

CLYDESDALE AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, South Vennel, Lanark on 20 September 2011

Chair:

Councillor Hamish Stewart

Councillors Present:

Alex Allison (Depute), Beith Forrest, Bev Gauld, Ian Gray, Eileen Logan, Alex McInnes, Mary McNeill, Danny Meikle, Patrick Ross-Taylor, George Sutherland

Councillors' Apologies:

Archie Manson, David Shearer

Attending:**Education Resources**

J Deacon, Headteacher, Kirkfieldbank Primary School; J Edgar, Quality Improvement Officer; M Girdwood, Acting Headteacher, Crawforddyke Primary School; A Jessimer, Acting Headteacher, High Mill Primary School; J Mauchline, Quality Improvement Officer

Enterprise Resources

L Dickson, Planning Team Leader (Clydesdale)

Finance and Corporate Resources

R Lake, Head of Administration Services; A Morton, Central Research Unit Manager; H Rae, Research Officer

Also Attending:**Strathclyde Fire and Rescue**

A Boyle, Area Commander; S McGrath, Station Commander, Lanark Community Fire Station

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Clydesdale Area Committee held on 21 June 2011 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

The Area Commander provided an update on activity in the South Lanarkshire area as a whole and in the local Clydesdale area covering:-

- ◆ the opening of the Clydesmill Community Fire Station as a replacement for Cambuslang and Parkhead Fire Stations
- ◆ progress with the Clydesmill Training Centre which would provide training facilities for firefighters from across the whole area
- ◆ the refurbishment of East Kilbride Community Fire Station
- ◆ works undertaken at Lanark Community Fire Station to provide additional training facilities
- ◆ the deployment of new equipment

In addition, the Area Commander presented the 'Strathclyde Fire and Rescue - South Lanarkshire Elected Members' Yearly Update Report for the period 1 April 2010 to 30 June 2011'. This provided comparisons between the following for the South Lanarkshire area as a whole and also on an individual ward basis:-

- ◆ current Quarter 1 (Q1) results for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2011
- ◆ the previous 3 years' Q1 average
- ◆ the previous 3 years' full year average

The Area Commander outlined the information contained in the report and invited feedback from members on the new format and content. Having responded to members' questions, the Area Commander and the Station Commander were thanked for providing their update.

The Committee decided: that the update be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 7 September 2010 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Area Profile 2011 - Clydesdale

A report dated 1 September 2011 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on key indicators of conditions in the Clydesdale Area Committee area.

The Central Research Unit within Finance and Corporate Resources maintained a website allowing access to a wide range of information at a datazone level. Datazones were neighbourhoods of around 750, 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 area basis.

Information was provided on:-

- ◆ population projections for the Clydesdale area which indicated that the population was expected to continue to rise faster than in South Lanarkshire as a whole. In particular, the growth amongst those aged 65 to 79 and aged 80 years and over was projected to be much greater than in South Lanarkshire as a whole
- ◆ employment forecasts which indicated that employment would fall over the next 5 years by 1%
- ◆ population trends and the potential for the Boundary Commission review to focus on the boundaries for the Clydesdale East, Clydesdale North and Clydesdale West wards
- ◆ the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance which in June 2011 was 1,544 giving a claimant rate of 3.9%, a rise of 4.6% since June 2010
- ◆ percentage of children in families out of work receiving Child Tax Credit
- ◆ percentage of children in families receiving Child Tax Credit
- ◆ 'More Choices, More Chances' – percentage of school leavers not moving into positive destinations
- ◆ percentage claiming Pension Credit – guarantee element only
- ◆ the claimant rate for health related benefits which was the second lowest in South Lanarkshire and comparative illness statistics
- ◆ all crimes and offences (excluding motoring offences)

The Central Research Unit Manager responded to members' questions and confirmed that information on the latest employment projections, together with updated information in relation to the number of children in out of work families claiming Child Tax Credit and in families receiving Child Tax Credit, which had been published since the issue of the report would be provided to members once the figures had been analysed.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 7 September 2010 (Paragraph 4)]

5 HMle Report - Carstairs Primary School

A report dated 1 September 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Carstairs Primary School made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle).

The inspection had taken place in April 2011 and the inspection report had been published on 7 June 2011.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified and, as a result of the school's robust self-evaluation, the inspection team had been able to change its focus during the inspection to support further improvements within the school. The single area 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 achieved in overtaking the point for action. HMle had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with this inspection.

J Mauchline, Quality Improvement Officer, having spoken on key aspects of the report and responded to members' questions, was asked to pass on congratulations to the Headteacher on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

6 HMle Report - Crawforddyke Primary School and Nursery Class, Carlisle

A report dated 1 September 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Crawforddyke Primary School and Nursery Class, Carlisle 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 31 May 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 Acting Headteacher spoke on key aspects of the report and responded to members' questions.

Congratulations were extended to the Acting Headteacher and her staff on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

7 HMle Report - Kirkfieldbank Primary School

A report dated 1 September 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Kirkfieldbank Primary School 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 Mauchline, Quality Improvement Officer, highlighted information in the report that was incorrect and referred members to the HMle report, attached as an appendix to the report, which reflected the true position. The Headteacher, having spoken on key aspects of the report and responded to members' questions, was congratulated on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

8 Follow-Through Report - High Mill Primary School, Carluke

A report dated 6 September 2011 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the follow-through inspection of High Mill Primary School, Carluke undertaken by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle) in March 2011.

A copy of the follow-through report, published on 21 June 2011, was attached as an appendix to the report. The report highlighted that there had been clear evidence of improvement since the initial inspection in April 2010 and that a second follow-through inspection would be carried out within 1 year.

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

Congratulations were extended to the Acting Headteacher and her staff on the progress achieved within the school in the period since the publication of the initial inspection report.

In addition, the Quality Improvement Officer provided an update on:-

- ◆ employee retirements and moves to other establishments
- ◆ the recruitment arrangements for various headteacher posts

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the report and progress made since the initial inspection be noted; and
- (2) that the update on recruitment arrangements to fill the headteacher posts be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 8 June 2010 (Paragraph 3)]

9 Application CL/11/0345 - Change of Use of Business Units (Class 4) to Veterinary Centre (Class 2) at 5 Langdykeside, Lesmahagow

A report dated 24 August 2011 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application CL/11/0345 by Dr C Corridan for the change of use of business units (Class 4) to form a veterinary centre (Class 2) at 5 Langdykeside, Lesmahagow.

The Committee decided: that planning application CL/11/0345 by Dr C Corridan for the change of use of business units (Class 4) to form a veterinary centre (Class 2) at 5 Langdykeside, Lesmahagow be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

10 Application CL/11/0367 - Erection of Storage Facility for Grounds Maintenance Machinery, Vehicles and Equipment at Biggar Golf Club, Broughton Road, Biggar

A report dated 30 August 2011 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application CL/11/0367 by South Lanarkshire Council for the erection of a storage facility for grounds maintenance machinery, vehicles and equipment at Biggar Golf Club, Broughton Road, Biggar.

The Committee decided: that planning application CL/11/0367 by South Lanarkshire Council for the erection of a storage facility for grounds maintenance machinery, vehicles and equipment at Biggar Golf Club, Broughton Road, Biggar be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

11 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 1 September 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: Lanark Medieval Society (CL/64/11)
Purpose of Grant: Materials and publicity costs
Amount Awarded: £500
- (b) Applicant: Lanark Music Connections (CL65/11)
Purpose of Grant: Publicity costs
Amount Awarded: £300
- (c) Applicant: Clydesdale Camera Club, Coalburn (CL/66/11)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £400
- (d) Applicant: Junction Juniors, Carstairs Junction (CL/67/11)
Purpose of Grant: Start-up costs
Amount Awarded: £250
- (e) Applicant: Law Bowling Club (CL/68/11)
Purpose of Grant: Outing
Amount Awarded: £200

- (f) Applicant: Glespin OAP Association (CL/70/11)
Purpose of Grant: Administration costs
Amount Awarded: £300
- (g) Applicant: Scottish Clydesdale Classic, Lesmahagow (CL/71/11)
Purpose of Grant: Administration costs, publication costs and equipment
Amount Awarded: £400
- (h) Applicant: New Lanark Village Group (CL/72/11)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £300
- (i) Applicant: Carnwath Community Council, Lanark (CL/73/11)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £500
- (j) Applicant: Biggar Museum Trust Archaeology Group (CL/74/11)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £300
- (k) Applicant: Carnwath in Bloom (CL/75/11)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £500
- (l) Applicant: Crossford and Hazelbank Women's Rural Institute (CL/76/11)
Purpose of Grant: Transport, printing and publicity costs
Amount Awarded: £300
- (m) Applicant: Douglas Water Golf Club, Lanark (CL/77/11)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £300

12 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.