney, Elizabeth McLardy, Peter McNamara, Thomas Morris, David Munn, Margaret Munn, Alan Munro, Irene Oldfather, David O'Neill, Robert Rae, Robert Reilly, Gena Seales, John Sillars and Samuel Taylor.

Chair

Mr. Steven in the Chair.

1. Election of Convener

In terms of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act, 1994 the Council are required to elect a Convener on the first meeting of the Council held after 1st April 1996.

Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Browne, moved that Councillor George Steven be elected as Convener.

There being no other nominations Councillor Steven was unanimously elected as Convener of North Ayrshire Council.

The Convener expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Council for electing him as Convener following his period as Convener in the Shadow Year.

The Convener stated that he believed North Ayrshire Council would prove to be an accessible and responsive Council and that Members and Officers would play their part in delivering services of the highest quality to the citizens of North Ayrshire. He paid tribute to the hard work put in so far by Members and staff, particularly those involved in the Service of Praise held on 31st March.

The Convener concluded by giving his good wishes to all Members of the Council for their future success.

2. Election of Depute Convener

In terms of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act, 1994 the Council are required to elect a Depute Convener on the first meeting of the Council held after 1st April 1996.

Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Browne, moved that Councillor John Donn be elected as Depute Convener.

There being no other nominations the Council unanimously elected Councillor Donn as Depute Convener.

Councillor Donn thanked the Members of the Council for electing him to the post.

3. Minutes Confirmed

The Minutes of (a) the Meeting of North Ayrshire Council held on 20th February 1996; and (b) the Special Meeting of North Ayrshire Council held on 5th March 1996 were confirmed.

4. Reports of Committees

The annexed reports of Committees, being the Minutes of their Meetings as undernoted were submitted, moved and seconded in terms of Standing Order No. 8 and approved as follows:-

Committee	Pages
Corporate Strategy Committee: 27 February 1996	1 - 8
Education Committee: 5 March 1996	9 - 23
* Social Work Committee: 6 March 1996 subject to modifications (see below)	24 - 30
Housing Services Committee: 7 March 1996	31 - 35
Community and Recreational Services Committee: 12 March 1996	36 - 46
Infrastructure and Environment Services Committee: 13 March 1996	47 - 52
Protective Services Committee: 14 March 1996	53 - 56
Support Services Committee: 19 March 1996	57 - 69
Commercial Services Committee: 20 March 1996	70 - 72

Special Community and Recreational Services

Committee: 20 March 1996	73 - 87
Special Corporate Strategy Committee: 25 March 1996	88 - 91

* **Social Work Committee: 6th March 1996**

The modifications to the report of the Social Work Committee held on 6th March 1996 are as follows:-

(a) Social Work Operations Sub-Committee and Social Work Development Sub-Committee

Items 2(d) (i) and (ii) on page 26 of the report that Councillor Jennings be added to the memberships of the Social Work Operations Sub-Committee and Social Work Development Sub-Committee as ex officio member being Chair of the Standing Committee; and

(b) Grants to Voluntary Organisations 1996/97

That appendix SW1 to Item 8 on page 30 be amended to remit for the consideration of grant aid to Jobs Action Group and similar organisations to the Corporate Strategy Committee for a report by the Chief Executive.

5. Procedural Considerations

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the progress of drawing up Standing Orders, Contract Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and the Scheme of Delegation to Officers for North Ayrshire Council.

The Council agreed (a) that a report be submitted to the Corporate Strategy Committee on 9th April 1996 on proposals for these documents; and (b) meantime to agree to (i) the continued use of Cunninghame District Council's Standing Orders; (ii) the continued use of Strathclyde Regional Council's Contract Standing Orders as appropriate; (iii) the continued use of Strathclyde Regional Council's Financial Regulations as appropriate; and (iv) the continued use of Strathclyde Regional Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers as appropriate.

6. Appointments to COSLA

Submitted report by the Chief Executive advising that COSLA have requested that North Ayrshire Council appoint representatives to COSLA's Forums and the full Convention. The Council are eligible to appoint 4 Members to serve on the full Convention and one Member on each of the Forums.

The Council agreed (a) to appoint Councillors Steven, Clements, Morris and Jennings as the Council's representatives on the full Convention of Scottish Local

Authorities; and (b) to appoint the following Members to the 6 Forums:-

- a) Strategy - Councillor McNamara;
- b) Rural Affairs - Councillor Sillars;
- c) Education and Cultural Services - Councillor Oldfather;
- d) Social Affairs - Councillor Taylor;
- e) Development Services - Councillor Gooding; and
- f) Protective Services - Councillor Carson.

7. Urgent Items

The Convener agreed that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency.

8. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the current concerns surrounding the safety of beef and beef products.

An Officers Meeting was held on 28th March 1996 to discuss a corporate approach to this issue and the view was taken that the current Government advice in respect of the safety of beef and beef products should not be contradicted i.e. that it is safe to eat beef and any risk is extremely small. It was noted that there is a reduction in the demand for beef and beef products in certain areas, particularly Primary Schools. Some areas however have experienced no significant reduction in demand.

The Officers noted that overall a demand for beef and beef products has declined in certain areas due to public concern on safety. This has commercial considerations for the Council which require to be addressed such as the catering facilities operated by the Council at Harvies and the Magnum Centre which are operated as franchises and are run by National Leisure Catering.

The Council expressed their agreement with the Government's general advice in respect of the safety of beef and beef products but agreed (a) that due to public concern beef be withdrawn from the menus of all units/facilities which only serve a single menu choice and further, due to parental concern, that this be extended to all Primary, Nursery and Special Schools; (b) that subject to commercial considerations beef should continue to be provided at multi-choice units/facilities including those controlled by the Social Work and Community and Recreational Services Directorates and that this should extend to franchises where appropriate; and (c) to keep the position under review.

Meeting ended at 6.25 p.m.