

Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee
19 June 1999

Springside, 19 June 1999 - At a Meeting of the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson, James Clements and Jane Gorman.

In Attendance

W. Simpson, Community Services Development Officer; D. MacRitchie, Area Social Work Services Manager; R. Lee, Assistant Principal Officer (Accountancy); A. Osborne, Corporate Policy Officer; and D. McCaw, Assistant Administration Officer.

Chair

Mr. Clarkson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Irene Oldfather and Gena Seales.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 May 1996, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Publicity for Area Committees

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the development of a publicity strategy for Area Committees.

On 21 May the Corporate Strategy Committee instructed the Principal Officer (Marketing and Publicity) to develop proposals for publicising the meetings and activities of the Area Committees. A series of consultative meetings on this subject have been held with the Chairs of the Area Committees and a report detailing a proposed Publicity Strategy will be submitted to the next meeting of the Corporate Strategy Committee and, if approved, to the respective Area Committees.

Noted.

3. Monitoring Reports

Submitted report by the Chief Executive advising of progress made in the development of appropriate Monitoring Reports for consideration at future Meetings.

The subject of Monitoring Reports was discussed at a Meeting of the Area Committee Chairs on 21 May 1996 and has also been the subject of consultations with Directors/Managers. The discussions and consultations have established that some Directorates lend themselves more than others to monitoring reports. This is particularly applicable in Directorates which operate with a degree of decentralisation. In addition it has been considered that any reports must add value to the decision making process and not duplicate reports issued for information purposes. The introduction of performance standards will enhance the ability of the Area Committees to monitor service delivery at a local level.

The Committee agreed (a) to note the progress made in formulating appropriate Monitoring Reports; and (b) that a final report on this matter be submitted to the next Meeting of the Committee.

4. Community Consultation

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on matters discussed at the meeting of the Area Chairs on 21 May.

The undernoted issues were discussed at the meeting of the Area Chairs with regard to Community Consultation:-

- (a) the Council's Scheme of Decentralisation;
- (b) service provision consultations being conducted in accordance with the Area Committee structure;
- (c) the use of the Marketing Section in conducting Market Research;
- (d) the development of Area Committee Initiatives;
- (e) Service Directorate support for community/voluntary groups to facilitate community consultation; and
- (f) the value of wider based community conferences/seminars.

After discussion the Committee agreed to continue the process of Community Consultation taking cognisance of the issues raised at the meeting of the Area Chairs.

5. Environmental Improvements

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the proposed involvement of Area Committees in Environmental Improvements.

On 21 May the Corporate Strategy Committee agreed to invite the Area Committees to examine possibilities for Environmental Improvements as part of their Community Consultations

Area Committees may be able to promote Environmental Improvement Schemes and develop a community based focus for the generation of environmental improvement. Given the possible financial implications any proposed schemes would require the approval of the Corporate Strategy Committee.

The Committee agreed (a) to participate in the development of Environmental Improvement Schemes in conjunction with interested parties; (b) to instruct the Chief Executive, in consultation with appropriate Chief Officers, to investigate and report on a mechanism for facilitating the involvement of Area Committees in Environmental Improvement Schemes; and (c) to note that due to possible financial implications any proposals in respect of Environmental Improvements would require the approval of the Corporate Strategy Committee.

6. Community Safety/Accident Prevention

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the proposed involvement of the Area Committees in Community Safety/Accident Prevention.

On 21 May the Corporate Strategy Committee agreed to take up membership of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents for 1996/97. The Area Committees have also been requested to consider their involvement in the area of Community Safety which would have a broader remit and encompass Accident Prevention. It is considered that this could be achieved as part of the Community Consultation process and a budget of £10,000 has been established to be distributed by the Corporate Strategy Committee. These monies could be utilised as a Challenge Budget whereby each respective Area Committee would submit details of projects and bid for funds

The Committee agreed (a) to participate in the Community Safety/Accident Prevention initiative which could be undertaken as part of the Community Consultation process; and (b) to instruct the Chief Executive to submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee detailing a mechanism for the development of these matters.

7. Analysis of Grants to 31 May 1996

Submitted report by the Chief Executive detailing various categories of grants paid to 31 May 1996.

Noted.

8. Requests for Financial Assistance

(A) Community Grants

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application by Greenwood Playgroup for £100 for multi-cultural toys and play equipment.

The Committee agreed to award £100.

(B) Sports, Arts and Leisure

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application by Woodwynd Football Club for new strips, etc. at a cost of £400.

The Committee agreed to refuse this application but recommended that a note be kept of such applications until the end of the financial year when, if a surplus of funds was available, consideration could again be given to such requests.

(C) Playschemes

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application by Woodwynd Playscheme for the use of travel passes.

The Committee agreed to grant the application.

The meeting ended at 2.25 p.m.