

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 17 August 2005 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Gail Casey, Dennis Brogan, Jackie Maceira, and Connie O'Sullivan. Murdoch Cameron, West Dunbartonshire Community Councils Forum; Francis McNeill, West Dunbartonshire Community Councils Forum; Robert Cochrane, Faifley Neighbourhood Forum; John Diamond, Bellsmyre Neighbourhood Forum; Frances McGonagle, Gingerbread Scotland; Bill Rankin, West Dunbartonshire Access Panel; Abdul Ghani, West Dunbartonshire Minority Ethnic Association; Mary Theresa Doherty, Clydebank Community Forum; and Nan Cameron, West Dunbartonshire Seniors' Association.

Attending: Liz Cochrane, Policy Manager; Anne Clegg, Policy Officer – Community and Consultation; Ronnie Dinnie, Head of Land Services; David Hay, Litter Control Officer; Ross Wood, Senior Literacies Worker, Community Learning and Development; and Fiona Anderson, Administrative Assistant, Legal and Administrative Services.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Margaret Bootland, Marie McNair, Joe Pilkington and Andy White. Hope Robertson, Association of Clydebank Residents Groups; Bernard Bell, Feis Dhun Breatainn An Iar; Kate Kerr, Feis Dhun Breatainn An Iar; Ian Campbell, Dumbarton Community Forum; Helen Ramage, Dumbarton District Housing Federation; and Rhona Young, West Dunbartonshire Seniors' Association.

Councillor Gail Casey in the Chair

CONVENER'S REMARKS

6606 Before commencing with the business of the meeting Councillor Casey intimated that Jeanette Jennings and Patricia Rice had resigned from the Community Participation Committee. Councillor Casey requested that the Minute record the Committee's appreciation of the contribution made by Jeanette and Patricia and asked that appropriate letters be sent to acknowledge this.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 6607 The Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 18 May 2005 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

RESPONSES TO OPEN FORUM QUESTIONS

- 6608 Reference was made to the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 18 May 2005 (Page 1638, paragraph 5907 refers) when the following issues had been raised:-

(1) Reconnection Charges for Cookers

The Committee agreed to note that an officer from the department of Housing and Technical Services had visited the questioner and that the matter had now been satisfactorily resolved. It was noted that there were no reconnection charges on cookers.

(2) Council Tax Records

The Committee agreed to note that contact had been made with the individual to resolve the issue.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION

- 6609 The Committee agreed to note the following amendments to community representation on the CPC:-

- (1) Jeanette Jennings, Faifley Neighbourhood Forum's representative, had resigned due to work commitments;
- (2) Brian Rocks, who was Jeanette Jennings's substitute, would now be the Forum's main representative on the CPC, with Robert Cochrane as his substitute;
- (3) the local Senior Citizens groups had now formed an umbrella body named West Dunbartonshire Seniors' Association;
- (4) Rhona Young would remain on the Committee as the main representative of the aforementioned Association, with Nan Cameron as her substitute; and
- (5) Patricia Rice had resigned as Clydebank Community Forum's representative.

PRESENTATION – COMMUNITY LITERACIES TEAM

- 6610 Ross Wood, Senior Community Learning and Development Worker, gave a presentation on the work of the Community Literacies Team, part of the Community Learning and Development Service.
- 6611 The Convener, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Mr Wood for the interesting and informative presentation.

DOG FOULING AND LITTERING FINES

- 6612 David Hay, Litter Control Officer, gave an update to the Committee on the Council's approach and practices in relation to enforcing fines for Dog Fouling and Littering.
- 6613 The Committee noted that West Dunbartonshire Council had taken action to inform and educate the public by displaying notices, providing biodegradable poop scoops and installing special dog fouling and litter bins. The Committee was advised that steps would now be taken to enforce fines and it was hoped that an increase in enforcement would mean a decrease in the number of complaints received.
- 6614 Having heard the Litter Control Officer in response to Members' questions, it was agreed that a further detailed report on littering and the anti-social behaviour associated with it, should be submitted to a future meeting.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE (CPC) – COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERSHIP UPDATE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES LEAFLET UPDATE

- 6615 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of CPC held on 18 May 2005 (Page 1642, paragraph 5905 refers), a report was submitted by the Chief Executive:-
- (a) updating Members of the Committee on the Community Membership of the CPC;
 - (b) making suggestions as to future membership arrangements; and
 - (c) providing an update on the Community Representatives' leaflet.
- 6616 Having heard the Policy Manager in further explanation and following further discussion, the Committee noted the arrangements outlined in the report and agreed to recommend to Council:-
- (1) that the 3 Community Forum places should be filled by community representatives from the new Community Planning structures;

- (2) that, subject to Council and Community Planning Partnership Board (CPP Board) agreement, the CPP Board should be asked to consider the most appropriate mechanism for appointing these representatives i.e. from the Board, Thematic Groups or Civic Forum;
- (3) to propose that an additional two places be made available for groups working on health issues and money advice/poverty issues;
- (4) that the date for changeover for individual groups should be every two years, allowing the current groups to remain members until September 2006; and
- (5) that the CPC leaflet should include general information on the groups represented on the Committee, with the Convener or Committee Clerk as the contact.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL AS A “HEALTH IMPROVEMENT ORGANISATION”

- 6617 A report was submitted by the Chief Executive on the wide range of services delivered by Council departments which have a direct impact on the health of our community.
- 6618 It was noted that Bobby Jones, Health Improvement Officer, had been unable to attend the meeting as arranged but would be invited to a future meeting to respond to questions on health improvement and inform the Committee about the developments around Community Health Partnerships and Public Partnership Forums.
- 6619 The Committee agreed to note the work of the Council in improving the health of our Community.

ADVISORY 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS (TWENTY’S PLENTY)

- 6620 A report was submitted by the Director of Housing and Technical Services on the progress and effectiveness to date of the introduction of Twenty’s Plenty advisory speed limits within West Dunbartonshire.
- 6621 Having heard the Section Head, Traffic and Transportation, in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note and support the Council’s multi-disciplinary approach to road safety within West Dunbartonshire;
 - (2) that Members of the Committee should report any persistent offenders to the Police; and

- (3) to note it was hoped that the introduction of the compulsory 20 mph restriction in the vicinity of schools would have an impact on the 20 mph scheme in the rest of the locale.

6622 Following a complaint regarding members of the public being unable to access Dumbarton Cemetery on public holidays recently, the Head of Land Services agreed to investigate the matter with the Department of Development and Environmental Services and to provide Mr Diamond with a written response.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE

6623 A report was submitted by the Chief Executive outlining proposals for involving young people in a meaningful way in the work of the Community Participation Committee (CPC) and in other Council decision-making structures.

6624 Having heard the Policy Officer, Community and Consultation in further explanation, the Committee agreed to recommend to Council:-

- (1) that pre-agenda papers should go to the Team Leader, Youth Services for identification of relevant issues and communication to young people;
- (2) that each edition of the CPC Newsletter should be sent to the Team Leader, Youth Services, for adaptation for the youth information website; and
- (3) that young people should be able to bring issues in person to the CPC with support from appropriate staff.

6625 Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (a) that two Members of the CPC should be sought to act as liaison Members between the CPC and young people;
- (b) to note that Frances McGonagle had volunteered to be a liaison person provided support was available; and
- (c) to note that the Policy Officer, Community and Consultation, would report progress to the Committee at a later date.

FEEDBACK ON SENIOR MANAGEMENT NETWORK ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND CONSULTATION AND PROPOSED ACTION

6626 A report was submitted by the Chief Executive informing the Committee about the Senior Management Network on Community Involvement and Consultation and subsequent proposed action.

6627 Having heard the Policy Officer, Community and Consultation, in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to request regular reports from the Consultation Network;
- (2) to note that interviews to appoint Consultants to manage the Citizens' Panel would be held in the near future; and
- (3) to note the CPC's and Senior Management Network's thanks to Hope Robertson (Association of Clydebank Residents Groups) and Bernard Bell (Feis Dhun Breatainn An Iar) for speaking at the meeting about their community involvement and the development of the Committee; and
- (4) otherwise to note the content of the report.

UPDATE ON CUSTOMER FIRST STRATEGY

6628 A report was submitted by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the Customer First Strategy and Customer Service Standards.

6629 Following discussion the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to note the plans to launch the Customer First Strategy and Customer Service Standards in the Autumn; and
- (3) to note that information would be distributed to groups and individual Members of the Committee.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

6630 After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that the topic of Anti-social Behaviour, as suggested by Community Representatives would be placed on the October Agenda; and
- (2) that Scottish Water be invited to the October meeting to provide an update on their programme for the next five years.

OPEN FORUM

6631 The Committee noted that there were no Open Forum questions.

The meeting closed at 12.25 p.m.