

COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Community Safety & Environmental Services Committee held in the Council Chambers, Municipal Buildings, Station Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday 4 October 2006 at 11.00 a.m.

Present: Provost Alistair Macdonald and Councillors George Black, Gail Casey, Linda McColl, Duncan McDonald, Craig McLaughlin, Marie McNair and Connie O'Sullivan.

Attending: David McMillan, Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services; Nigel Ettles, Principal Solicitor; Irving Hodgson, Head of Regeneration Services; Ronnie Dinnie, Head of Land Services; Graham Pollock, Environmental Services Manager; Alasdair Gregor, Planning Services Manager; Jim Pow, Manager of Resources; Angus Bodie, Manager of Transportation; Billy McCabe, Section Head – Events and Halls; Rodney Thornton, Section Head (Waste Services); Willie Gibson, Section Head (Estates); Billy McCabe, Section Head – Events & Halls; and Lorraine Beveridge, Administrative Assistant.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Geoff Calvert.

Councillor O'Sullivan in the Chair

CONVENER'S REMARKS

10200 Before commencing with the business of the Meeting, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-

10201 That due to a rotation of Conveners, Councillor McDonald be appointed as Convener of the Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee.

10202 As an amendment, Councillor Black, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin, moved:-

10203 That Councillor McLaughlin be appointed as Convener of the Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee.

10204 On a vote being taken, 2 Members voted for the amendment and 6 for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

10205 Thereafter, Councillor McDonald assumed the Chair.

VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 10206 Having heard the Convener, the Committee agreed that the order of business be varied as hereinafter minuted.

SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL (SAPC) 2006 SECONDARY SCHOOLS' PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION WINNERS: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL – ST ANDREW'S HIGH SCHOOL

- 10207 The Convener introduced this year's national competition winners to the Committee, namely Amie Loudon and Stacey Ferguson, pupils of St. Andrew's High School, Clydebank (in attendance for this item only), and invited them to repeat their winning performance to the Committee.
- 10208 Stacey and Amie were then heard on the topic of "Taking Action for Child Safety" and focused on areas of concern for the SAPC.
- 10209 Thereafter, the Convener, on behalf of the Committee thanked Stacey and Amie for their very impressive performance and presented them with a gift from the Council in recognition of their achievement.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 10210 The Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 2 August 2006 were submitted for approval as a correct record.
- 10211 Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-
- 10212 That paragraph 9609, under the heading 'Clydebank Crematorium – Service Times' be amended to read:-
- 10213 During consideration of this item, Councillor Black dismissed a comment made by Councillor Calvert and stated that 'He does not understand English because he comes from "south of Hadrian's Wall"'. Councillor Calvert brought the attention of the Convener to this remark which he considered to be racist in tone and inappropriate. Councillor Calvert is English by birth.
- 10214 Councillor O'Sullivan agreed that the remark was racist and asked Councillor Black to retract his remark. Councillor Black refused. Councillor O'Sullivan asked Councillor Black for a second time to withdraw his remark and apologise to Councillor Calvert. Councillor Black refused. Councillor O'Sullivan ruled that Councillor Black was in breach of accepted rules of conduct and asked Councillor Black to withdraw from the meeting. Councillor Black refused.

- 10215 After discussion and having heard the Principal Solicitor in answer to Members' questions, as an amendment, Councillor Black, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin moved:-
- 10216 That the Minutes be approved as printed.
- 10217 At this point in the meeting Councillor McDonald and Provost Macdonald informed the meeting that as they had not been present at the Meeting of the Committee held on 2 August 2006 they would not take part in a vote.
- 10218 After hearing Councillor McLaughlin, the Committee agreed to proceed by way of a roll call vote.
- 10219 On a vote being taken, 2 Members voted for the amendment (namely Councillors McLaughlin and Black) and 4 for the motion (namely Councillors Casey, McColl, O'Sullivan and McNair), which was accordingly declared carried.

**SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL (SAPC) 2006
SECONDARY SCHOOLS' PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION WINNERS:
WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL – ST ANDREW'S HIGH SCHOOL**

- 10220 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising the Committee of West Dunbartonshire Council's success in the 2006 Secondary Schools' Public Speaking Competition organised by the SAPC.
- 10221 After discussion and having heard Councillor O'Sullivan, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) that a letter be sent to the team of St. Andrew's High School, on behalf of the Committee, to congratulate them on their achievement in winning the national public speaking competition and in recognition of the sterling performance given to the Committee by Amie Louden and Stacey Ferguson; and
 - (2) to note the particular ongoing support to public speaking in West Dunbartonshire given by St Andrew's High School 'team manager', Ms Claire McWilliams, Principal Teacher of English and Mr Michael Vassie, Headteacher.

**HOUSING, REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES –
PERFORMANCE REPORT**

- 10222 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing information on the performance of areas within Regeneration and Land Services and providing information on:-

- (a) Statutory Performance Indicators for the first quarter of 2006/07 and unaudited year end performance figures which had not been available for the previous report in August 2006; and
- (b) the Department's programme of Best Value Reviews for Land and Regeneration Services.

10223 Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved that:-

10224 The Committee approves the recommendation to note the contents of the report.

10225 After discussion and having heard Officers in response to Members' questions, Councillor McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Black, moved:-

10226 That the report be submitted to the next meeting of the Audit and Performance Review Committee to discuss, in particular, the impact of early closure of swimming pools on public holidays and on the length of time taken to deal with complaints.

10227 On a vote being taken, 2 Members voted for the amendment and 6 for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2006/2007 TO 15 AUGUST 2006 (PERIOD 4)

10228 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the financial performance of the Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services Department to 15 August 2006 (Period 4).

10229 After discussion and having heard the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the financial performance of the Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services Department; and
- (2) to note that the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services would provide Councillor Black with information on the upkeep of the play area in Bowling.

2006 PRO-AM GOLF TOURNAMENT, DALMUIR MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

10230 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing information on the outcome of the 2006 tournament and seeking views on staging this tournament in 2007.

10231 After discussion and having heard Provost Macdonald in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the staging of the Pro-Am Golf Tournament at Dalmuir Golf Course in 2007 and instructed the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services to undertake discussions with the Scottish Professional Golf Association regarding the staging of the tournament;
- (2) to instruct Officers to monitor closely the organisation of the Pro-Am golf event in 2007; and
- (3) that Officers should submit an alternative proposal to promote broader participation in golfing activities for consideration at a future meeting of the Committee.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS 2006

10232 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of details concerning the staging of the 2006 Royal Scottish Pipe Band Championships at Levensgrove Park, Dumbarton and providing a summary of the content of the independent evaluation undertaken at this event.

10233 After hearing Councillor O'Sullivan, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the successful outcome of the 2006 Royal Scottish Pipe Band Championships; and
- (2) to note the findings of the visitor survey and the event quality assurance survey which confirmed the important social, economic and cultural impact of the above event.

STRATEGIC WASTE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PHASE 2 – HIGH RISE AND TENEMENTAL HOUSING

10234 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services:-

- (a) providing an update on recycling service provision for the high rise and tenemental housing which was identified as unsuitable for participation in Phase 1 of the Council's Strategic Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP); and
- (b) seeking approval for the implementation of a doorstep recycling service for all high rise and tenemental housing.

10235 After discussion and having heard Officers in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to commend the success in obtaining funding to extend recycling services to high rise and tenemental housing within West Dunbartonshire;
- (2) to approve continued partnership working with Greenlight Environmental Limited in operating the service on a temporary basis; and
- (3) to approve the tender process for a contract for the longer term provision of the services to last up to 5 years.

GROUNDS OF CROSSLET HOUSE

10236 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of options in respect of providing access to a proposed housing development in the grounds of Crosslet House and seeking the Committee's instructions as to the way ahead.

10237 Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-

10238 That the Committee approve the recommendation to instruct the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services to develop Option 2 for accessing Crosslet House grounds development site and to submit a further report for the Committee's consideration once design proposals were available.

10239 As an amendment, Councillor McLaughlin seconded by Councillor Black, moved:-

10240 That the Committee agrees not to sell the grounds of Crosslet House and passes a vote of no confidence in the Convener.

10241 Having heard Councillor McNair and the Principal Solicitor in answer to Members' questions, on a vote being taken, 2 Members voted for the amendment and 6 for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

APPLICATION TO LEASE 9 MITCHELL WAY, ALEXANDRIA TO CHEQUE CENTRE PROPERTIES LIMITED

10242 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of an application to lease shop premises at 9 Mitchell Way, Alexandria by a financial services provider.

10243 After hearing Councillor McDonald, the Committee agreed not to grant the lease to the Cheque Centre Properties Limited.

WAR MEMORIALS – WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

- 10244 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the current condition of the War Memorials within West Dunbartonshire and outlining remedial work undertaken in 2006.
- 10245 Having heard Councillor McDonald, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note progress in the implementation of a programme of remedial works to memorials within West Dunbartonshire;
 - (2) to fund all necessary remedial works; and
 - (3) to instruct Officers to investigate and secure funding opportunities to carry out further remedial works.

UPDATE ON YEAR 2 PERFORMANCE OF EMPLOYEE COSMOPOLITAN MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

- 10246 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the year 2 success of the Employee Cosmopolitan Membership Scheme which provided employees of West Dunbartonshire Council with discounted opportunities to participate in physical activity at the Council's indoor leisure facilities.
- 10247 After hearing Councillor McDonald, the Committee agreed to note the continuing success of the employee Cosmopolitan Health and Fitness Scheme in increasing physical activity amongst employees of West Dunbartonshire Council as part of the Council's commitment to promote employee health and well-being and maximise attendance.

NOTE: Provost Macdonald left the meeting at this point.

NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK 2006 – LEISURE SERVICES

- 10248 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the successful involvement of Leisure Services in National Men's Health Week.
- 10249 The Committee agreed to note the successful contribution which the Leisure Services Section had made to National Men's Health Week 2006.

GREEN TRAVEL PLAN “WESTBOUND”

10250 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services seeking approval for introducing the Council’s first Green Travel Plan branded as “Westbound”.

10251 The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the Council’s first Green Travel Plan “Westbound”; and
- (2) to note the key role for the Sustainable Development Working Group in delivering the Plan to all staff of West Dunbartonshire Council.

CLYDE FASTLINK™ EXPANSION

10252 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of the current work on the potential to extend Glasgow’s Fastlink™ project along the north bank of the Clyde to Clydebank and making recommendations thereon.

10253 The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress made on the project to date and the current scope of work; and
- (2) to endorse West Dunbartonshire Council’s support to the project.

ASSESSMENT OF SCHOOL BUS PICK-UP POINTS

10254 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of the development of a methodology for the assessment of pick-up points used for school transport, and outlining the proposed development of this work.

10255 The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the consultant’s report as detailed in Appendix A to the report, and
- (2) to approve the proposed roll-out across West Dunbartonshire.

WINTER MAINTENANCE STRATEGY – 2006

10256 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services apprising of the Council’s statutory obligations under Section 34 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 and seeking approval of the Winter Maintenance Strategy – 2006.

10257 The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to delegate authority to the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services to provide assistance to Transerve and Amey Highways, if requested, to keep the A82 Trunk Road open during severe weather;
- (2) to approve the Winter Maintenance Strategy – 2006 for use in winter 2006/7; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting closed at 12.10 p.m.