

**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**CABINET**

**Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 1 October 2015.**

**Present:**

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Leader)  
Councillor Tony Buchanan (Deputy Leader)  
Councillor Danny Devlin

Councillor Elaine Green  
Councillor Ian McAlpine  
Councillor Mary Montague

Councillor Fletcher, Leader, in the Chair

**Attending:**

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Julie Murray, Chief Officer – Health and Social Care Partnership; Louise Pringle, Head of Customer and Business Change Services; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Brian Devine, ICT Manager (Business Applications); Stuart Free, Principal Officer, Asset Management; and Jennifer Graham, Committee Services Officer.

**Apologies:**

Councillors Alan Lafferty and Vincent Waters.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**1743.** There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**AREA FORUM MINUTES**

**1744.** The Cabinet considered the Minutes of the meetings of the undernoted area forums which form Appendices 1, 2 and 3 accompanying this Minute:-

- (i) Giffnock and Thornliebank, Netherlee, Stamperland and Williamwood Area Forum – 2 September 2015;
- (ii) Newton Mearns South, Busby, Clarkston and Eaglesham Area Form – 8 September 2015: and
- (iii) Neilston, Uplawmoor and Newton Mearns North and Barrhead Area Forum – 10 September 2015.

Whilst noting that further discussions on the future of area forums would take place in due course and that a briefing for Elected Members on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 would be held prior to the next Council meeting, the Cabinet agreed to note the Minutes and approve the recommendations therein.

## **MOBILE VOICE AND DATA SERVICES**

**1745.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive seeking an exemption from tendering procedures in accordance with the provisions of Clause 6(iv) of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts in relation to the provision of mobile voice and data services, for a period of four months from 1 December 2015 until 31 March 2016.

It was highlighted that the current contract with O2 had started on 1 December 2010, not 1 January 2010 as referred to within the report, and a contract extension had previously been agreed until November 2015. It had been anticipated that Mobile Voice and Data Services would be provided through the Scottish Wide Area Network (SWAN), which the Council had agreed to join from December 2015, but as this service was not yet available other sources for provision of Mobile Voice and Data Services had been pursued. Scottish Procurement had arranged for a collaborative mini competition against the UK Crown Commercial Services (CCS) to be initiated and East Renfrewshire Council had already made a commitment to this in May 2015. However, as there had been a delay in the contract award, it was proposed that the current contract with O2 be extended for a period of four months to mitigate any further delay.

The Cabinet agreed, that in accordance with the provisions of Clause 6(iv) of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts, that a contract be negotiated with O2, who were currently providing mobile voice and data services to the Council for a period of four months from 1 December 2015 until 31 March 2016 at a cost of £40,000.

## **VETERANS SUPPORT ADVISER ROLE**

**1746.** The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Chief Officer – Health and Social Care Partnership and Deputy Chief Executive, seeking approval to make the position of Veterans Support Adviser permanent across East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Councils with each of the councils bearing a one third cost of approximately £12,000 per annum including on-costs from 31 March 2016.

The report explained that by making the post of Veterans Support Adviser permanent this would reinforce the Council's commitment to the community covenant and ensure military personnel past and present were not disadvantaged. Furthermore it would ensure that the Council remained current and relevant to their needs and that the Council would provide a streamlined service utilising funding streams as they were made available.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) noted the work of the Veterans Support Adviser in supporting service veterans and of the progress made by the Council in the development of a customer service model and pathways for veterans of the armed forces; and

- (b) agreed that a submission be made through the revenue estimates process for 2016/17 to make the position of Veterans Support Adviser permanent in order to continue to grow the service and its reputation and work with the Customer Service Manager to ensure the model's sustainability.

### **Resolution to Exclude Press and Public**

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Leader, the Cabinet unanimously resolved that in accordance with the provisions of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

### **SALE OF RHUALLAN HOUSE**

**1747.** The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment providing an update on the proposed sale of Rhuallan House. Details of the eight options that were considered were appended to the report.

Following further discussion on some of the options, the Cabinet noted the option appraisal exercise carried out for the proposed sale of Rhuallan House and approved the proposal to market the property for residential use with a specialist agent for offers which were not conditional upon planning consent or condition surveys.

CHAIR



**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**GIFFNOCK AND THORNLIEBANK, NETHERLEE, STAMPERLAND**  
**AND WILLIAMWOOD AREA FORUM**

**Minute of Meeting held at 7.00pm in Woodfarm High School, Woodfarm on 2 September 2015.**

**Present:**

Councillor Mary Montague

Councillor Jim Fletcher

Lynne Arnott (Thornliebank Seniors Forum); Monty Cowen (Jewish Representative Council); Jim Martin (Giffnock, Community Council); Helena Shanks (Thornliebank Community Council); and Inspector Alan Dickson (Police Scotland).

Councillor Montague in the Chair

**Attending:**

Eamonn Daly, Democratic Services Manager.

**Apologies:**

Councillor Gordon McCaskill; and Bill Considine (Stamperland and Netherlee Community Council).

**VARIATION IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Montague agreed to vary the order of items on the agenda in order to facilitate the conduct of the meeting.

**MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. The forum considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 27 May 2015.

**POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES - UPDATE**

2. In the absence of a representative from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Councillor Montague invited Inspector Dickson to give an update on the activities of the police in the forum's area since the last meeting.

Inspector Dickson explained that overall there had been relatively low levels of criminal and antisocial activity in the area since the last meeting.

He explained that Sergeant Paul Wilson had been engaged as a temporary replacement for Sergeant Dougie Spence and also reported on changes to the campus officer at Eastwood High School.

Inspector Dickson also reported on the recent successful "Safety in the Park" event in Arthurlie Park. This had again been well received and an outcome report would be produced in due course.

Commenting further, Inspector Dickson reported on the recent *Operation Neighbourhood* initiative. This was a Glasgow-wide initiative aimed at reducing housebreaking. Having outlined the number of officers involved, he indicated that the initiative had seen success in East Renfrewshire, explaining that a small number of people tended to be responsible for multiple offences and the arrest of 1 person had seen a significant fall in the number of housebreakings in the area.

He further explained that one of the biggest problems in the area was the number of cars, garages and outbuildings etc that were left unlocked at night and outlined the promotional activity by the police to alert the public to the dangers of leaving premises and property unlocked. This would include a stall with crime prevention advice at the forthcoming Giffnock's Big Day event. Notwithstanding, Inspector Dickson highlighted that East Renfrewshire had the lowest crime rate on mainland Scotland.

Following further discussion in the course of which comment was made on the most appropriate number to use to contact the police, and Councillor Montague highlight that Safety in the Park was organised by Magic Wand, an East Renfrewshire volunteer group, the forum noted the update.

## **PROJECT MONITORING AND PROPOSALS 2015/16**

3. The forum considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing details of project monitoring in 2015/16. In particular it was noted that intimation had been received that the project previously approved by the forum at a cost of £1,000 would only cost £600 resulting in a remaining balance of £4,300.

Discussion followed in the course of which a number of suggestions for potential projects in Rouken Glen Park were made. In particular, Councillor Fletcher referred to approaches he had received about the possibility of a bandstand in the park. He referred to some of the events that had taken place in the park, such as the Armed Forces Day event, and that a bandstand or even a hardstanding area that could act as a focal point at such events may be worthy of consideration.

Councillor Montague reminded the community group representatives present that their groups were able to access a variety of funding sources unavailable to the Council if they wanted to develop project proposals in the area.

The forum noted the report.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

4. It was noted that the next meeting would be held in Woodfarm High School on 2 December 2015 at 7.00 pm.





**MINUTE**

of

**NEWTON MEARNS SOUTH, BUSBY, CLARKSTON AND EAGLESHAM AREA FORUM****Minute of Meeting held at 7.00pm in Williamwood High School on 8 September 2015.****Present:**

Councillor Barbara Grant  
Councillor Alan Lafferty

Councillor Ian McAlpine

Inspector Alan Dickson (Police Scotland); George McLachlan (Busby Community Council); and Irene Yona (Newton Mearns Community Council).

Mr McLachlan in the Chair

**Attending:**

Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

**Apologies:**

Provost Alastair Carmichael and Councillors Stewart Miller and Jim Swift; Bill Duguid (Eaglesham and Waterfoot Community Council); Station Manager David Fothergill, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; and John Seenan (East Renfrewshire Neighbourhood Watch Association).

**MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. The forum considered and approved the Minute of the meeting of 26 May 2015.

**PROJECT MONITORING AND PROPOSALS 2015/16**

2. The forum considered and noted a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing an update on projects previously approved by the forum and the balance outstanding in the General Services budget for 2015/16.

**POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES – UPDATE**

3. In the absence of a representative from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Mr McLachlan invited Inspector Dickson to give an update on the activities of the police in the forum's area since the date of the last meeting.

Inspector Dickson explained that overall there had been relatively low levels of criminal and antisocial activity in the area since the last meeting. He indicated that the annual public satisfaction survey was currently being carried out and that completed forms were to be returned by the end of September. He also reported on the recent successful "Safety in the Park" event in Arthurlie Park organised by Magic Wand, an East Renfrewshire volunteer group. This had again been well received and an outcome report would be produced in due course. It was noted that Constable Karen Searle had been appointed as the new campus officer for Eastwood High School.

Whilst reporting on the recent *Operation Neighbourhood* initiative, Inspector Dickson highlighted that this was a Glasgow-wide initiative aimed at reducing housebreaking. Having outlined the number of officers involved, he indicated that the initiative had seen success in East Renfrewshire, explaining that a small number of people tended to be responsible for multiple offences. He indicated that the results of the operation should be known for reporting to the next meeting.

Concluding his remarks, Inspector Dickson advised that the number of incidents of violent crime in East Renfrewshire had reduced.

The forum noted the position.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

4. It was noted that the next meeting would be held in Mearns Castle High School on 1 December 2015 at 7pm.

**MINUTE**  
**of**  
**NEILSTON, UPLAWMOOR AND NEWTON MEARNS NORTH AND BARRHEAD**  
**AREA FORUM**

**Minute of Meeting held at 7.00pm in the Council Offices, 211 Main Street, Barrhead on 10 September 2015.**

**Present:**

Councillor Tony Buchanan

Sergeant Jim Boyle (Police Scotland); Grace Brookmyre (East Renfrewshire Faith Forum); Steven Healy (Neilston Community Council); David Jesner (Newton Mearns Community Council); and Gordon Steel (Uplawmoor Community Council).

Mr Healy in the Chair

**Attending:**

Ron Leitch, Committee Services Officer.

**Apologies:**

Councillor Kenny Hay (Chair); Station Manager David Fothergill (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); Joyce Miller (Uplawmoor Community Council); and Alan Walker (Neilston Development Trust).

**MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. The forum considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 28 May 2015.

Sergeant Boyle, supported by others, confirmed that supplies of “cold caller” stickers had been placed in local libraries, the main Council offices in Giffnock and Barrhead, and Auchenback Resource Centre.

Mr Jesner confirmed that the advertising trailer which had been situated at Greenlaw Village had been removed and Councillor Buchanan reported that final tenders had been issued for work relating to the area at the front of the Foundry. As a result of this it was anticipated that work would begin soon on the formation of the walkway between the Foundry and the adjacent Asda carpark which it was hoped would relieve the difficulties presently experienced by users of the Foundry seeking to park their cars.

**POLICE UPDATE**

2. Mr Healy invited Sergeant Boyle to update members on the activities of Police Scotland locally since the last meeting.

Sergeant Boyle reported that a recent Glasgow-wide initiative, *Operation Neighbourhood*, aimed at reducing housebreaking, had seen great success in East Renfrewshire with in excess of 40 offences being detected. He explained that a small number of people tended to be responsible for multiple offences and the arrest of 1 person had seen a significant fall in the subsequent number of housebreakings in the area.

He went on to report that funding had been made available to enable the campus police officers to remain in post until at least the end of the 2015/16 school session and that Constable Karen Searle had been appointed as the new campus officer for Eastwood High School. He also reported on the recent successful "Safety in the Park" event in Arthurlie Park which had again been well received and in respect of which an outcome report would be produced in due course.

Following brief discussion Mr Healy thanked Sergeant Boyle for his presentation.

### **PROJECT PROPOSALS 2015/16**

3. The Forum considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, giving details of the budget allocation for 2015/16 and submitting proposals for consideration.

Members expressed concern regarding the request for additional funding for noise reduction work at the Uplawmoor skate park. As a result and following extended discussion, it was agreed that the Committee Services officer would contact the Parks Service with a view to ascertaining if there were any alternative solutions to the problem or if an alternative contractor could be found to carry out the work.

The Committee Services Officer requested that any further project proposals be submitted in advance of the next meeting on 10 December in order that any approved work could be completed and invoiced prior to the end of the financial year.

### **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

4. The following issue was raised:-

- (i) Mr Jesner raised the matter of the current replacement programme for street lighting columns, associated power cables and lamps. In response, Councillor Buchanan outlined some of the background to the decision to establish the programme including the need to replace damaged or corroded columns, move the columns to the back of the footpath where feasible, upgrade the associated power cables, and replace the current sodium lamps with modern LED lamps. He also explained that the Council had taken advantage of an innovative funding mechanism that had been made available for this work and that the anticipated savings would quickly outweigh the capital cost of renewal.

The forum noted the position.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

4. It was reported that the next meeting of the Forum would be held in the Council Offices, Main Street, Barrhead on Thursday, 10 December 2015 at 7.00pm.