

Three Towns Area Committee
9 May 1996

Saltcoats, 9 May 1996 - At a Meeting of the Three Towns Area Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 9.15 a.m.

Present

David Gallagher, Margaret Munn, Alan Munro and Samuel Taylor.

In Attendance

The Director of Community and Recreational Services, The Head of Accountancy Services, The Head of Service Management (Social Work), J. Mason, Principal Engineer, (Planning, Roads and Environment) S. Burns, Manager (Area Services) Social Work, J. McKinlay, Area Community Development Officer, A. Osborne, Corporate Policy Officer and S. Bale, Administration Officer.

Chair

Mr. Gallagher in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Samuel Gooding, Peter McNamara and David Munn.

1. Minutes Confirmed

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 28 March 1996, copies of which had previously been circulated were confirmed.

2. Community and Recreational Services Directorate: Service Delivery Plan

The Director of Community and Recreational Services gave a presentation on the Directorate's Service Delivery Plan for the Three Towns Area.

The Director of Community and Recreational Services outlined the facilities in the Three Towns area, the staffing structure and various ongoing projects. The Service Delivery Plan approved by the Community and Recreational Services Committee has identified a three stage strategy, viz:- early priorities, medium-term priorities and long-term priorities. Whilst being aware of problems requiring attention, there was a lack of financial resources to deal with all of these and each Area Committee would be requested to identify the priorities in their area. There will also be market research and consultation with the local communities to determine what are their priorities.

The Director outlined investment in leisure facilities over the last few years and gave assurances that the service will be provided to a high standard, responsive to local needs with a level standard of service throughout North Ayrshire.

The Committee noted the report.

3. Core Agenda of Priority Items and Monitoring Reports

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on proposals for a Core Agenda of Priority Items and Monitoring Reports for consideration at future meetings.

It is now proposed to discuss the issue of Monitoring Reports at the Meeting of the Area Committee Chairs which had been arranged for 21 May 1996. A report will be submitted to the next Meeting of the Area Committee on the outcome.

The Committee agreed (a) to note the progress made in drawing up a Core Agenda of Priority Items and Monitoring Reports; (b) agreed (i) a further report be submitted to the next meeting; and (ii) that the Director of Education report on the priority item on Pre-Five provision to the next Meeting.

4. Community Consultation

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a Community Consultation Meeting held with representatives of Community Associations and Forums on 23 April 1996.

Arrangements for further community consultation will be considered at the Meeting of the five Area Committee Chairs on 21 May 1996.

The Committee agreed (a) to refer the points raised by the Community Associations/Forums to the appropriate Directors for their consideration; (b) that a report be submitted to a future Meeting detailing the results of the community consultation questionnaire; (c) to consider arrangements for further community consultation after the Meeting of the five Area Committee Chairs; and (d) to note the progress made in introducing its functions to Community Associations/Forums.

5. Briefing on Police Matters

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a Briefing Meeting on Police Matters held with Superintendent John Young, Police Sub-Divisional Officer on 30 April 1996.

A number of issues of concern relating to Police Matters in the Three Towns had been raised at the Meeting and Members acknowledged the need to follow up these issues with the Police.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) to note the various points raised in relation to Police Matters in the Three Towns area; (b) to identify at a future Meeting the issues which they wished to discuss further; and (c) to hold a further Meeting with the Police at a future date to discuss these issues together with relevant Officers of North Ayrshire Council.

6. Saltcoats: Dykesmains Distributor Road/Burns Avenue

Submitted report by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment on the implications of a new distributor road at Burns Avenue, Saltcoats.

. The new road which will provide an additional link between Ardrossan and Saltcoats has been substantially completed but is closed to through traffic

The Committee expressed their concern on the effects of the likely increased traffic using this road on the existing residential area around Burns Avenue, as they consider that motorists would use this road in order to avoid the sets of traffic lights on the A78 High Road.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) to note the report; and (b) to approve the proposal that the conditions on Burns Avenue be monitored before and after the opening of the new distributor road to assess whether any traffic calming measures are required.

7. Saltcoats: Mayfield and St. Anthony's Primary School: Traffic Conditions

Submitted report by the Director of Planning, Roads and Environment on traffic conditions outside Mayfield and St. Anthony's Primary Schools, Saltcoats.

The Principal Engineer advised that traffic congestion outside primary schools was commonplace, particularly due to the now widespread practice of parents collecting their children by car and attempting to park in the immediate vicinity of the school gate. Joint Meetings of Officers within the Planning, Roads and Environment Directorate, Strathclyde Police and the appropriate Head Teachers have been arranged to examine additional safety measures, educational guidance and enforcement.

The Committee agreed (a) to note the report; and (b) that a report on proposals for future action be submitted to the next Meeting.

8. Interim Guidelines for Consideration of Community Grant Applications

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on interim guidelines for the consideration of Community Grant Applications.

The Corporate Strategy Committee at its Meeting on 25 March 1996 agreed that, in the first instance, the Community Grants Scheme would be operated in accordance with the established criteria and principles of the former Strathclyde Regional Council Community Grants Scheme. The proposed interim guidelines are based on the previous practice of considering Community and Leisure Grant Applications.

The Committee agreed (a) to adopt the interim guidelines; and (b) to consider at a

future Meeting new proposals for a Community Grants Scheme set of guidelines.

9. Additional Allocation to Community Grants Budget

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an additional allocation to the Committee's Community Grants Budget from the former Cunninghame District Council Leisure Grants Budget approved by the Community and Recreational Services Committee on 23 April 1996.

The Committee (a) noted the additional allocation of £2,996 to the Community Grants Budget; (b) agreed to incorporate this amount into a single enhanced Community Grants Budget total; and (c) approved the procedures for processing grant applications which are to apply to all Community Grant applications.

10. Community Grant Applications

Submitted (a) report by the Director of Community and Recreational Services on grant applications received in respect of groups within the remit of the Area Committee, which were previously considered under the former scheme of Cunninghame District Council Leisure Grants and (b) report by the Chief Executive on a grant application from Stevenston Elderly Forum which falls within the remit of the Area Committee and which was previously considered under the former scheme of Strathclyde Regional Council Community Grants.

The Committee agreed to award grants as follows:-

Whitlees Community Association Gala	- £100
Ardrossan Highland Games	- £300
Ardrossan Academy Concert Band Support Group	- £250
Stevenston Elderly Forum	- £300

11. Playschemes: Applications 1996

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on applications for playscheme funding for summer and autumn 1996.

The award of grants in accordance with the agreed formula for funding of playschemes would result in the total awards to playschemes exceeding the budget allocation by £2,886. This amount would have to be met from the general Community Grants Budget.

The Committee agreed (a) to award funding to playschemes as follows:-

Ardrossan Lone Parents	£708
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Ardrossan Women's Aid	£380
Women's Centre	£500
Ardrossan Afterschool	£950
Saltcoats Afterschool	£620
Ardeer Afterschool Care Club	£950
Ardrossan Summer Venture	£411
Stevenston Teenscene	£290
Hayocks School Break	£642
Ardeer Playscheme	£570

and (b) that a Monitoring Report be submitted to a future Meeting from the Director of Community and Recreational Services on the operation of playschemes in 1996.

12. Arrangements for Future Meetings of the Committee

(a) Timetable for Submission of Reports

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on submission dates for reports.

The Committee approved the timetable for submission of reports.

(b) Possible Venues for Future Meetings

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on possible venues for future Meetings of the Committee.

Venues had been assessed for availability and accessibility and a list of possible venues drawn up. The Committee considered that the Ardrossan Social Work Office, Eglinton Square, Ardrossan and the Saltcoats Area Office, 17 Vernon Street, Saltcoats would be unsuitable.

After discussion the Committee agreed (a) to authorise the Chief Executive to arrange to rotate the future Meetings at different venues subject to availability on the dates already agreed; and (b) that a report be submitted to a future Meeting detailing possible further future venues e.g. schools, sheltered housing complexes etc.

13. Community and Recreational Services Summer 1996 Site Visits

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a decision of the Community and Recreational Services Committee at their Meeting on 23 April 1996.

The Community and Recreational Services Committee had agreed to conduct a summer site visits programme to facilities within the area. There will be five visits, including the Three Towns. All Members of the Area Committee, together with all Members of the Community and Recreational Services Committee are invited to attend.

The Committee agreed that the Three Towns Area summer site visits be held on 3 July 1996.

The meeting ended at 10.40 a.m.