

EAST KILBRIDE AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Confero and in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 20 February 2024

Chair:

Councillor Archie Buchanan

Councillors Present:

Councillor John Anderson, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Gladys Ferguson-Miller, Councillor Elise Frame, Councillor Geri Gray (Depute), Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Elaine McDougall, Councillor Kirsten Robb, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor Kirsty Williams

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Mathew Buchanan, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Grant Ferguson, Councillor Susan Kerr, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor David Watson

Attending:

Education Resources

L Gardner, Lead Officer; A Gray, Lead Officer; M Hendry, Lead Officer; W Huq, Headteacher, Strathaven Academy; S Mooty, Headteacher, St Louise Primary School; I Tremble, Headteacher, Murrumbidgee Primary School

Finance and Corporate Resources

H Calley, Administration Officer; L Wyllie, Administration Assistant

Health and Social Care/Social Work Resources

G Booth, Justice Service Manager (Children and Justice Services); E Lloyd, Operations Manager

Housing and Technical Resources

C Frew, Strategy Co-ordinator; C Graham, Area Housing Manager

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the East Kilbride Area Committee held on 21 November 2023 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Education Scotland Report – Murray Primary School

A report dated 31 January 2024 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Murray Primary School made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in April 2023 as part of a national sample of primary education and the inspection report had been published on 27 June 2023.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified, together with areas for improvement, as outlined in the report. The 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.

A Gray, Lead Officer and I Tremble, Headteacher, having spoken on key aspects of the report, were congratulated on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

4 Education Scotland Report – St Louise Primary School

A report dated 31 January 2024 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of St Louise Primary School made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in September 2023 as part of a national sample of primary education and the inspection report had been published on 21 November 2023.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified, together with areas for improvement, as outlined in the report. The 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.

M Hendry, Lead Officer and S Mooty, Headteacher, having spoken on key aspects of the report, were congratulated on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

Councillor Frame joined the meeting during this item of business

5 Education Scotland Report – Strathaven Academy

A report dated 23 January 2024 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Strathaven Academy made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in October 2023 as part of a national sample of secondary education and the inspection report had been published on 12 December 2023.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified, together with areas for improvement, as outlined in the report. The 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.

L Gardner, Lead Officer and W Huq, Headteacher, having spoken on key aspects of the report, were congratulated on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

Councillor Gray joined the meeting during this item of business

6 Community Payback Order

G Booth, Justice Service Manager and E Lloyd, Operations Manager, gave a presentation on Community Payback Orders (CPOs), the most common requirement of which involved unpaid work for the benefit of the community.

Details were provided on:-

- ◆ general requirements and objectives of CPOs

- ◆ the type of work carried out in relation to CPOs within South Lanarkshire, including community, resource centre based, remote and partnership projects
- ◆ the Unpaid Work Service, based within the Auchentibber Resource Centre, Blantyre
- ◆ the delivery of work and activities both in terms of hours and bespoke projects delivered
- ◆ the support offered to individuals who had received a CPO
- ◆ specific projects delivered in the East Kilbride area

The Committee decided: that the presentation be noted.

Councillor Fagan left the meeting following this item of business

7 Housing and Technical Resources - Participatory Budgeting

A report dated 6 February 2024 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) was submitted on Participatory Budgeting (PB) in relation to the Estate Improvement Budget and the Housing Investment Programme (HIP) Environmental Programme.

The Estate Improvement Budget totalled £40,000 and was split across the 4 housing divisions of South Lanarkshire. Each Local Housing Management Team directed funding towards projects or improvements highlighted as a priority by customers. This budget was ideally suited for conversion to a PB as it funded a number of smaller projects.

To date, £6,913 had been spent from the Estate Improvement Budget for 2023/2024 on the 3 projects which had been undertaken within the East Kilbride area, as detailed in the report.

Officers from Housing and Technical Resources would continue to take forward opportunities within the East Kilbride area to ensure tenants and other customers had the chance to determine the outcome of budgets within the Environmental Programme and Estates Improvement Budget, with further updates to be provided to the Committee at a later date.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 31 January 2023 (Paragraph 6)]

8 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 5 February 2024 by the Chief Executive was submitted on applications for community grants.

In view of the fact that this was the last meeting of the Committee in the current financial year and to allow best use to be made of the remaining 2023/2024 community grant budget, it was proposed that the Chief Executive or the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, be authorised to approve any further community grant applications meeting the relevant criteria in the period to 31 March 2024. Those grants awarded would be reported to a future meeting for noting.

The Committee decided:

(1) that community grants be awarded as follows:-

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|-------------------|---|
| (a) Applicant: | Strathaven and District Pipe Band (<i>EK/33/23</i>) |
| Purpose of Grant: | Equipment |
| Amount Awarded: | £454 |

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--|
| (b) | Applicant: | Strathaven Fairtrade Group (<i>EK/35/23</i>) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Materials, administration and publicity costs |
| | Amount Awarded: | £175 |
| | | |
| (c) | Applicant: | East Kilbride Rolls Royce Youth Football Team 2011 (<i>EK/36/23</i>) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Outing and entrance fees |
| | Amount Awarded: | £300 |
| | | |
| (d) | Applicant: | Jackton Scottish Women's Institute, East Kilbride (<i>EK/37/23</i>) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Outing and entrance fees |
| | Amount Awarded: | £350 |
| | | |
| (e) | Applicant: | East Kilbride Probus Club (<i>EK/38/23</i>) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Outing and entrance fees |
| | Amount Awarded: | £350 |
- (2) that, to ensure that the remaining 2023/2024 community grant budget was utilised as fully as possible, the Chief Executive or the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, be authorised to approve community grant applications in the period to 31 March 2024, subject to the applications meeting the Council's criteria for the receipt of funding; and
- (3) that the details of those applications approved be reported to a future meeting for noting.

[Reference: Minutes of 21 November 2023 (Paragraph 4)]

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.