

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held in Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 16 December 2009 at 2.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillors Jim Brown, Jonathan McColl, Marie McNair, Iain Robertson and Martin Rooney; John Diamond, Bellsmyre Neighbourhood Forum; Mary Theresa Doherty (Sub) and Megan Harrison, Faifley Neighbourhood Forum; Neil Etherington (Sub), Clydebank Community Forum; Anne MacDougall, Clydebank Crime Prevention Panel; Francis McNeill and Gilbert Howatson (Sub), Community Councils Forum; Tom Nimmo, West Dunbartonshire Community Care Forum; Justeen Peacock, West Dunbartonshire Access Panel and Tom Wilmshurst, Association of Clydebank Residents Groups.

**Attending:** Anne Clegg, Policy Officer - Community and Consultation; Anne Laird, Manager of Administrative Services; Craig Jardine, Manager of Educational Estates; Bridget Ann Gow, Section Head - Community Learning and Development; Suzanne Greer, Policy and Development Officer - Diversity and Fiona Anderson, Committee Officer, Legal, Administrative and Regulatory Services.

**Apologies:** Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillors Margaret Bootland, Jim McElhill, John Millar and May Smillie.

**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 of the agenda.

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 21 October 2009 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

## **PRESENTATION**

Jim Barnes and George Cochrane gave a presentation on behalf of the Scottish Canine Consultative Council.

The main points covered in the presentation were:-

- The Scottish Canine Consultative Council's Mission Statement and Objectives;
- Dog Owners' obligations;
- The Dog Management Course run in Alexandria and the Course Syllabus; and
- The Experiential Schools Events 2007.

The Committee noted that it was hoped to introduce a Dog Management Course in the Clydebank area and any interested parties were asked to contact George Cochrane direct.

The Chair, Councillor Brown, on behalf of the Committee thanked Messrs. Barnes and Cochrane for their interesting and informative presentation and invited them to return in the future to update the Committee.

## **REVIEW OF SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services outlining arrangements for a review of the Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils and, in particular, the implications of adopting a Model Scheme prepared by the Scottish Government.

The Manager of Administrative Services was heard in further explanation of the application and in response to Members' questions.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that the views of the Community Council Forum should be sought;
- (2) to note that a report should be submitted to Council setting out a timetable for the review of the Scheme, on the basis of adoption of the Model Scheme, taking into account the implications for the next elections to the community councils; and
- (3) to note that the report should recommend to Council that a budget of £10,000 for 2010/11 be set for the review and such elections as may be required.

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE EQUALITY SCHEME 2009-12**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive presenting the Council's Equality Scheme 2009-12, with emphasis on the elements of the scheme which refer to involvement and consultation.

The Policy and Development Officer – Diversity was heard in elaboration and in response to Members' questions.

Following discussion the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

### **HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION: REPORT ON THE LEARNING COMMUNITY SURROUNDING DUMBARTON ACADEMY**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the inspection of The Learning Community Surrounding Dumbarton Academy by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report published by HMIE on 27 October 2009.

Having heard the Chair, Councillor Brown, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to congratulate the Community Learning and Development Section staff and partners, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 27 October 2009; and
- (3) to invite Community Learning and Development staff to give a presentation on the range of their activities at a future meeting of the Committee.

### **REGENERATION OF THE SCHOOLS' ESTATE UPDATE**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Committee held on 23 March 2009 (page 1834 refers), a report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing an update on progress of the regeneration of the Schools' Estate.

Following discussion and having heard the Manager of Educational Estates in elaboration and in response to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note BAM Construction had now completed the process of demolition of the old Vale of Leven Academy, Clydebank High School and St. Columba's High School and was proceeding with the construction of the sports pitches, other external features and the new St. Eunan's Primary School and Early Education and Childcare Centre;
- (2) to note that work had commenced on the new Bonhill and Goldenhill Primary Schools and the handover dates were expected to be July 2010;

- (3) to note that the Schools Regeneration Strategic Plan was approved by the Council on 30 September 2009 with the amendment that further formal consultation should take place on the proposals in respect of St. Martin's Primary School and the schools in the Faifley area;
- (4) to note that any persons/groups interested in seeing round the new schools should contact the Manager of Educational Estates direct who would make the necessary arrangements for visits;
- (5) to note that a progress report on Edinbarnet Primary School and St. Joseph's Primary School would be submitted to the February Meeting of the CPC;
- (6) to note that the next report on schools' regeneration would be provided following the handover of Bonhill and Goldenhill Primary Schools; and
- (7) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **WDC BUDGET CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS 2010/11**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive outlining arrangements for the Budget Consultation on 2010/11 budget.

The Policy Officer - Community and Consultation was heard in further explanation of the report and in response to Members' questions.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that the Budget Public Forum meetings were scheduled to run from 7.00 p.m. until 9.00 p.m. and dates and venues are as undernoted:-
 

Dalmuir C.E. Centre, Clydebank	Tuesday	12 January 2010
Alexandria C.E. Centre	Wednesday	13 January 2010
Burgh Hall, Dumbarton	Thursday	14 January 2010
- (2) to note that members of the public could attend a Budget Public Forum meeting at any of the three venues;
- (3) to note the suggestion that consultation in future years could be linked into the Community Forums; and
- (4) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Note: Councillor McNair left the meeting at this point.

## **BEST VALUE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (BVIP): COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKSTREAM – ACTION PLAN**

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive outlining progress made in developing the Best Value Improvement Plan (BVIP) Community Engagement Action Plan, and requesting comments from Committee members.

The Policy Officer – Community and Consultation was heard in further explanation of the report and the background relating thereto and in response to Members' questions.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that a revised report would be submitted to the December meeting of Council and reported back to the CPC thereafter;
- (2) to note the suggestion that a presentation on the BVIP should be made to a future meeting; and
- (3) 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.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

Community Representatives were invited to raise topics for inclusion on future Agendas.

Current topics include:-

- Update on Regeneration of the Schools' Estate.
- Housing - Strategic Delivery Plans.
- Fairtrade.
- Clydebank Crime Prevention Panel.
- Regular update on Recycling and Waste Minimisation.
- Clydebank Rebuilt.
- Future Development on Strathleven Corridor.
- West Dunbartonshire Licensing Forum "Wrecked Campaign".
- Council Tax Presentation (Feb 2010 then annually).
- Gender Equality - Men's Health.
- How the Council intends to deal with the current credit crunch and what strategies have been put in place.
- An update on Addiction Services and in particular whether funding is internal or external.

- Alexandria Health Centre (Keith Redpath).

### **OPEN FORUM**

Mr John Rainey of South Drumry requested information about free lets for clubs using St. Peter the Apostle School and was advised to raise the matter with Councillor J. McColl following the meeting.

The Chair, Councillor Brown, concluded the meeting by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The meeting closed at 3.30 p.m.