

COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Community Safety & Environmental Services Committee held in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday 2 August 2006 at 11.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors George Black, Jim Bolland, Geoff Calvert, Gail Casey, Linda McColl, Craig McLaughlin, Marie McNair and Connie O'Sullivan.

Attending: David McMillan, Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services; Irving Hodgson, Head of Development and Environmental Services; Ronnie Dinnie, Head of Land Services; Don Findlay, Manager of Technical Services; Graham Pollock, Environmental Services Manager; Alasdair Gregor, Planning Services Manager; Kevin Neeson, Manager of Development Services; Alan Douglas, Manager of Best Value and Special Projects; Billy McCabe, Section Head - Events & Halls; Steve Marshall, Section Head – Forward Planning and Regeneration; Martin McKendrick, ASB Co-ordinator and Craig Stewart, Administrative Officer.

Councillor O'Sullivan in the Chair

COUNCILLOR AGNEW

9593 Prior to the business of the meeting, the Convener, Councillor O'Sullivan, requested the Committee's permission for Councillor Agnew, Service Spokesperson for Education and Cultural Services, to speak to two items on the agenda regarding Balloch Castle event site. The Committee agreed to the request.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

9594 The Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 3 May 2006 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

REQUEST FROM CLYDEBANK RUGBY CLUB FOR AN EXTENSION TO THEIR LEASE OF SUBJECTS AT DEAN STREET, CLYDEBANK

9595 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 3 May 2006 (Page 2440, paragraph 8950 refers), a report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the outcome of discussions with Clydebank Rugby Club concerning their lease of the subjects at Dean Street, Clydebank.

9596 After discussion and having heard the Head of Regeneration Services in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that consideration of the request from Clydebank Rugby Club for an extension to the lease of subjects at Dean Street, Clydebank, be suspended pending the conclusion of more broadly based discussion with the Rugby Club concerning the Council's overall sports pitch strategy.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SPORTS PITCH FACILITIES WITHIN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

9597 A joint report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services and the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing an update on the provision of Sports Pitch facilities within West Dunbartonshire.

9598 After discussion and having heard the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in answer to Members' questions, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-

9599 That the Committee agrees:-

- (1) to instruct the Directors of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services and Education and Cultural Services to progress the development of the three key strategies required to progress this issue, these being:-
 - Sports and Physical Fitness Strategy;
 - Sports Pitch Strategy; and
 - Sport Facilities Strategy.
- (2) to note the provision of improved sports facilities detailed in the Schools Regeneration Outline Business Case to supplement existing facilities;
- (3) to instruct the Directors of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services and Education and Cultural Services to investigate and consider funding options available to deliver the recommendations of the proposed strategies and to consider the development of community sports clubs; and
- (4) to discuss the terms of their current lease with Clydebank Rugby Club with a view to maximising the use of available space to the benefit of the Rugby Club and the Council.

9600 As an amendment, Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Black, moved:-

9601 That this matter be continued until such time as the issue of where any multi-pitch facility was likely to be located including the potential loss of other pitch facilities.

9602 On a vote being taken, 3 Members voted for the amendment and 5 voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

CLYDEBANK CREMATORIUM – SERVICE TIMES

9603 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of potential consequences in altering the length of service times at Clydebank Crematorium from thirty minutes (current) to forty five minutes.

9604 After discussion and having heard the Section Head, Events and Halls in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-

9605 That the Committee agrees that the service time at Clydebank Crematorium should remain at the present thirty minutes.

9606 As an amendment, Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Black, moved:-

9607 That consideration of the matter be continued for a further report providing more comprehensive statistics on capacity and times other than the 45 minutes service time.

9608 On a vote being taken, 3 Members voted for the amendment and 5 voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

9609 During consideration of this item, the Convener, Councillor O'Sullivan, required to call the meeting to Order following upon an exchange of personal comments.

BALLOCH CASTLE – MUSIC EVENTS 2007

9610 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of potential music events/festivals at the Balloch Castle event site in 2007.

9611 Having heard Councillor Agnew, Service Spokesperson for Education and Cultural Services, and the relevant officers in clarification of certain matters, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the staging of the proposed event at Balloch Park on 4/5 August 2007; and

- (2) that the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services be instructed, in consultation with the Spokespersons for Economic Development and Protective Services and Education and Cultural Services, to finalise arrangements for the other two events set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report, should the respective promoters indicate a wish to proceed.

BALLOCH CASTLE EVENT SITE

- 9612 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of improvement works undertaken and required at the Balloch Castle event site.
- 9613 Having heard Councillor Agnew, Service Spokesperson for Education and Cultural Services, and the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services, the Committee agreed to approve the expenditure of the balance of the R.E.M. concert, income currently held in a suspense account, to facilitate the construction of a secondary access/egress route to Balloch Castle event site.

THE CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF WASTES MANAGEMENT – AWARD

- 9614 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing that The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM) has presented an Innovative Practice in Waste Management and Resource Recovery award to the Waste Services Section.
- 9615 The Committee agreed to note the success of the Waste Services Section in achieving a “highly commended” award from the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management for Innovative Practice in Waste Management and Resource Recovery.

CONTAMINATION AND LANDFILLING OF RECYCLATE

- 9616 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing of the procedures established to monitor the disposal of waste collected for recycling.
- 9617 After discussion, the Committee agreed to note the report.

FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2006/2007

- 9618 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services seeking approval of the Food Service Plan 2006/2007.

- 9619 After discussion and having heard the Environmental Services Manager in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the Food Service Plan 2006/2007.

HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLAN 2006/2007

- 9620 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services seeking approval of the Health and Safety Service Plan 2006/2007.
- 9621 The Committee agreed to approve the Health and Safety Service Plan 2006/2007.

REGISTRATION OF PRIVATE LANDLORDS UNDER THE ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2004

- 9622 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on progress with the implementation of the Registration of Private Landlords scheme in terms of the Anti Social Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004.
- 9623 After discussion and having heard the relevant officers in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) that Scottish Executive guidance concerning the Fit and Proper Persons test be applied when considering applications for Registration as a Private Landlord; and
 - (2) to approve the recruitment of an Environmental Health Assistant to administer the registration scheme on behalf of the Council.

VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 9624 After hearing the Convener, Councillor O'Sullivan, the Committee agreed to vary the Order of Business as hereinafter recorded.

REQUEST BY WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE MUSLIM EDUCATION SOCIETY TO PURCHASE THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE, LENNOX STREET, RENTON

- 9625 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising of a request from the West Dunbartonshire Muslim Education Society to purchase the Victoria Institute, Lennox Street, Renton.

9626 After discussion, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-

9627 That the Committee agrees that:-

- (1) the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services be authorised to sell the Victoria Institute, Lennox Street, Renton to the West Dunbartonshire Muslim Education Society on the terms and conditions stated in paragraph 3.2 of the report; and
- (2) the Head of Legal and Administrative Services be authorised to conclude this transaction subject to such legal conditions as are considered appropriate.

9628 As an amendment, Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Black, moved:-

9629 That consideration of this matter be continued to enable a public meeting to be convened with all interested parties and that a written agreement should be prepared for submission, and approval, at the next meeting of the Committee.

9630 On a vote being taken, 3 Members voted for the amendment and 5 voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

ADJOURNMENT

9631 After hearing the Convener, Councillor O'Sullivan, it was agreed that the meeting be adjourned for a period of 10 minutes.

9632 The meeting resumed at 1.05 p.m. with all those listed on the sederunt being present, with the exception of Councillor Calvert.

REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY FOR TRADING STANDARDS

9633 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing of the creation of a new regional intelligence capability for Scottish Trading Standards services.

9634 The Committee agreed to welcome the establishment of a regional intelligence capability for Trading Standards in Scotland.

SKILLSEEKERS TRAINING INITIATIVES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- 9635 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the progress of the training programmes being provided by the Skillseekers Section of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services.
- 9636 After discussion and having heard the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services, the Committee agreed to note the success of the Skillseekers Section in providing training opportunities for our young people.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

- 9637 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing of the business activity which has been generated through the Council's business support programmes, and delivered by the Economic Development Section of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services during the last Financial Year 2005-2006.
- 9638 After discussion and having heard the Head of Development and Environmental Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the continuing support that is being provided to local businesses by the Council through its economic development activity.

NEW DEAL ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE (ETF)

- 9639 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the performance of ETF in 2005/2006 and the revised arrangements put in place to deliver the service within West Dunbartonshire.
- 9640 After discussion and having heard the Manager of Development Services in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the continued successful co-ordination of New Deal 18-24 Environment Task Force and the positive outcomes achieved.

WORKING FOR FAMILIES FUND: PROGRESS & NEW FUNDING

- 9641 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the progress of the Council's Working for Families Fund in West Dunbartonshire and confirmation of the award of further funding from the Scottish Executive.

9642 After discussion and having heard the Head of Development and Environmental Services in clarification of certain matters, the Committee agreed to note the satisfactory progress being made with respect to the Working for Families Fund.

WORKFORCE PLUS: AN EMPLOYABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND

9643 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing of the Government's Workforce Plus framework which aims to develop an effective and coherent employability service across Scotland.

9644 After discussion, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-

9645 That the Committee agrees to welcome the increase of funding to the area and supports the establishment of the local Workforce Plus Partnership.

9646 As an amendment, Councillor Bollan, seconded by Councillor Black, moved:-

9647 That the Council should not participate in this scheme as it was considered that there was an element of compulsion involved by forcing people into the job market, while they remained unsuited for employment.

9648 On a vote being taken, 2 Members voted for the amendment and 5 voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

GAMBLING ACT 2005 – CASINO ADVISORY PANEL

9649 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising on the outcome of the submission to the Casino Advisory Panel (CAP) seeking the location of a Regional Casino in West Dunbartonshire.

9650 After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that the Casino Advisory Panel had advised that the Council's submission in respect of the siting of the Regional Casino within West Dunbartonshire had been rejected;
- (2) to note that the Chief Executive had written to the Casino Advisory Panel querying the basis upon which this decision was taken and reserving the Council's position with respect to any future action in support of its bid; and

- (3) that a Task Group be established, involving elected Members and interested parties, to take matters forward with regard to the development and regeneration of the site.

DUMBARTON TOWN CENTRE PROJECTS 2006-2007

- 9651 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services:-
- (a) advising on progress with respect to the establishment of an appropriate mechanism to ensure effective engagement with businesses within Dumbarton Town Centre; and
- (b) advising on the proposed programme of town centre projects for Dumbarton in 2006/2007.
- 9652 After discussion and having heard the Head of Development & Environmental Services and the Manager of Development Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-
- 9653 That the Committee agrees:-
- (1) to note the main projects for Dumbarton Town Centre this year;
- (2) to make the following specific allocations from the funds available within the General Services Capital Budget 2006/07, for Dumbarton Town Centre:-
- (i) to supplement funds available from committed slippage £150,000 be allocated to facilitate works at the Old Academy Building; and
- (ii) £340,000 be allocated to continue Public Realm works in the vicinity of Dumbarton High Street.
- (3) that there be elected Member representation on the liaison Group, which would comprise of the local Member and the Convener, Councillor O'Sullivan.
- 9654 As an amendment, Councillor McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Bolland, moved:-
- 9655 That a further report be prepared giving full and detailed information, including expenditure, on projects undertaken in respect of the 3 Town Centres, since the inception of the Town Centres Initiative.
- 9656 On a vote being taken, 3 Members voted for the amendment and 4 voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

NOTE: At this point in the proceedings, Councillors George Black and Marie McNair left the meeting.

REGENERATION IN ALEXANDRIA

9657 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services:-

- (a) advising on the range of regeneration projects ongoing in Alexandria;
- (b) requesting consideration of an appropriate means of informing and engaging with partners, stakeholders and the public; and
- (c) requesting consideration of the delivery of key development projects.

9658 After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress made in implementing projects identified by the Alexandria Heart of the Vale Town Centre Action Plan;
- (2) that a consultation meeting be convened involving relevant Community Plan Partners and local representative organisations to consider the preparation of a regeneration plan for Alexandria and the establishment of a forum to oversee its implementation;
- (3) to delay the disposal of 1.383 acres or thereby of land at Main Street/ North Street, Alexandria (the Kippen Dairy site) until a more comprehensive planning brief for this site and the surrounding area has been developed; and
- (4) that there should be elected Member involvement in the Group/Forum when it was established, comprising of Councillor O'Sullivan, in view of her remit, and Councillor White (as substitute), it being noted that local Members were invited to attend and participate in these meetings.

HOUSING, REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - PERFORMANCE REPORT

9659 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing on the performance of areas within Regeneration and Land Services and providing information on:-

- (a) Statutory Performance Indicators for the fourth quarter of 2005/06 and unaudited year end performance figures; and
- (b) the Department's programme of Best Value Reviews.

9660 After discussion and having heard the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

SERVICE PLAN 2005 – 2009

9661 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services seeking approval of the Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services' Service Plan which included the roll forwards and new actions for 2006/07.

9662 After discussion and having heard the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services' Service Plan which includes those actions carried forward from 2005/2006 and new actions for 2006/2007.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OUTCOME AGREEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2006

9663 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing details of the West Dunbartonshire Anti Social Behaviour Outcome Agreement Annual Report 2006.

9664 A copy of a revised Annual Report 2006 was circulated to Members at the meeting.

9665 After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report; and
- (2) to give retrospective approval for the submission of the document to the Scottish Executive.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REVIEW UPDATE

9666 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising on progress with general energy efficiency issues relating to Council buildings and on the projects and initiatives under development by the Corporate Energy Team (CET) and Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Officer.

9667 The Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

**WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON THE
NATIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY**

- 9668 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services informing of the main issues relating to the development by the Scottish Executive of a National Transport Strategy for Scotland and advising on the response sent to the Scottish Executive regarding the draft Strategy, responses to which were required by 13 July 2006.
- 9669 The Committee agreed to note the development of the National Transport Strategy, its implications and the role played by West Dunbartonshire in the consultation process.

**20 MPH SPEED LIMITS AROUND SCHOOLS AND SAFER ROUTES TO
SCHOOL PROJECTS 2006/2007**

- 9670 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services seeking approval to undertake a list of schemes which will be funded from the associated Scottish Executive grant.
- 9671 After discussion and having heard the Head of Land Services in further explanation, the Committee agreed to approve the projects detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

**EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT BID BY THE SOCIETY OF CHIEF OFFICERS
OF TRANSPORTATION IN SCOTLAND (SCOTS) FOR A NATIONAL
ASSET MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

- 9672 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services advising on the work being carried out by the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS) in bidding for Efficient Government Funding to develop a National Asset Management Framework, and seeking agreement to the Council's continued involvement in the project.
- 9673 The Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note the contents of the report and instruct the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services to confirm to SCOTS that West Dunbartonshire Council supports the proposed next stage of the Efficient Government Bid as detailed in this report; and
 - (2) that a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee providing details of the final cost implications for this authority.

CYCLING, WALKING AND SAFER STREETS PROJECTS 2006/2007

- 9674 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services seeking approval to undertake a list of schemes which will be funded from the Scottish Executive public transport budget – “Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets”.
- 9675 In relation to a point raised by Councillor McLaughlin concerning a feasibility study for a pedestrian refuge at Hillview Place, Tullichewan and at the roundabout on the A811 near Tullichewan where the road split into 3 lanes, it was noted that the Director would arrange for both locations to be evaluated and appropriate action taken.
- 9676 After discussion and having heard the Head of Land Services in further explanation and in answer to Members’ questions, the Committee agreed to approve the proposals detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL – CARE OF GARDENS SCHEME

- 9677 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 3 May 2006 (Page 2444, paragraph 8980 refers), a report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on revised arrangements for the provision of the Care of Gardens Scheme during 2006/2007.
- 9678 The Committee agreed to note the content of the report which outlined the service improvements introduced since additional funding was agreed in May 2006.

“BUZZING FOR HEALTH” AWARDS CEREMONY

- 9679 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the second successful ‘Buzzing for Health’ school meals awards ceremony which was held at the Beardmore Hotel and Conference Centre, Clydebank on Friday, 16 June 2006.
- 9680 The Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note the continued success of the Awards Ceremony in recognising delivery of services which meet national ‘Hungry for Success’ school meals standards; and
 - (2) that congratulations be extended to the award winners for their considerable achievement in achieving national recognition.

**PERFORMANCE OF THE LEISURE SERVICES TRADING OPERATION
DURING 2005/2006**

- 9681 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the performance of the Leisure Services Trading Operation against desired outcomes and objectives for 2005/2006 as detailed within the Leisure Services Business Plan for the years 2004 – 2007.
- 9682 After discussion and having heard the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in elaboration and the Head of Land Services in answer to Members' questions, Councillor McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Bollan, moved:-
- 9683 That a further report be prepared showing the effects to the public of reduced opening hours at leisure centres as a consequence of the Best Value proposals.
- 9684 As an amendment, Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor McColl, moved:-
- 9685 That the Committee agrees to note the progress in meeting the key business objectives as detailed within the Leisure Services Business Plan for 2004 – 2007.
- 9686 On a vote being taken, 3 Members voted for the amendment and 2 voted for the motion. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

**PERFORMANCE OF THE CATERING SERVICES TRADING OPERATION
DURING 2005/2006**

- 9687 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services providing an update on the performance of the Catering Services Trading Operation against desired outcomes and objectives for 2005/2006 as detailed within the Catering Services Business Plan for the years 2004 – 2007.
- 9688 The Committee agreed to note the progress made by the Catering Trading Operation in meeting the key business objectives as detailed within the Catering Services Business Plan for 2004 – 2007.

The meeting closed at 2.42 p.m.