

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held in Meeting Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, on Wednesday, 17 August 2011 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Jim Brown, George Black, Jonathan McColl, Ronnie McColl, Jim McElhill, John Millar, Martin Rooney, Marie McNair and May Smillie; Jeanette Benzie, Clydebank Crime Prevention Panel; Murdoch Cameron, MBE, Community Councils' Forum; Neil Etherington*, Clydebank Community Forum; Haji Munir, West Dunbartonshire Minority Ethnic Association; Tom Nimmo, West Dunbartonshire Community Care Forum; Tony Oliver, Bellsmyre Neighbourhood Forum; Brenda Pasquire, West Dunbartonshire Citizens Advice Centre; Justeen Peacock, West Dunbartonshire Access Panel; Ann Aire, Clydebank Women's Aid; and Tom Woodbridge, Dumbarton Community Forum.

Attending: Peter Barry, Community Planning and Policy Manager; Alan Williamson, Team Leader, Forward Planning; Fiona McGuigan, Leisure Services Co-ordinator; John Kerr, Policy, Strategy and Continuous Improvement Co-ordinator and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer, Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services.

Apologies: Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor May Smillie, John Diamond, Anne McDougall, Francis McNeill and Rhona Young.

Councillor Jim Brown in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 18 May 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

PRESENTATION - LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Alan Williamson, Team Leader - Forward Planning gave a presentation on the Local Development Plan. The presentation dealt with a range of issues in the field of development planning and regeneration of the local area.

Following a question and answer session, the Committee noted the contents and thanked Mr Williamson for the interesting and informative nature of the presentation.

CLYDE SHOPMOBILITY

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 23 March 2011 (Page XXX refers) a report was submitted by the Chief Executive providing an update on the progress of the Clyde Shopmobility project since 23 March 2011.

After discussion and having heard the Community Planning and Policy Manager in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the terms of the discussion that had taken place in respect of this matter;
- (2) that a letter be sent to Mr Andrew Forrester, Manager of Clydebank Shopping Centre thanking him for his invaluable help and assistance in the successful implementation of the project; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

MANAGEMENT OF EVENTS

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 23 March 2011 (Page XXX refers), a report was submitted by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development providing an update on the management structure and designations of staff within Leisure Services following integration with the former Halls and Events section.

After discussion and having heard the Leisure Services Co-ordinator in elaboration and in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

SCOTTISH SOCIAL HOUSING CHARTER

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development advising on the forthcoming introduction of the Scottish Social Housing Charter.

After discussion and having heard the Policy, Strategy and Continuous Improvement Co-ordinator in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the current position with regard to the development of the Scottish Social Housing Charter.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE CITIZENS' PANEL – EVALUATION

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive providing information on the evaluation of the West Dunbartonshire Citizens' Panel on two fronts – the evaluation of panel users' experiences (people who commission survey questions and focus groups) and the evaluation of panel members' experiences.

After discussion and having heard the Community Planning and Policy Officer in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to thank Anne Clegg, Policy Officer, Community & Consultation for all her good work which evaluation had indicated a high level of satisfaction, from both panel users and panel members, in general with how the Panel was working; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP (CPP) DECISION-MAKING

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 18 May 2011 (Page XXX refers), a report was submitted by the Chief Executive providing clarification on Community Planning Partnership (CPP) decision-making processes and statutory partners.

After discussion and having heard the Community Planning and Policy Manager in elaboration and in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the terms of the discussion that had taken place in respect of this matter;
- (2) to note that the Leader of the Council had made a commitment to review the membership arrangements of the CPP Strategic Board with regard to the representative DWP/Jobcentre Plus being given a place on the Board;
- (3) that a further report would be presented to a future meeting of the Committee, as necessary; and
- (4) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Committee members were invited to provide information for the Community News item in advance of meetings on an on-going basis.

Having heard Councillor J. McColl, the Committee agreed that it would be useful if meeting dates of future Community Council Forums could be flagged up in advance to the Committee in order to try and encourage better attendance/awareness.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Brown, Chair, invited community representatives to raise topics for inclusion on future Agendas.

Having heard the Chair advise that, given the length of time the same items appeared on the agenda, it might be useful to consider a review of some of the topics. Following consideration, it was agreed that the following might be a good starting point (although this list was not necessarily exhaustive):-

- Winter Maintenance programme for 2011/12
- Regeneration Issues
- Housing Allocation policy, etc.
- Regular update on Recycling and Waste Minimisation
- Future Development on Strathleven Corridor
- Council Tax Presentation (annually)
- An update on Addiction Services and in particular whether funding is internal or external
- 'Fairtrade'
- Securitisation of Assets, etc.
- Update on Clyde Valley Community Planning Partnership

It was considered that it might be worthwhile for a presentation to be undertaken to the next meeting of the Forum on the impact with jobs, etc. in the area as a result of the ongoing regeneration of the Strathleven Corridor.

OPEN FORUM

The Committee noted that there were no Open Forum questions.

The meeting closed at 4.57 p.m.