

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU

25 August 2005

MEETING: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2005
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNCIL OFFICES
GARSHAKE ROAD
DUMBARTON

Dear Member,

Please attend a Meeting of **West Dunbartonshire Council** to be held in the **Council Chambers, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton** on Wednesday, 31 August 2005 at 2.00 p.m.

The business is as shown on the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

TIM HUNTINGFORD

Chief Executive

Distribution:-

All Members of West Dunbartonshire Council.

Chief Executive
Director of Corporate Services
Director of Development and Environmental Services
Director of Education and Cultural Services
Director of Housing and Technical Services
Acting Director of Social Work Services

For information on the following agenda please contact George Hawthorn, Legal and Administrative Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G82 3PU on Tel: (01389) 737204 or e-mail: george.hawthorn@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 31 AUGUST 2005

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. OPEN FORUM

**(a) Miss C Gill, 2/1 New Street, Duntocher.
Parks in New Street and William Street, Duntocher**

I would like to know the same as everyone else in Duntocher. How, you the Council and the Sports people, who paid for it as well as the Council, can justify paying £80,000 for two parks; one in New Street, Duntocher and the other in William Street, Duntocher? They are an absolute mess. They might look great from a distance but when you are on them, they are full of tracks where the grass never grows. There are weeds, bricks, stones and, if any football teams ever do play on them, you will have to hire someone for a week to pick up the dog poo, because everyone and anyone brings their dogs. Why don't you come and see for yourself, and don't say that your dog wardens keep their eyes opened. I've never seen one yet. There is a swing park on the site of the park in New Street. It's been like that for 30 years and never been touched. There are 54 kids on New Street, Old Street and Gentle Row and nothing for them to do. That's your future taxpayers. Our neighbourhood is at loggerheads with each other, fighting about the kids running in the streets because there is nothing for them to do.

You could have used one of the parks and done the same as was done at Great Western Road, Drumry Roundabout – built an area for kids bikes and skateboards. So you have two 2 parks at a ridiculous cost that might never be used and they have been there for 100 years.

Why doesn't the Council ask the people for ideas/suggestions? Maybe there wouldn't be so much waste. You would have been better building houses on them.

(b) Mrs R Harvie, 82 Bonhill Road, Dumbarton on behalf of Silverton and Overtoun Community Council - Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2005/2008 (Draft) – Litter and Dog Fouling

We are aware that West Dunbartonshire Council now employs litter control officers who have been trained and authorised to issue fixed penalty notices of £40 for refusing to pick up dog mess, and £50 for dropping litter.

We are also aware that this is an enormous problem for the Council, and we understand that it is not easy to solve. However, we are also aware that under the Anti-Social Behaviour (Scotland) Act 2004, the Council has a responsibility to use the legal tools at its disposal under the Act. In effect, this responsibility is detailed in Council's Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

- Section 3 Part 11 – Fixed Penalties.
- Section 5 Objective 1, Prevention – Litter and dog fouling
- Section 5 Objective 3, Enforcement – Litter and dog fouling issues

Our question, therefore is:

How many fixed penalties, for dog fouling and/or dropping litter, have been imposed since the Council has had these powers?

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 – 19)

Submit, for approval as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 29 June 2005.

4. MINUTES OF THE JOINT CONSULTATIVE FORUM (Pages 21 – 27)

Submit for information, and where necessary ratification, the Minutes of Meeting of the Joint Consultative Forum held on 16 June 2005.

5. MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE (Pages 29 – 35)

Submit for information, and where necessary ratification, the Minutes of Meeting of the Audit and Performance Review Committee held on 29 June 2005.

6. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE
(Pages 37 – 43)

Submit for information, and where necessary ratification, the Minutes of Meeting of the Community Participation Committee held on 17 August 2005.

7. ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO NEW COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
(Pages 45 – 53)

With reference of the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 29 June 2005, re-submit report by the Chief Executive requesting the Council to consider the role of the Community Participation Committee in relation to the new Community Planning Partnership.

8. CHANGE OF CONVENERS/COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS/OUTSIDE BODIES

With reference of the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 29 June 2005, the Council is requested to consider making further changes to Convenerships, Committee Memberships and Outside Bodies.

9. FURTHER REPORT ON CONVERSIONS OF LOFT SPACE IN TENEMENTAL AND FOUR-IN-A-BLOCK
(Pages 55 – 56)

With reference of the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 29 June 2005, submit report by the Director of Corporate Services on the feasibility of loft/attic conversions of tenemental or four-in-a-block properties where the Council has or formerly had an ownership interest in the roof space with particular regard to consultation with neighbouring tenants.

10. WIDENING ACCESS TO COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP **(Pages 57 –71)**

Submit report by the Chief Executive requesting the Council to consider the recommendations of the 'Widening Access to Council Membership Progress Group'.

11. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS – PROVISIONAL PROPOSALS FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL (Pages 73 – 85)

Submit report by the Chief Executive presenting the provisional proposals by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland for the review of ward boundaries in the West Dunbartonshire Council area.

12. DRAFT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2004/05 (Pages 87 – 124)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services providing the Council with a copy of the draft annual accounts for 2004/2005 and highlighting matters of interest.

13. GENERAL SERVICES BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT: PERIOD 3 (2005/2006) (Pages 125 – 136)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services on the performance of the General Services Budget for the period to 15 July 2005.

14. GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT: PERIOD 3, 2005/2006 (Pages 137 – 149)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services advising of progress of the General Services Capital Programme to 15 July 2005 and providing an update on Prudential Indicators.

15. GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PLAN 2005/2006 (Pages 151 – 155)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services requesting the Council to approve the following revision to the 2005/2006 General Services Capital Plan.

16. EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT – STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT (Pages 157 - 167)

Submit report by the Director of Corporate Services advising on the Scottish Executive's efficient Government agenda and seeking agreement on a strategy to address the issues raised.

**17. HOUSING MAINTENANCE TRADING OPERATION 2005/2006 –
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 15 JULY 2005 (PERIOD 3)
(Pages 169 - 171)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services presenting the Council with the interim cumulative financial information for the period ending 15 July 2005.

**18. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2005/2006 – BUDGETARY CONTROL
STATEMENT TO 15 JULY 2005 (PERIOD 3) (Pages 173 - 176)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services providing an update on the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to the period ending 15 July 2005.

**19. HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2005/2006 – BUDGETARY CONTROL
REPORT TO 15 JULY 2005 (PERIOD 3) (Pages 177 - 181)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services on the progress of the HRA Capital Programme 2005/2006 up to 15 July 2005 (Period 3).

**20. COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP PROGRAMME - HOUSING BUSINESS PLAN
AND OPTIONS STUDY (Pages 183 - 230)**

Submit report by the Director of Housing and Technical Services:-

(a) advising of the findings of the report prepared by the Arneil Johnston Consultancy which undertook to establish how the Council's housing stock can be brought up to, and maintained at the Scottish Housing Quality Standard; and

(b) seeking a decision on the option to be adopted by the Council.

**21. BUILDING OUR FUTURE (SCHOOLS PPP) REVISED OUTLINE BUSINESS
CASE (Pages 231 - 242)**

Submit report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services seeking approval for the submission of a revised outline business case to the Scottish Executive identifying the facilities which the Council could reasonably expect to seek within the Schools PPP project.

22. PROJECT MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION STRATEGY FOR SCHOOLS' REGENERATION
(Pages 243 - 247)

Submit report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services seeking approval of:-

- (a) the establishment of a Project Board to oversee the Council's Schools' Regeneration Project which will be financed through the Public Private Partnership (PPP) scheme; and
- (b) the development of a participation and consultation strategy to ensure that relevant stakeholders are engaged and involved in the development of the school's regeneration project.

23. CONFERENCE

Council is invited to nominate a delegate to attend Confederation of European Councillors 2005 Annual General Meeting and Overseas Conference to be held in the Park Inn Hotel, Berlin on 12/14 October 2005. The aim of the conference is to increase best practice and share views with other Councillors throughout the European community.

The Conference Fee is £255.00 plus VAT per person.

24. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

In accordance with Standing Order No 8, the undernoted motions have been submitted for consideration by Council:-

(a) Motion by Councillor Rooney
Redesignation – Balloch to Balloch Loch Lomond

This Council supports the campaign to promote Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park by the re-designation of Balloch as Balloch Loch Lomond on all public transport facilities. Council believes that this innovation will firmly fix in the public mind that Balloch is the gateway to the National Park and is a great place to spend hard-earned leisure time. In addition, Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to:

- (i) SPT;
- (ii) Other Transport operators;
- (iii) Other Partner authorities; and
- (iv) Our own members on the SPT in order to obtain their support.

(b) Motion by Councillor White - Banning of Airguns

This Council is alarmed at the recent airgun attacks in West Dunbartonshire and throughout the whole of the United Kingdom.

Council wishes to express our best wishes to those who have suffered serious injuries from pellets fired from an airgun and sends our condolences to the family of Andrew Morton aged two years of age who died after sustaining injuries from an airgun attack on March 2, 2005.

Council welcomes the new rules introduced by the Scottish Executive in April 2005 governing the possession, sale and manufacturing of air weapons with a self-contained gas cartridge (SCGC). The new rules ensure that anyone who owns a SCGC airgun will have to possess a firearms certificate by April 30 - or they could face between five and 10 years in prison.

This Council also supports the new provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 which came into effect on January 20. These new provisions have strengthened existing legislation on firearms control by making it an offence to possess an airgun in a public place without reasonable excuse and raising the minimum age for airgun ownership from 14 to 17.

Council believes that it is completely unacceptable that airguns are being used to intimidate members of the public - young and old - adding to the fear of crime in our communities.

This Council agrees that if we are to fully address the misuse of airguns then there must be a complete ban on the non-commercial use of airguns in Scotland i.e. those airguns not used at fairgrounds and carnivals.

Council also agrees to submit this motion to the Scottish Parliament and Westminster Governments requesting that they take the necessary action to ban airguns.

Furthermore, Council agrees to write to all Councils and Scottish MPs and MSPs seeking their full support to achieve a ban.