

HAMILTON AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 8 September 2010

Chair:

Councillor Jean McKeown

Councillors Present:

Jackie Burns, Andy Carmichael, Peter Craig, Maureen Devlin, Hugh Dunsmuir (Depute), Allan Falconer, Tommy Gilligan, Graeme Horne, Bobby Lawson, Brian McCaig, Lesley McDonald, Jim McGuigan, Davie McLachlan, John McNamee, Henry Mitchell, John Murray, Mary Smith

Councillors' Apologies:

Barry Douglas, Jim Handibode, Joe Lowe, Bert Thomson

Attending:**Corporate Resources**

G Bow, Administration Adviser; A Morton, Manager, Central Research Unit; H Rae, Research Officer

Enterprise Resources

S Carey, Regeneration and Inclusion Manager; S Clark, Planning Team Leader (Hamilton); M McManus, Partnership Manager (Changing Places); M Muir, Roads Area Manager (Hamilton)

Also Attending**Strathclyde Fire and Rescue**

A Boyle, Area Commander; P King, Station Commander

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Hamilton Area Committee held on 9 June 2010 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Committee decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Presentation - Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

The representatives from Strathclyde Fire and Rescue gave a presentation covering:-

- ◆ the Clydesmill Community Fire Station and Training Centre which was due to open in 2011
- ◆ statistical information on the number of fatalities and casualties in 2009/2010 together with a comparison with the figures for the previous 3 years
- ◆ a breakdown of operational activity in 2009/2010 together with a comparison with the figures for the previous 3 years
- ◆ statistical information on accidents, injuries and acts of violence in 2009/2010 together with a comparison with the figures for the previous 3 years
- ◆ ongoing initiatives including partnership and community activity

A Boyle, Area Commander and P King, Station Commander, having responded to members' questions, were thanked for their informative presentation.

The Committee decided: that the presentation be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 26 August 2009 (Paragraph 5)]

4 Area Profile - Hamilton

A report dated 23 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources) was submitted on key indicators of conditions in the Hamilton Area Committee area.

The Central Research Unit within Corporate Resources maintained a website allowing access to a wide range of information at a datazone level. Datazones were neighbourhoods of around 750 people, produced by the Scottish Government, which allowed data to be analysed and information to be reported on at approximations to a Council ward and Area Committee basis.

Information was provided on:-

- ◆ population projections which indicated that the population was expected to continue to rise more rapidly than that in South Lanarkshire as a whole with a significant increase in the numbers aged over 65 years
- ◆ employment forecasts which indicated that employment would rise over the next 8 years by 1% compared to a rise of 0.6% in South Lanarkshire as a whole
- ◆ the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance which had risen by 50% to a total of 3,773 (6.1%) since January 2009
- ◆ the percentage of children in families out of work receiving Child Tax Credit
- ◆ the percentage of school leavers from Hamilton who were in the "More Choices, More Chances" category
- ◆ the percentage of children in families receiving Child Tax Credit
- ◆ the percentage claiming Pension Credit – guarantee element only
- ◆ the number of people claiming health related benefits
- ◆ recorded crimes and offences (excluding motoring offences)

In addition, it was highlighted that, following the publication of a revised version of the 2009 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, South Lanarkshire now had 6 more datazones (58 in total) in the worst 15% in Scotland. Arising from the revision, 2 datazones in Hamilton (Stonefield West and Wheatlands North) had moved into the worst 15% which meant that there were now 30 datazones in total in Hamilton within the worst 15% in Scotland.

It was proposed that an area profile report be provided on an annual basis. In addition, specific reports would be provided, as appropriate, in respect of key issues related to economic development, regeneration, health, community safety and youth/early years services.

The Central Research Unit Manager, having responded to members' questions, was thanked for the detail provided.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the content of the report be noted; and
- (2) that the proposal to submit an area profile report to the Committee on an annual basis and to provide reports on key issues, as appropriate, be noted.

5 Regeneration Services Activity in the Hamilton Area Committee Area

A report dated 16 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an update on key areas of activity by Regeneration Services in the Hamilton Area Committee area as follows:-

Community Regeneration

- ◆ programme of activity, funded through the Fairer Scotland Fund, to tackle poverty in South Lanarkshire's most disadvantaged communities
- ◆ the role, key aims and objectives of the Changing Places community involvement project based in Larkhall and Blantyre
- ◆ a range of initiatives aimed at increasing tourism in the area

Regeneration and Inclusion

- ◆ Routes to Inclusion – to date, in the Hamilton Area Committee area, there had been 212 people engaged on Council-funded employability programmes such as:-
 - ◆ Future Jobs Fund
 - ◆ Routes to Work South
 - ◆ Connect 2
 - ◆ Rebuilding Opportunities
 - ◆ Youth Jobs Fund

Community and Voluntary Sector

- ◆ progress on the establishment of the new single voluntary sector interface, Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire, to give a broad spectrum of advice and guidance to the voluntary sector

Business Support and Property Information

- ◆ Business Gateway Programme
- ◆ promotion of the Small Business Rates Relief Scheme to ensure maximum uptake
- ◆ hosting targeted events such as Meet the Buyer and Lanarkshire Business Excellence Awards
- ◆ 43 leases which had been concluded in the Hamilton Area Committee area between March and July 2010 with a value of £1,408,045

Property Development

- ◆ support for partners with the promotion and implementation of projects designed to enhance the attractiveness of the area as a place to work, live and do business including the following projects in the Hamilton Area Committee area:-
 - ◆ progress on the Peacock Cross, Wellhall Road Link Road
 - ◆ progress on the Hamilton Towers project
 - ◆ the work of the Hamilton Marketing Group
 - ◆ the regeneration of former retail units at 18/22 Quarry Street, Hamilton
 - ◆ feasibility project for the future use of Redlees Quarry, Blantyre

The Regeneration and Inclusion Manager highlighted ongoing activity and key projects and responded to members' questions.

In addition, the Project Manager (Changing Places) gave a presentation which provided a broad overview of the key aims of and outcomes from the changing places project.

The Committee decided: that the report and presentation be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 23 March 2010 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Application HM/10/0202 - Erection of Retail Unit (Class 1 Use) on Land Adjacent to 43 Beckford Street, Hamilton

A report dated 31 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application HM/10/0202 by T McNally for the erection of a retail unit (Class 1 Use) on land adjacent to 43 Beckford Street, Hamilton.

Councillor McKeown, seconded by Councillor Dunsmuir, moved that the application be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report. Councillor McGuigan, seconded by Councillor Lawson, moved as an amendment that the application be refused in line with the recommendation made by Roads and Transportation Services that the proposal would encourage on-street parking at the junction, could not accommodate 2 parking spaces within the site and did not include provision for service vehicles to undertake deliveries. On a vote being taken by roll call, members voted as follows:-

Motion:

Jackie Burns, Maureen Devlin, Hugh Dunsmuir, Allan Falconer, Tommy Gilligan, Brian McCaig, Lesley McDonald, Jean McKeown, Davie McLachlan, John McNamee, Mary Smith

Amendment:

Peter Craig, Graeme Horne, Bobby Lawson, Jim McGuigan, Henry Mitchell, John Murray

6 members voted for the amendment and 11 for the motion which was declared carried.

The Committee decided: that planning application HM/10/0202 by T McNally for the erection of a retail unit (Class 1 Use) on land adjacent to 43 Beckford Street, Hamilton be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

Councillor Carmichael left the meeting during consideration of this item of business

7 Application HM/10/0232 - Erection of 2 Storey Side Extension and Single Storey Rear Extension to House at 14 Douglas Drive, Bothwell

A report dated 30 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application HM/10/0232 by T Jobson for the erection of a 2 storey side extension and a single storey rear extension to a house at 14 Douglas Drive, Bothwell.

Councillor McKeown, seconded by Councillor Dunsmuir, moved that the application be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report. Councillor Mitchell, seconded by Councillor McGuigan, moved as an amendment that the application be refused as the proposals would lead to overdevelopment in Douglas Drive and would adversely affect the character and visual impact of the local area. On a vote being taken by a show of hands, 5 members voted for the amendment and 13 for the motion which was declared carried.

The Committee decided: that planning application HM/10/0232 by T Jobson for a 2 storey side extension and a single storey rear extension to a house at 14 Douglas Drive, Bothwell be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

Councillor Carmichael re-entered the meeting at the commencement of consideration of this item of business

8 Application HM/10/0289 - Installation of Concrete Headwall on Land to the Northeast of Abbotsford Avenue, Hamilton

A report dated 25 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application HM/10/0289 by Scottish Water for the installation of a concrete headwall on land to the northeast of Abbotsford Avenue, Hamilton.

The Committee decided: that planning application HM/10/0289 by Scottish Water for the installation of a concrete headwall on land to the northeast of Abbotsford Avenue, Hamilton be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

9 Application HM/10/0360 - Subdivision and Part Change of Use to Class 6 (Storage) and Shopfront Alterations including the Installation of Fire Doors at Unit 10, Hamilton Palace Grounds Development, 62 Castle Street, Hamilton

A report dated 25 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application HM/10/0360 by Next Retail Plc for the change of use to Class 6 (Storage) and shopfront alterations, including the installation of fire doors, at unit 10, Hamilton Palace Grounds Development, 62 Castle Street, Hamilton.

The Committee decided: that planning application HM/10/0360 for the change of use to Class 6 (Storage) and shopfront alterations including the installation of fire doors, at unit 10, Hamilton Palace Grounds Development, 62 Castle Street, Hamilton be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

10 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 25 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources) was submitted on applications for community grant.

The Committee decided: that community grants be awarded as follows:-

- (a) Applicant: Hillhouse Church Guild of Friendship, Hamilton (HA/6/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing
Amount Awarded: £200
- (b) Applicant: Dalsarf Bowling Club (Senior Section), Larkhall (HA/45/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
Amount Awarded: £160
- (c) Applicant: High Blantyre Ladies' Guild, High Blantyre (HA/46/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing
Amount Awarded: £200
- (d) Applicant: Low Waters Miners Welfare Bowling Club, Hamilton (HA/55/10)
Purpose of Grant: Materials
Amount Awarded: £300
- (e) Applicant: Lyndale Club, Hamilton (HA/79/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing
Amount Awarded: £200

- (f) Applicant: Uddingston and Bothwell Women's Rural Institute (*HA/107/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (g) Applicant: Strathclyde Bowling Club (Senior Section) (*HA/108/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Special event
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (h) Applicant: St Brides' Indoor Bowling Club, Bothwell (*HA/109/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Equipment
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (i) Applicant: 140th Lanarkshire St Mary's Episcopalian Scouts, Hamilton (*HA/110/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Activity weekend
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (j) Applicant: David Milne Centre Pensioners, Uddingston (*HA/111/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (k) Applicant: Samaritans of Lanarkshire, Hamilton (*HA/112/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Equipment
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (l) Applicant: Hamilton Operatic and Dramatic Club (*HA/113/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Publicity costs
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (m) Applicant: The Haven, Blantyre (*HA/114/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Equipment and materials
 Amount Awarded: £400
- (n) Applicant: Stonefield Park Gardens' Sheltered Housing, Blantyre (*HA/116/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (o) Applicant: Hamilton Bowling Club Winter Section (*HA/117/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (p) Applicant: Fairhill Senior Citizens' Club, Hamilton (*HA/118/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (q) Applicant: Burnblea Gardens Tenants' and Residents' Association, Hamilton (*HA/119/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Specialist transport
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (r) Applicant: Unison Retired Members' Group, High Blantyre (*HA/120/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (s) Applicant: Moorlands FC 2003s, Bothwell (*HA/121/10*)
 Purpose of Grant: Start-up costs
 Amount Awarded: £250

- (t) Applicant: St John's Ladies' Singing Group, Hamilton (HA/122/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (u) Applicant: St Machan's Church Guild, Larkhall (HA/123/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (v) Applicant: Low Waters Ladies' Tuesday Club, Hamilton (HA/124/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (w) Applicant: Hamilton Bowling Club (HA/125/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (x) Applicant: Hamilton Caledonian Bowling Club (Ladies' Section) (HA/126/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (y) Applicant: Hamilton Caledonian Bowling Club Male Voice Choir (HA/127/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Transport costs and materials
 Amount Awarded: £350
- (z) Applicant: Saffronhall Art Club, Hamilton (HA/128/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Publicity costs and materials
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (aa) Applicant: Hillhouse Parish Church Playgroup, Hamilton (HA/129/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing, entrance fees and materials
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (bb) Applicant: Avon Artists Leisure Art Group, Hamilton (HA/130/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Publication costs and equipment
 Amount Awarded: £300

11 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.