

CLYDESDALE AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, South Vennel, Lanark on 29 November 2011

Chair:

Councillor Hamish Stewart

Councillors Present:

Alex Allison (Depute), Bev Gauld, Ian Gray, Eileen Logan, Mary McNeill, Archie Manson, Danny Meikle, Patrick Ross-Taylor, David Shearer, George Sutherland

Councillors' Apologies:

Beith Forrest, Alex McInnes

Attending:

Education Resources

A Dalkin, Depute Head of Provision, Rigside and Rural Communities Nursery; J Edgar, Quality Improvement Officer; E McGregor, Headteacher, Libberton and Wiston Primary Schools; J Mauchline, Quality Improvement Officer; M Thomson, Headteacher, Rigside and Stablestone Primary Schools

Enterprise Resources

B Cairns, Roads Area Manager (Clydesdale)

Finance and Corporate Resources

R Lake, Head of Administration Services

Order of Business

The items of business were dealt with in the following order.

1 Declaration of Interests

The following interest was declared:-

Councillor(s)	Item(s)	Nature of Interest(s)
Shearer	Community Grant Application CL/84/11 Law Community Trust, Carluke	Member

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Clydesdale Area Committee held on 20 September 2011 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Roads and Transportation Services – Roads and Rural Investment Plan - Progress Report

A report dated 1 November 2011 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on progress with roads investment activity within the Clydesdale area. Details were provided on the:-

- ◆ phasing of the additional £126 million expenditure on the Roads and Rural Investment Plan from 2008 to 2016
- ◆ level of expenditure allocated to each Council area including confirmation that £44.10 million would be spent in Clydesdale over the 8 year programme
- ◆ increased expenditure on footways/footpaths
- ◆ priority scoring system for carriageway and footway/footpath schemes
- ◆ progress made in relation to the schemes within the Clydesdale area which showed that, as at 7 October 2011, 73 schemes had been completed with the remaining 20 schemes either in progress or programmed to be completed by the end of March 2012

The Roads Area Manager (Clydesdale) highlighted that, subsequent to the preparation of this report, the Executive Committee, at its meeting on 16 November 2011, had agreed to extend the completion date of the Roads and Rural Investment Plan from 31 March 2016 until 31 March 2019. In effect, this meant that expenditure over the course of the remaining years of the Plan would remain at £12 million each year.

The Committee decided: that progress with the Roads and Rural Investment Plan within the Clydesdale area to date and the rephasing and extension of the Plan to 31 March 2019 be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 November 2010 (Paragraph 8) and Minutes of Executive Committee of 16 November 2011 (Paragraph 9)]

4 HMle Report - Libberton Primary School, Carnwath

A report dated 7 November 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Libberton Primary School, Carnwath made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle).

The inspection had taken place in May 2011 and the inspection report had been published on 23 August 2011.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified in the inspection report. The 3 areas for improvement agreed with the school and education authority had been incorporated into the school's improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress in overtaking the points for action. HMle had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with this inspection.

J Edgar, Quality Improvement Officer, and the recently appointed Headteacher to the shared headship of Libberton and Wiston Primary Schools spoke on key aspects of both this report and the report on Wiston Primary School which appeared as a separate item on the agenda.

Having responded to members' questions, the Headteacher was congratulated on her appointment and wished every success in the post.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

5 HMle Report - Wiston Primary School, Biggar

A report dated 7 November 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Wiston Primary School, Biggar made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle).

The inspection had taken place in May 2011 and the inspection report had been published on 23 August 2011.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified in the inspection report. The 3 areas for improvement agreed with the school and education authority had been incorporated into the school's improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress in overtaking the points for action. HMle had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with this inspection.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 29 November 2011 (Paragraph 4)]

6 HMle Report - Rigside and Rural Communities Nursery, Lanark

A report dated 7 November 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Rigside and Rural Communities Nursery, Lanark made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle).

The inspection had taken place in March 2011 and the inspection report had been published on 27 April 2011.

A number of particular strengths of the nursery (encompassing the 3 establishments at Rigside, Abington and Walston) had been identified in the inspection report. The 2 areas for improvement agreed with the nursery and education authority had been incorporated into the improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress in overtaking the points for action. HMle had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with this inspection.

J Mauchline, Quality Improvement Officer, and the Depute Head of Provision spoke on key aspects of the report and responded to members' questions.

Congratulations were extended to all staff involved with Rigside and Rural Communities Nursery on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

7 Follow-through Report - Rigside Primary School, Lanark

A report dated 7 November 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the second follow-through inspection of Rigside Primary School, Lanark undertaken by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle) in May and June 2011.

A copy of the follow-through report, published on 24 August 2011, was attached as an appendix to the report. The report highlighted that there had been significant improvement since the initial inspection in March 2009. HMle had, therefore, intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with the original inspection.

J Mauchline, Quality Improvement Officer, and the Headteacher spoke on key aspects of the report and responded to members' questions.

Congratulations were extended to the Headteacher on her leadership of the improvements evident within the school.

In addition, the Quality Improvement Officer provided an update on headteacher appointments as follows:-

Biggar Learning Community

- ◆ Biggar High School – Mr R Stewart
- ◆ Biggar Primary School – Mrs H Graham
- ◆ Libberton and Wiston Primary Schools – Mrs E McGregor

Arrangements were currently being progressed for the recruitment of a headteacher for Crawfordjohn and Leadhills Primary Schools.

Carluke Learning Community

- ◆ Crawforddyke Primary School – Ms A Gibson
- ◆ Carluke Primary School – Ms E Waugh
- ◆ Law Primary School – Dr V Quinn

Lanark Learning Community

- ◆ Underbank Primary School – Ms P Ross

Lesmahagow Learning Community

- ◆ Blackwood Primary School – Ms C McMillan

Reference was also made to the forthcoming retirements of Carole Mason, Head of Education (Clydesdale) and John Edgar, Quality Improvement Officer and the Chair and members of the Committee expressed their appreciation for the support and advice provided over the years and wished them both a long and happy retirement.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the report and significant progress made since the initial inspection be noted; and
- (2) that the update on headteacher appointments be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 November 2010 (Paragraph 5) and Minutes of 20 September 2011 (Paragraph 8)]

8 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 10 November 2011 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on applications for community grant.

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

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant: | Scottish Old Peoples' Welfare Committee (Douglas Branch),
Douglas (CL/78/11) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Administration costs |
| | Amount Awarded: | £300 |
| | | |
| (b) | Applicant: | Shine Youth Music Theatre, Carluke (CL/79/11) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment |
| | Amount Awarded: | £800 |

- (c) Applicant: KFM Tenants' Group, Carluke (CL/80/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (d) Applicant: Carstairs Pre 5 Group, Carstairs Village (CL/81/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (e) Applicant: St Nicholas Playgroup and Toddlers, Lanark (CL/82/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Administration costs
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (f) Applicant: Abington Women's Rural Institute (CL/83/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (g) Applicant: Law Community Trust, Carluke (CL/84/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Printing and publicity costs
 Amount Awarded: £423

Councillor Shearer, having previously declared an interest in the above application, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration

- (h) Applicant: Friends of Burnbraes Park, Biggar (CL/85/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Materials and environmental project
 Amount Awarded: £840
- (i) Applicant: Clyde Valley Breathe Easy, Lanark (CL/86/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Specialist transport
 Amount Awarded: £500
- (j) Applicant: Clydesdale Community Volunteer Activities Group (CL/87/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Materials, administration and publicity costs
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (k) Applicant: Lesmahagow Old Parish Church Young Women's Group (CL/89/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (l) Applicant: The Little Haven Community Care Centre, Forth (CL/90/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Materials, administration and publicity costs
 Amount Awarded: £800
- (m) Applicant: Carnwath 2000 (CL/91/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Equipment and publicity costs
 Amount Awarded: £600
- (n) Applicant: Coalburn Primary School PTA (CL/92/11)
 Purpose of Grant: Transport costs
 Amount Awarded: £250

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.