

SOUTH CLYDEBANK AREA COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the South Clydebank Area Committee held in the Lesser Town Hall, Municipal Buildings, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Thursday, 30 January 2003 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors James McElhill, Danny McCafferty and *John McCutcheon; Rhona Young, Isabella Ashrif, John Hainey and Gordon King.

* Arrived later in meeting.

Attending: Alexis Jay, Director of Social Work and Housing Services; Alistair Johnston, Section Head (Accounting and Budgeting); and David Rooney, Senior Administrative Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mary Campbell and Patricia Rice.

Councillor James McElhill in the Chair

RESIGNATION OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

The Chair advised that a letter had been received from Ms Elizabeth McIntosh intimating that she was resigning from her position as a Community Representative on the Area Committee due to ill health. It was agreed:-

- (a) that Ms McIntosh's decision to resign from the Area Committee be noted; and
- (b) to note that Mrs Isabella Ashrif, who was the first Substitute Community Representative, would replace Ms McIntosh and assume full voting rights on the Committee with immediate effect, with Mr Gordon King consequently becoming the third Substitute Community Representative.

VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor McElhill advised that Mr Kenny Naylor, Business and Community Liaison Manager, Scottish Water and his colleague, Mr Alex McNair, were in attendance having requested permission to give a presentation to the Committee on the proposed new water treatment works at Milngavie.

It was agreed to vary the order of business of the meeting to allow the presentation to be made.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Area Committee held on 20 November 2002 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Area Committee held on 28 November 2002 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS AT MILNGAVIE

Councillor McElhill introduced Mr Kenny Naylor, Business and Community Liaison Manager, Scottish Water to the Committee.

Mr Naylor then gave a presentation on the proposed £100 million water treatment works at Mingavie Reservoirs which was the subject of a planning application that was due to be considered by East Dunbartonshire Council on 25 February 2003.

It was noted that approximately 8,500 people in the Whitecrook, Linnvale and Drumry areas of Clydebank received their water supplies from the existing Milngavie Water Works which, if the planning application was successful, would be replaced and upgraded to meet European and UK standards particularly for the removal of cryptosporidium and other micro-organisms.

Mr Naylor made reference to the fact that this was a second application, as a previous application for planning permission for replacement water treatment works had been refused. Mr Naylor then outlined various changes which had been made in relation to the proposed project in an effort to ensure that all environmental concerns were alleviated and the amended application would be given approval.

Councillor McElhill thanked Mr Naylor for his interesting presentation. Mr Naylor then answered questions from members of the Committee and a member of the public who was in attendance. It was thereafter agreed that a letter be sent to East Dunbartonshire Council on behalf of the Area Committee expressing support for the proposed new water treatment works.

OPEN FORUM – WRITTEN QUESTIONS

It was noted that no written questions had been submitted for consideration at the meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Meeting of the Community Development Co-ordinating Committee held on 9 December 2002 were submitted, for information, and noted.

AREA COMMITTEE TRAINING – AWARDING LOCAL GRANTS

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive providing feedback on the recent training which had been carried out on awarding local grants.

It was agreed to note the report and to recommend that a further report should be made to the Community Development Co-ordinating Committee to request decisions on the ideas raised by Area Committees for future training; it being noted that the report should also address how to improve the uptake of training by members of the Committees.

BUDGET CONSULTATION 2003/2004 – LOCAL PRIORITIES FOR SPENDING

The Committee was reminded that at the last round of meetings of the Area Committees, Community Representatives had been asked to outline priorities for local spending in relation to the Council's 2003/2004 Budget.

It was agreed to note:-

- (a) that three Community Representatives had responded to this request, all from Dumbarton Area Committee, and their responses had been sent to all Councillors for consideration when setting the budget;
- (b) that the four Directors who are assigned to Area Committees had been sent copies of the responses, with issues relevant to their Departments highlighted; and
- (c) that the Local Authority Police Liaison Officer had also received a copy of the points raised on community safety and policing.

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT

With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Area Committee held on 28 November 2002, the Committee resumed consideration of the application for an Environmental Grant which had been submitted on behalf of Whitecrook Community Group in connection with a proposed project involving improvements to a pathway between Low Crescent, Whitecrook and Millburn Avenue and associated landscaping works.

The Committee was reminded that consideration of the application had been continued to allow discussions to take place with the Director of Commercial and Technical Services with respect to the proposal.

A copy of the paper which had previously been circulated in relation to this application was resubmitted for ease of reference.

Copies of a letter dated 27 January 2003 which had been received from Michele Kerry, Project Leader, West Dunbartonshire Greenspace, who was assisting the Community Group with the project, were circulated at the meeting. It was noted that the letter provided additional information in relation to the proposed improvement works and that detailed technical specifications and a drawing relating to the project were enclosed with the letter.

After consideration it was agreed that a grant of £6,000 be approved. It was also agreed that the Group be wished good luck with the project and congratulated on the initiative which they had taken.

APPLICATION FOR LOCAL GRANT

Details of an application for a local grant which had been received from Old Kilpatrick Summer Camp (Ref. 02/04) were submitted.

It was noted that a grant of £1,400.00 had been requested to assist with the cost of the Group's Summer Camp in June 2003; the total cost of the project being £7,400.

After discussion it was agreed that a grant of £1,000 be approved, which was the maximum permissible in terms of current Council policy on applications for local grants administered by Area Committees. It was noted, however, that having regard to the decision which was taken at the Council meeting on 29 January 2003 with respect to the administration of applications for local grants by Area Committees, it would be acceptable for the organisation to submit a further application for a grant for the balance of £400.

CATERING FACILITIES AT THE PLAY DROME

With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Area Committee held on 28 November 2002, a report was submitted by the Director of Commercial and Technical Services advising the Committee of current operating practices and staffing levels for Saturday and Sunday evenings within the Play Drome cafeteria and bar facilities.

After discussion it was agreed:-

- (a) to note that additional tables and chairs will be provided in the foyer area to enable parents not taking alcoholic drinks to sit with children when the bistro is closed;
- (b) that the Director of Commercial and Technical Services be advised that, in the opinion of the Area Committee, the bistro should at least remain open until 6.30 p.m. on Saturday evenings to provide facilities for children attending the roller discos and aqua discos referred to in the report, which commence at 7.00 p.m. on Saturday evenings; and

- (c) that the Director of Commercial and Technical Services be requested to consider extending the opening hours of the bistro, on a trial basis initially, in accordance with the view of the Area Committee on this matter.

DISABLED ACCESS TO SHOPS WITHIN CLYDE REGIONAL CENTRE

With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Area Committee held on 28 November 2002, the Committee was advised that letters had been sent to the Manager of the Clyde Shopping Centre and the Secretary of West Dunbartonshire Access Panel on 9 December 2002 advising of the Committee's concerns in relation to disabled access and access by parents with prams/pushchairs in the Shopping Centre.

In this connection a copy of a letter of response which had been received from the Manager of the Clyde Shopping Centre was submitted for information.

It was noted:-

- (a) that a Disability Access survey was being carried out by consultants on behalf of the owners of the Shopping Centre to identify any areas that require to be upgraded by individual stores;
- (b) that as part of the present refurbishment works, automatic doors will be installed in the Shopping Centre, as will a lift and disabled toilets; and
- (c) that a shopmobility scheme is also being introduced.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Centre Manager requesting that a representative attend the next meeting of the Area Committee to give a presentation on the outcome of the Disability Access survey.

NOTE: Councillor McCutcheon entered the meeting during consideration of the above item.

DISABLED FRIENDLY BUSES WITHIN CLYDEBANK AREA

With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Area Committee held on 28 November 2002, the Committee was reminded that it had been agreed that Ms. McIntosh would raise this matter at a meeting of the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority which she had been due to attend on 30 November 2002 and give a verbal report at this meeting.

In view of the fact that Ms McIntosh had resigned from the Committee, it was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries to ascertain if the matter had been raised at the meeting of the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority in November 2002 and provide an update in this regard at the next meeting of the Area Committee.

GREENLIGHT CARE OF GARDENS SCHEME

With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 28 November 2002, a report was submitted by the Director of Commercial and Technical Services providing information relating to the operation of the Care of Gardens Scheme.

After discussion it was agreed that the report be noted.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTBLOW RECREATION GROUND AND SPORTS PAVILION

A report was submitted by the Director of Commercial and Technical Services providing information with regard to the proposed development/upgrade of Mountblow Recreation Ground and Sports Pavilion.

In this connection copies of a drawing showing a draft layout were circulated at the meeting.

After hearing Councillor McCafferty and following discussion it was agreed:-

- (a) that the report be noted and that the principle of an application for funding being made to sportscotland be supported;
- (b) that the relevant officers be invited to attend the next meeting of the Area Committee to give a presentation on the proposals; and
- (c) that thereafter a public meeting could be arranged, if considered appropriate, and an application for funding could be submitted to sportscotland.

DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that the next meeting was due to be held on Thursday, 27 March 2003 at 7.00 p.m.

It was agreed that the venue for the meeting would again be the Lesser Town Hall, Municipal Buildings, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank, if available.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN MOTIONS/QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to note that the deadline for submission of written motions/questions for consideration at the next meeting would be 4 p.m. on Thursday 13 March 2003.

OPEN FORUM – VERBAL QUESTIONS/ISSUES

A member of the public, Mr James Graham, raised an issue concerning the fact that there was no reference within the Local Plan to Clydebank being in a Salmon Fisheries District and he expressed concern that the Council was not taking action to promote Salmon and Fresh Water Fishing given the social and economic values associated with the activity.

After discussion and having heard Councillor McCafferty, it was agreed that the matter of a reference to Salmon and Fresh Water Fishing being included in the Council's Cultural Strategy be referred to the Community and Cultural Services Committee for consideration.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.