

CLYDESDALE AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, South Vennel, Lanark on 7 September 2010

Chair:

Councillor Hamish Stewart

Councillors Present:

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

Councillors' Apologies:

Bev Gauld, Alex McInnes, David Shearer

Attending:

Corporate Resources

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

Enterprise Resources

B Cairns, Roads Area Manager (Clydesdale); L Dickson, Planning Team Leader (Clydesdale); J McCaffer, Head of Regeneration

Also Attending:

Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

A Boyle, Area Commander; S McGrath, Station Commander

1 Declaration of Interests

The following interests were declared:-

Councillor(s)	Item(s)	Nature of Interest(s)
Stewart	Community Grant Applications ♦ Biggar and District U3A CL/62/10 ♦ Clydesdale Folk Group, Biggar CL/73/10	Member of Groups

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Clydesdale Area Committee held on 8 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 S McGrath, Station Commander, having responded to members' questions, were thanked for their informative presentation.

The Committee decided: that the presentation be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 23 June 2009 (Paragraph 3)]

Councillor Meikle left the meeting after this item of business

4 Area Profile - Clydesdale

A report dated 23 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources) was submitted on key indicators of conditions in the Clydesdale 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 area 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 fall over the next 8 years by 1.6% 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 44% to a total of 1,813 (4.8%) since January 2009
- ◆ percentage of children in families out of work receiving Child Tax Credit
- ◆ percentage of children in families receiving Child Tax Credit
- ◆ comparative illness
- ◆ recorded crimes and offences (excluding motoring offences)
- ◆ 'More Choices, More Chances' – percentage not moving into positive destinations
- ◆ percentage claiming Pension Credit – guarantee element only
- ◆ claimant unemployment rate and percentage change in claimant unemployment rate
- ◆ claimant unemployment change in numbers

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, 1 datazone in Clydesdale (Kirkmuirhill South) had moved out of and 2 (Carluke East and Law North) had moved into the worst 15% which meant that there were now 6 datazones in total in Clydesdale 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 and provided clarification on the projected population changes, 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 Clydesdale 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 Clydesdale Area Committee area as follows:-

Community Regeneration and Rural Development

- ◆ programme of activity, funded through the Fairer Scotland Fund, to tackle poverty in South Lanarkshire's most disadvantaged communities
- ◆ delivery of the LEADER Programme which had an allocation of £1.47 million for the period 2008 to 2013 including:-
 - ◆ coordination of applications for submission to the Rural Broadband Challenge Fund
 - ◆ the reallocation of the community facility and local development strategy funding within the Rural Priorities strand of the Scotland Rural Development Programme to the national LEADER Programme to be applied for and managed on a Local Action Group basis
 - ◆ an award of £100,000 against £251,000 of project costs for the development year of the Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership bid
- ◆ tourism initiatives

Regeneration and Inclusion

- ◆ Routes to Inclusion – to date, in the Clydesdale Area Committee area, there had been 134 people engaged on Council-funded employability programmes such as:-
 - ◆ Future Jobs Fund
 - ◆ Routes to Work South
 - ◆ Connect 2
 - ◆ Youth Jobs Fund

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
- ◆ 12 leases concluded in the Clydesdale area between March and July 2010 with a value of £76,528

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 projects in Carlisle, Lanark and Lesmahagow
- ◆ progress on the Clyde Windfarm and the establishment of a Community Fund for investment in local community led projects
- ◆ property transactions concluded in the Clydesdale area between March and July 2010 as follows:-
 - ◆ 6 disposals with a value of £105,500
 - ◆ 3 acquisitions valued at £81,200

The Head of Regeneration highlighted ongoing activity and key projects and responded to members' questions.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

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

Councillor Gray left the meeting after this item of business

6 Application CL/10/0197 - Residential Development (Planning Permission in Principle) at Land to the North of Albion Court, Biggar

A report dated 30 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Enterprise Resources) was submitted on planning application CL/10/0197 by Mr and Mrs G Watkins for a residential development (planning permission in principle) at land to the north of Albion Court, Biggar.

The Committee decided: that planning application CL/10/0197 by Mr and Mrs G Watkins for a residential development (planning permission in principle) at land to the north of Albion Court, Biggar be granted subject to the conditions specified in the Executive Director's report.

Councillor Forrest left the meeting after this item of business

7 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 23 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: Biggar and District U3A (CL/62/10)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £750
- (b) Applicant: Clydesdale Folk Club, Biggar (CL/73/10)
Purpose of Grant: Equipment
Amount Awarded: £750

Councillor Stewart, having declared an interest in the above 2 applications, withdrew from the meeting during their consideration. Councillor Allison took the Chair for those applications only

- (c) Applicant: Glespin OAP Association (CL/48/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing
Amount Awarded: £200
- (d) Applicant: Scottish Retired Teachers' Association – Clydesdale Group, Braidwood (CL/61/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
Amount Awarded: £250
- (e) Applicant: United Reformed Church (Women's Union), Carluke (CL/63/10)
Purpose of Grant: Outing
Amount Awarded: £200

- (f) Applicant: Carluke Day Centre for the Elderly (CL/64/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Materials, outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £390
- (g) Applicant: Forth Breast Cancer Care Group (CL/65/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (h) Applicant: Law Toddler Group (CL/66/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (i) Applicant: Auchengray Women's Rural Institute, Carnwath (CL/67/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (j) Applicant: Carnwath Nursery and School Parent Council (CL/68/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Equipment
 Amount Awarded: £800
- (k) Applicant: St Vincent De Paul – Our Lady and St John's (Blackwood) (CL/69/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (l) Applicant: Thornton Football Club, Lesmahagow (CL/70/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Start-up costs
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (m) Applicant: Law Bowling Club (CL/75/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing
 Amount Awarded: £200
- (n) Applicant: Scottish Clydesdale Classic, Lesmahagow (CL/76/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Special event
 Amount Awarded: £400
- (o) Applicant: New Lanark Village Group (CL/77/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Special event and equipment
 Amount Awarded: £400
- (p) Applicant: Blackwood Horticultural Society (CL/78/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Printing costs
 Amount Awarded: £300
- (q) Applicant: New Beginnings – Clydesdale, Carluke (CL/79/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Start-up costs
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (r) Applicant: Lesmahagow Community Council (CL80//10)
 Purpose of Grant: Special event and publicity costs
 Amount Awarded: £250
- (s) Applicant: Coulter Women's Rural Institute (CL/81/10)
 Purpose of Grant: Outing and entrance fees
 Amount Awarded: £250

- (t) Applicant: Clyde Valley Crafts, Lanark (CL/82/10)
Purpose of Grant: Start-up grant
Amount Awarded: £250
- (u) Applicant: Lesmahagow Development Trust (CL/83/10)
Purpose of Grant: Printing and administration costs
Amount Awarded: £250

8 Twinning Grant Application - KODA

A report dated 6 August 2010 by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources) was submitted on action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c) because of the timescales involved, by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to approve an application by KODA for a twinning grant which had been assessed as meeting the relevant criteria. The purpose of the grant was for a musical/cultural exchange involving 19 participants who were travelling to Hemmingen, Germany between 6 and 9 August 2010.

The Committee decided: that the following action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c), by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, be noted:-

- ◆ the award of a twinning grant of £570 to KODA for a musical/cultural exchange involving 19 participants travelling to Hemmingen, Germany between 6 and 9 August 2010
- ◆ authorisation for the Executive Director (Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair or Depute Chair, to vary the award, if necessary, to take account of the final number of participants involved in the twinning link

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.