

SOUTH CLYDEBANK AREA COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the South Clydebank Area Committee held in the Court Room, Municipal Buildings, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Thursday, 28 November 2002 at 7.05 p.m.

Present: Councillors Mary Campbell, John McCutcheon* and Andrew White; Elizabeth McIntosh, Patricia Rice, Rhona Young, Isabella Ashrif, John Hainey and Gordon King.

* Arrived later in meeting.

Attending: David McMillan, Director of Commercial and Technical Services; Gerry McNerney, Head of Personnel; Alistair Johnston, Section Head (Accounting and Budgeting); and Craig Stewart, Administrative Assistant.

Also Attending: Alan McMullen, Environment Trust.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Danny McCafferty and James McElhill.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

In the absence of Councillor McElhill, it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Campbell take the Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Area Committee held on 26 September 2002 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

After hearing the Chair, Councillor Campbell, the Committee agreed to vary the Order of Business as hereinafter minuted.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

Reference was made to the Special Meeting of the Area Committee which was held on 20 November 2002 when details of applications for Environmental Grants which had been received from the undernoted groups had been circulated:-

- (i) Drumry Recreational Action Group; and
- (ii) Whitecrook Community Group.

The Committee was reminded that it had been agreed at the Special Meeting that consideration of these applications and applications for Environmental Grants in general be continued to this meeting of the Area Committee.

After discussion, Ms. Young, seconded by Ms. McIntosh, moved:-

That the £25,000 funding which had been allocated for Environmental Grants be disbursed equally amongst the six wards that make up the Area Committee area.

As an amendment, Ms. Rice, seconded by Councillor White, moved:-

That consideration of the applications submitted be undertaken at this meeting of the Area Committee, in view of the limited timescale involved in completing the works.

On a vote being taken, three Members voted for the amendment and two Members voted for the motion. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

Having heard Mr. McMullen in respect of the applications submitted by the Drumry Recreational Action Group and the Whitecrook Community Group and following discussion, the Area Committee agreed:-

- (a) that the application by Drumry Recreational Action Group be approved and that the sum of £15,000 be granted in order to enable a recreational play area to be created for the children of Drumry and to help improve the environment of Vanguard Street; and
- (b) that the application by Whitecrook Community Group be continued to the next meeting of the Area Committee in order to enable discussions to take place with the Director of Commercial and Technical Services in respect of the proposal.

At this point in the proceedings it was noted that a further application for an Environmental Grant had been submitted by the Secretary of Old Kilpatrick Community Council and it was agreed that copies of the application be circulated at the meeting. It was noted that the applicants were seeking a contribution in relation to the Old Kilpatrick Clock Tower Appeal.

After hearing Ms. Young and after discussion, it was agreed that the sum of £4,000 be approved for the Old Kilpatrick Clock Tower Appeal.

In relation to a point raised by Mr. McMullen, it was noted that he was willing to make himself available to any community groups in the area who required assistance/guidance in making an application for an Environmental Grant.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION SCHEME

A report was submitted by the Director of Corporate Services inviting the Area Committee to nominate a Community Representative to participate in the Judging Panel for Employee Recognition Awards.

Having heard the Head of Personnel and following discussion, it was agreed that Mr. King be nominated as the Area Committee's representative on the Employee Recognition Judging Panel.

NOTE: The Head of Personnel left the meeting at this point in the proceedings.

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 17 October 2002 was submitted for information.

In this connection, an Excerpt from the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 30 October 2002 was also submitted.

The Committee noted that with respect to the item in the Minutes under the heading "Reallocation of Scottish Budget Resources – Environmental Grants", Council had agreed not to approve the recommendation that any money remaining in each Area Committee Grant budget at 31 March 2003 be carried forward to the next financial year.

INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE IN AREA COMMITTEES

With reference to the Minutes of meeting of the Community Development Co-ordinating Committee held on 17 October 2002, a report was submitted by the Chief Executive on ways of involving young people in Area Committees.

It was noted that the Community Development Co-ordinating Committee had agreed:-

- (a) that a community event be arranged to allow discussion on how young people can be involved in Area Committees;

- (b) that the costs of this event be funded from outwith the Area Committee budget; and
- (c) that the report by the Chief Executive, together with the Committee's recommendations, be submitted to the four Area Committees.

BUSINESS CARDS AND STATIONERY FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Development Co-ordinating Committee held on 17 October 2002, consideration was given to the recommendation of the Vale of Leven Area Committee that Community Representatives be issued with a supply of business cards and stationery.

The Committee agreed that the present arrangements were satisfactory and that there was no requirement for Community Representatives of this Area Committee to be issued with business cards and stationery at the present time.

AREA COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive concerning Area Committee representation on the Community Development Co-ordinating Committee (CDCC).

After discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Rice be nominated as the Area Committee's representative on the CDCC.

AREA COMMITTEE TRAINING NEEDS

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive on the recent induction training provided for Community Representatives and requesting the Committee to prioritise the future training needs identified by the Community Representatives.

After discussion and having heard the Clerk, it was agreed:-

- (a) that Community Representatives, once they had given the report further consideration, should contact the Clerk in relation to any training needs required;
- (b) that training for Community Representatives on awarding local grants was considered to be a very useful exercise; and

- (c) that the number of Representatives who were available for training on a specific date should determine whether the training should/should not go ahead on that particular date or whether further dates required to be identified, in order to ensure as many Community Representatives as possible were in attendance.

CONSULTATION ON LOCAL SPENDING PRIORITIES FOR 2003/2004

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services inviting Area Committee Community Representatives to outline local spending priorities relating to Council services, for elected members to consider in setting the 2003/2004 budget for the Council.

Having heard the Section Head (Accounting and Budgeting), the Area Committee agreed:-

- (a) that Community Representatives should complete and return the form which was attached as Appendix 1 of the report, in order that feedback could be obtained on local spending priorities for Council services; and
- (b) that the views of Area Committee Members should be sought on the methods that should be used in future to consult on the Council budget. In this respect, it was noted that it was intended to present options to the Area Committees early in 2003 requesting feedback.

APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL GRANTS

Details of applications for local grants were submitted for consideration. Having heard the Clerk, the Committee noted that a revised schedule had been prepared and this was circulated, for consideration, at the meeting.

Having heard the Section Head (Accounting and Budgeting), it was noted that application Ref. No. 02/99 for Linnvale Senior Citizens should not have appeared in the schedule as the application did not meet the agreed criteria. It was noted that this application would be considered by the Finance Working Group instead.

After discussion, the Area Committee agreed to approve the undernoted applications for local grants:-

	<u>Ref. No.</u>	<u>Name of Organisation</u>	<u>Grant Approved</u>
(a)	02/53	Lomond & Clyde Pipe Band	£525
(b)	01/186	Lomond & Clyde Pipe Band	£600

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

CATERING FACILITIES AT THE PLAY DROME

The Committee heard Ms. Rice in respect of the lack of provision for parents with children as a consequence of the restricted opening hours of the Bistro facility at the Play Drome, Clydebank. In this connection, Ms. Rice explained that this was a particular problem on Saturday and Sunday evenings when parents with children could not reasonably access this facility.

Having heard the Director of Commercial and Technical Services and the Chair, Councillor Campbell, it was agreed that the Director would prepare a report on this matter for consideration at the next meeting of the Area Committee.

DISABLED ACCESS TO SHOPS WITHIN CLYDE REGIONAL CENTRE

The Committee heard Ms. Rice advise of the difficulties of disabled access to Clyde Shopping Centre and access to the Shopping Centre by parents with prams/push chairs.

Having heard the Director of Commercial and Technical Services in answer to Members' questions and after discussion, the Area Committee agreed:-

- (a) that a letter be sent to Mr. William Hunter, Centre Manager of the Clyde Regional Centre, advising of the Committee's concerns in relation to disabled access and access by parents with prams/push chairs in the Shopping Centre.
- (b) that the Committee's concern on this matter be communicated to the West Dunbartonshire Access Panel.

DISABLED FRIENDLY BUSES WITHIN CLYDEBANK AREA

The Committee heard Ms. Rice in respect of the problems caused for disabled people in accessing buses which were not disabled friendly. It was noted that in terms of the Disability Discrimination Act, buses were not required to be adapted to be disabled friendly until 2012.

After discussion, it was agreed that Ms. McIntosh would raise this matter at a meeting, which she would be attending, of the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority due to be held on Saturday, 30 November 2002. The Area Committee noted that Ms. McIntosh would give a verbal report on the matter at the next meeting of the Area Committee.

GREENLIGHT CARE OF GARDENS SCHEME

Ms. Rice was heard in relation to the number of gardens within the Clydebank area that were maintained by Greenlight during 2002 and the criteria which was used in selecting gardens for the scheme.

Having heard the Director of Commercial and Technical Services, it was noted that 500 gardens were maintained by Greenlight in the Clydebank area, with a further 460 gardens being on the reserve list.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Director of Commercial and Technical Services would arrange to liaise with Greenlight in order to obtain further information on the matter and that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee.

DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that the next meeting of the Area Committee would be held on Thursday, 30 January 2003 at 7.00 p.m. in the Court Room, Municipal Buildings, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank.

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

The Committee noted that the deadline for submission of written motions/questions for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee was 4 p.m. on Thursday, 16 January 2003.

OPEN FORUM – VERBAL QUESTIONS/ISSUES

The Committee noted that no verbal questions/issues had been raised for discussion at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.