

## **AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON COUNCIL OF EUROPE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

At a meeting of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Council of Europe 50th Anniversary Celebrations held within the Council Offices, Rosebery Place, Clydebank on Wednesday, 4th November, 1998.

**Present:** Councillors Alistair Macdonald (LAB), Patricia Rice (LAB) and William Mackechnie (SNP).

**Attending:** Nigel Ettles, Principal Solicitor, Liz Cochrane, Principal Policy Officer and Anne Clegg, Research Officer.

### **APPOINTMENT OF CONVENER**

Councillor Mackechnie, seconded by Councillor Rice, moved that Councillor Macdonald be appointed Convener of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

Councillor Macdonald took the Chair.

## **COUNCIL OF EUROPE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

There was submitted report by the Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council giving an update on plans for the 50th Anniversary celebrations of the Council of Europe on 5th May, 1999 and listing a suggested programme of events made by the Officer Working Group.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the following proposals be progressed, subject to departmental assessment of the workload and resources involved:-

- (a) three Council of Europe flags be purchased at a cost of £38.77 per flag, which will be flown from suitable council buildings in Alexandria, Clydebank and Dumbarton;
- (b) support be given to groups intending to link the anniversary with any May Day events which may be planned for around that time;
- (c) the Head of Corporate Policy and Public Relations approach local women's groups and offer support for an appropriate event, which could also include the involvement of children;
- (d) some of the Council of Europe's key values of Equality, Tolerance, Diversity and Human Rights be developed. One option would be to link these with the existing calendar competition;
- (e) the anniversary be linked to the annual 10k race. Council employees and elected members entering the race may wish to run as a team representing the Council. These participants could be supplied with West Dunbartonshire T-shirts, showing the West

Dunbartonshire logo on the front and the Council of Europe emblem on the back. The event will be publicised to staff via Westpoint;

- (f) West Dunbartonshire schools spring concert will include a European theme;
- (g) catering in primary schools and the Council staff canteen will be given a European theme with special menus. This will be linked to exhibitions and display material in the canteen. Educational material on European countries will be circulated to all primary schools. It was noted however that special menus in secondary schools would present some problems due to the timing of the anniversary;
- (h) primary school children be encouraged to design a birthday card for the Council of Europe. Councillor Carnpbell to be consulted on the logistics of running such a competition, given her experience of similar events run by the Action Against Vandalism Committee;
- (i) school children be encouraged to participate in the Council of Europe's Internet Quiz. Stickers advertising the quiz should be ordered and distributed to all secondary schools;
- (j) the Meadow Centre and the Playdrome give consideration to 'Family Nights' with a European theme;
- (k) the Council's formal floral displays/beds reflecting the Council of Europe flag by appropriate planting in blue and yellow be investigated; discussions with the appropriate officer to commence as soon as possible;
- (l) a quiz with a European theme be advertised in Westpoint, with a view to encouraging participation by Council staff and elected members; and
- (m) all relevant departments be asked to nominate an officer(s) with responsibility for investigating and developing the proposals.

It was also agreed that the Head of Corporate Policy and Public Relations investigate the organisation of a week of musical events with a European theme to be held at that time, involving local choirs, musical societies and brass bands.

The Ad-Hoc Committee further agreed that a small booklet/pamphlet advertising all events and activities be published and distributed prior to May 1999.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Ad-Hoc Committee be held in January, 1999 to provide an update on the planned activities.