

Three Towns Area Committee  
9 January 1997

**Ardrossan, 9 January 1997** - At a Meeting of the Three Towns Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10. 30 a.m.

**Present**

David Gallagher, Samuel Gooding, Peter McNamara, David Munn, Margaret Munn, and Samuel Taylor.

**In Attendance**

A. Herbert, Head of Accountancy Services (Financial Services), T. Jones, Operations Manager (Commercial Services), S. Burns, Manager, Area Services, M. Francy, Assistant Area Manager (Social Work), S. McLaughlin, Community Development Officer (Community and Recreational Services), B. Macdonald, Head of Corporate Business, R. Young, Principal Officer (Common Services), S. Bale, Administration Officer, A. Little Assistant Administration Officer, Lynn Wardrop, 1st Stop Shop (Chief Executive and Corporate Support).

**Also In Attendance**

Inspector Ross and Sergeant Edwards (Strathclyde Police).

**Chair**

Mr Gallagher in the Chair.

**1. Minutes Confirmed**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 21 November 1996, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

**2. Monitoring Reports**

**a) Collection of Bulky Household Items**

Submitted report by the Director of Commercial Services on service delivery regarding the uplift of bulky household items.

North Ayrshire Council provides a free service for the collection of bulky household items, excluding builder's rubble and large cast or metal items. Collection is from the front of the property, at the curtilage, unless the householder, due to age, disability or other circumstances is unable to put the refuse out. In these circumstances collection can be arranged from the rear of the property or from the property itself. Performance indicators show a significant growth in the demand for this service.

The Committee agreed (a) to request the Director of Commercial Services to liaise with the Community Service Order Scheme regarding the feasibility of the provision of a service to break up large cast or metal items for elderly or disabled householders; and (b) otherwise to note the report.

**b) Analysis of Grants to 4 December 1996**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the analysis of grants paid and balances remaining at 4 December 1996.

Noted.

**3. Applications for Financial Assistance**

Submitted reports by the Chief Executive on requests received for financial assistance.

**a) Community Grants**

**(i) Ardrossan Academy Playgroup**

The Committee agreed to grant Ardrossan Academy Playgroup £500.00 towards the costs of new equipment.

**(ii) Focus Photography Group**

The Committee agreed to grant £200.00 to Focus Photography Group towards the upgrade of darkroom facilities.

**(iii) Auchenhavie Playgroup**

The Committee agreed to grant £485.00 to Auchenhavie Playgroup towards the furnishing of a home corner.

**(iv) Three Towns Lone Parent Federation**

The Committee agreed to grant £200.00 to the Three Towns Lone Parent Federation towards the launch of this group.

**(v) Saltcoats Elderly Forum**

The Committee agreed to grant £200.00 to Saltcoats Elderly Forum towards the running costs of the group.

**b) Sports, Arts and Leisure**

**(i) Ardrossan Academicals Rugby Football Club Youth Section**

The Committee agreed to grant £300.00 to Ardrossan Academicals Rugby Football Club Youth Section towards equipment.

**4. Common Good Funds: Requests for Financial Assistance**

The Administration Officer advised that the current balance of the Saltcoats Common Good Fund stood at £490.00

**a) Saltcoats Victoria Junior Football Club**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a request for financial assistance in respect of the Saltcoats Common Good Fund.

Financial assistance is requested by Saltcoats Victoria Junior Football Club towards the costs of replacing training and match balls and training tops which were stolen during a recent break-in at

the football ground premises. This equipment was not insured.

The Committee agreed to grant Saltcoats Victoria Junior Football Club £250.00 in kind.

**b) Marie Curie Cancer Care**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a request for financial assistance from Saltcoats Common Good Fund from Marie Curie Cancer Care towards the costs of decorative Christmas lighting for Dockhead Street and Countess Street, Saltcoats.

The Committee agreed (a) to refer this application to the Director of Community and Recreational Services for consideration under the Festivals Budget; and (b) to advise Marie Curie Cancer Care to pursue future funding from Saltcoats traders.

**5. Community Safety: Health for All Accident Prevention Seminar**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a Health for all Accident Prevention Seminar to be held on 16 January 1997 in Kilmarnock.

The Committee agreed that Councillor Margaret Munn attend.

**6. Control of Dogs**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the control of dogs in public places.

The control of dogs in public places including playing fields and school playgrounds was raised at the Three Towns Area Committee on 21 November 1996.

The powers available to local authorities in relation to the control of dogs were explained under the following statutory provisions:-

- " The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.
  - " Control of Dogs Order 1992.
  - " Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Environment Protection (Stray Dogs Regulations 1992.
  - " Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.
- Noted.

**7. Dog Fouling**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the proposals by the Officers Working Group in relation to the control of dog fouling.

The Corporate Strategy Committee on 27 November 1996 established an Officers Working Group to provide practical solutions to the problem of dog fouling. A budget of £1,600.00 is available to each Area Committee and it is suggested a clearly defined area within the Three Towns should be identified to gain maximum impact and raise awareness of the issue generally.

Following discussion the Committee agreed (a) to identify Auchenhavrie Playing Fields, Stevenston and Sinclair Street, Stevenston as priority areas for the campaign on reducing dog fouling; (b) to consider Central Avenue, Ardrossan if further funds become available; (c) that a central recording system be established to effectively record complaints, to ensure where possible that the area is cleaned, that the Police are notified and that where appropriate individual action is encouraged through the District Court under Section 49 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982; and (d) that Officers be authorised to prepare a package of measures for the priority area identified and arrange for its implementation as soon as possible following consultation with the Chair.

## **8. Saltcoats: 1st Stop Shop**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the first three months of operation of the First Stop Shop in Saltcoats.

The 1st Stop Shop in Saltcoats opened on 2 September 1996 as the first all-in-one information shop in North Ayrshire. The statistical information available revealed that 95% of enquiries have been from residents of the Three Towns area. Additional facilities have been introduced including a mini-loop and a mini-com telephone link for the hard of hearing and a play area for children. A computer and video conferencing link between the Council Tax office at Cunninghame House and the 1st Stop Shop is currently being established to assist in the handling of Council Tax enquiries. The provision of public access terminals and the computerisation of administrative work including E-mail are also planned.

The Committee agreed (a) to publicise further the services available from the 1st Stop Shop ; (b) to improve the signage at the reception area; and (c) otherwise to note the report.

## **9. Community Consultation**

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Community Consultation Meeting held on 3 December 1996.

The Committee agreed (a) to hold further Community Consultation Meetings; and (b) otherwise to note the report.

## **10. Street Naming**

Submitted reports by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment on the undernoted proposals for naming new housing developments:-

### **a) Naming of New Private Housing Development by Persimmon Homes at Dykesmains, Saltcoats**

Mr Taylor recommended the streets in the development be named "Hilton Court", Kemp Court", "Murdoch Court", "Lansborough Court", "Knockjargon Court", "Caaf Water Place", Corsankell Wynd" and "Three Sisters Court".

The Committee agreed to Mr Taylor's recommendations.

### **b) Naming of New Barrier Free Housing Development by North Ayrshire Council, off Schoolwell Street, Stevenston**

Mr Gooding recommended the new development be named "Burnside Place".

The Committee agreed to Mr Gooding's recommendation.

### **c) Naming of New Barrier Free Housing Development by Cunninghame Housing Association at Glasgow Street, Barr Street, Kilmahew Street, Ardrossan**

Mrs Munn recommended the new development be named "Kilmahew Court".

The Committee agreed to Mrs Munn's recommendation

#### **11. Saltcoats: Argyle Road: Parking**

Mr McNamara advised of traffic congestion on Argyle Road, Saltcoats. This busy road is also a bus route and, with parking on both sides of the road, crossing can be hazardous.

The Committee agreed to request the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment to investigate how parking congestion can be avoided at Argyle Road, Saltcoats and report to the next Area Committee.

#### **12. Three Towns Water Sports Association**

Mr McNamara asked that investigations be undertaken to identify appropriate accommodation for the Three Towns Water Sports Association.

The Committee agreed (a) to arrange a meeting with the Three Towns Water Sports Association; and (b) to request the Director of Community and Recreational Services to report on the feasibility of the Customs House, Saltcoats as a base for this organisation.

#### **13. Saltcoats: Jack's Road/Argyle Road: Area of Ground Under Bridge**

Mr McNamara advised that complaints have been received from a local resident regarding youths gathering under the bridge at Jack's Road/Argyle Road, Saltcoats.

Inspector Ross advised that similar complaints had been received from a local resident and investigated by the Police who did not consider the complaint justified. This area was targeted during Operation Spotlight and no evidence of anti social activity was observed.

The Committee agreed (a) to request the Police to report on the gathering of youths under the bridge at Jack's Road and Argyle Road, Saltcoats; (b) to request the Director of Community and Recreational Services to report on (i) the feasibility of cobbling the area of ground under the bridge at Jack's Road/Argyle Road, Saltcoats; and (ii) the provision of facilities for young people within the Three Towns area to a future meeting.

The meeting ended at 12.25 p.m.