

Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee
17 March 1999

Kilwinning, 17 March 1999 - At a meeting of the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee at 10.30 a.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson, James Clements, Jane Gorman and Irene Oldfather.

In Attendance

A Weir, Landscape and Amenities Services Manager, W Simpson, Community Development Services Officer, D Gilliland, Area Community Development Officer and A Haxton, Advisor (Educational Services), M Gillies, Assistant Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance Officer and M Thomson, Area Housing Manager, Kilwinning (Property Services) and S Paxton, Administration Officer (Chief Executive's).

Chief Inspector P Collier and Sergeant P Martin (Strathclyde Police) and Community Fire Officer T Kane (Strathclyde Fire Brigade).

Chair

Mr Clarkson in the Chair.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 3 February 1999, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Monitoring Reports

(a) Empty Houses in the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on empty Council houses within the Area Committee's boundaries.

As at 17 March 1999 there were 23 void properties in the Kilwinning area and 6 void properties in the Dreghorn and Springside area which shows a reduction in the number of voids over the past 3 years.

Reference was made to the length of time taken to let properties at 41 and 45 Montgomerie Terrace and 28 Eglinton Place, Kilwinning as a result of the damp-proofing and installation of central heating work which had been required.

Noted.

(b) Litter Awareness

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on litter awareness.

In the months January and February 1999 garden refuse and litter was removed from a public open space in the Pennyburn area. During the same period 9 calls had been made to the Litter Hotline. Strathclyde Police had reported 8 adults to the Procurator Fiscal and the parents of

over 20 youngsters had been warned about the offence of littering.

Noted.

(c) Educational Services

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) providing statistical information on attendance, running costs and leaver destinations in relation to schools serving pupils from within the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside areas.

The Committee agreed that similar reports be submitted on an annual basis and noted the position meantime.

(d) Community Development Grants Scheme: Expenditure Analysis 1996/99

Submitted report by the Chief Executive of the disbursement of grants from Community Development Grants Scheme from 1996 to 1999.

Noted.

3. Litter Awareness: Advertising

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on the advertising of the Litter Awareness Campaign and Litter Hotline number.

The Committee at its meeting on 3 February 1999 requested that as part of the Litter Awareness Campaign the Litter Hotline be advertised in the local press and a future edition of "Look North".

A pocket-sized card giving the number of the Litter Hotline has been distributed to local groups, schools and libraries throughout the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside area. The card was also distributed to members of the public present at the Area Committee. An advertisement will appear in the local press in due course advertising the Litter Hotline and the next edition of "Look North" will feature an article highlighting and promoting Litter Awareness.

Noted.

4. Community Development Grants Scheme

(a) Kilwinning Development Association

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on an application for the award of a Community Development Grant for the Kilwinning Development Association to assist in the provision of brackets for hanging baskets.

The Association has already received a grant of £1,500 in the current financial year for the provision of Christmas lights. The Community Development Grant Scheme conditions hold that only in "exceptional circumstances" can more than one application from any group be considered in each financial year. The aims of the Kilwinning Development Association, namely the regeneration of Kilwinning Town Centre complement existing Council policies.

The Committee agreed (a) to award £840 to the Kilwinning Development Association for the provision of brackets for hanging baskets; and (b) to advise the Corporate Strategy Committee that the existing Town Centre Management Initiative should complement the work of the Kilwinning Development Association in its efforts to enhance the Town Centre.

(b) Community Development Grants Scheme: Request for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on requests for financial

assistance.

(i) Corsehill Boys and Girls Club

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the application from the Corsehill Boys and Girls Club to the next financial year;

(ii) Springside Evangelical Church Youth Club

The Committee agreed to award £350 to the Springside Evangelical Church Youth Club to assist in the costs associated with a camp;

(iii) Dreghorn and Broomlands Sports Club

The Committee agreed to award £500 to the Dreghorn and Broomlands Sports Club towards the construction of a building extension to its clubhouse facilities;

(iv) Springside Community Association

The Committee agreed to award £700 to the Springside Community Association for the purchase of basic equipment and for the start-up of a youth programme for primary school children.

5. Common Good/Trust Fund: Standard Application Forms

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a proposed introduction of a standard application form for requests for financial assistance from Common Good/Trust Funds which will be introduced with effect from 1 April 1999.

Noted.

6. Community Safety

(a) Strathclyde Fire Brigade: Fire Statistics

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire Brigade on fire statistics within the Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside areas from 1 January to 28 February 1999.

The Committee were advised of the Phoenix Project, an interactive facility at Kilwinning Fire Station which will be formally launched in due course, to promote fire safety.

Noted.

(b) Strathclyde Police: Crime Statistics

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police, Community Involvement Branch regarding the level of recorded crime in the Sub-Division.

Although the number of offences increased between January 1998 and January 1999 the detection rate for crime in the area also increased substantially. Strathclyde Police made reference to a number of initiatives including "Twin Strike" to combat drug offences and house breakings.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 11.30 a.m.