

COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP – 19 January 2010

Municipal Buildings, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, 19 January 2010 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the **COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP**

PRESENT

Councillor Brooks, Convener; Councillors Clarke, Ferrie, Higgins, Maginnis, Shields, Smith and Welsh, North Lanarkshire Council; Tommy Murphy and Susan Flanagan, Coatbridge Community Forum, Liz Kearney, NHS Lanarkshire and Superintendent Henry Campbell.

CHAIR

Councillor Brooks (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mark Hamill, Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services), Corporate Services; Michele Battersby, Local Regeneration Manager, and Gerry MacMillan, Group Manager, Chief Executive's Office; Dave Sutton, Built Heritage and Design Team Leader; David McDove, Assistant Business Manager (Roads Strategy and Safety), and Denis O'Kane, Planning Officer, Environmental Services; Paul Hughes, Head of Financial Services, Finance and Customer Services; Raymond Taylor, Community Social Work Manager; Jamie Pettigrew, Service Manager, and Eleanor O'Brien, Senior Investigator, Housing and Social Work Services; Ron Dufour, Education Officer, Learning and Leisure Services, and Inspector Bingham, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES

Councillors McWilliams and Sullivan and Andrew MacDonald, Coatbridge Community Forum.

SUPERINTENDENT HENRY CAMPBELL

Councillor Maginnis advised that Superintendent Campbell was retiring and thereon the Local Area Partnership expressed their sincere thanks for the work undertaken by Superintendent Campbell over the past two and a half years in the Coatbridge area.

In response, Superintendent Campbell wished to record his gratitude for all the support provided by community groups, voluntary organisations, Elected Members and members of the Local Area Partnership.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000

1. The meeting noted that there were no declarations of interest.

SETTING OF COUNCIL TAX AND GENERAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2010/11

2. The Head of Financial Services, North Lanarkshire Council, provided a presentation on the budget process of the Council and the public expenditure allocation process and highlighted the (1) budget position incorporating long term planning; (2) Scottish Government position; (3) Council's income and expenditure position; (4) additional cost pressures facing the Council beyond 2010/2011; (5) key aims of the Financial Plan, and (6) key dates in the 2010/11 budget process.
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Thereon, the Head of Financial Services responded to questions from the community representatives and intimated that a questionnaire/survey had been distributed seeking views on the budget setting process and priorities.

Decided: that the presentation by the Head of Financial Services and comments made by the community representatives be noted.

COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP AND COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE – MINUTES

3. There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership and Coatbridge Area Committee held on 6 October 2009.

Decided: that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

COATBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM UPDATE

4. There was submitted a report from Coatbridge Community Forum (1) setting out details of the office bearers for the Forum; (2) intimating that membership of the Forum had expanded and at present stood at 35 groups/individuals; (3) highlighting a number of issues for consideration by the Local Area Partnership, and (4) enclosing a report on the Bargeddie Community Engagement Event held on 29 October 2009.

During discussion, in relation to the consultation on the proposed closure of Bargeddie Hall, it was noted that there had been a number of meetings with community representatives from the Bargeddie area, that options were being explored for the community to take ownership of the hall and that, the outcome of the consultation was awaited.

In response to an enquiry regarding the reopening of Muiryhall Street, Coatbridge, David McDove intimated that a consultant was carrying out a study of traffic flow and that the outcome would be reported to a future meeting of the Local Area Partnership.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

5. There was submitted a joint report by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue, Strathclyde Police and Housing and Social Work Services advising of initiatives and measures taken in partnership with local agencies to minimise levels of crime in the Coatbridge area and providing details thereon.

Thereon, Superintendent Campbell, Gerry McMillan and Jamie Pettigrew were heard in further explanation of the report.

During discussion, members of the Local Area Partnership expressed concern at the new arrangements for dealing with anti-social behaviour and, in particular, how the new system works; what improvements have been made to the process; who assesses each call and the arrangements for dealing with out of hours enquiries.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

COATBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN

6. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership held on 6 October 2009, there was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting Coatbridge Area Committee held on 19 January 2010) dated 15 December 2009 by the Head of Planning and Development providing an update on the progress of the projects contained within the Town Centre Action Plan and intimating that a copy of the Maintenance Programme for 2010/2011 would be submitted to a future meeting of the Local Area Partnership.

During discussion it was requested that the Head of Roads and Transportation explore the possibility of widening the carriageway in Bank Street to allow the flow of two lane traffic on the approach to the town centre.

Decided: that it be recommended to the Area Committee:-

- (1) that information on whether the carriageway in Bank Street could be widened to allow the flow of two lane traffic on the approach to the town centre be included within the next report submitted to the Local Area Partnership, and
- (2) that the progress made on the projects and initiatives contained within Coatbridge Town Centre Action Plan, be noted.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

7. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Local Area Partnership held on 6 October 2009, there was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 19 January 2010) dated 19 January 2010 by the Head of Regeneration Services, detailing projects contained within the Local Development Programme (1) enclosing, in Appendix 1 to the report, an update on the projects identified for delivery in financial year 2009/2010; (2) intimating that the project at Monklands Canal would be removed from the 2009/2010 programme and added to the Programme for 2010/2011 and delivered in August 2010 and the project at Lochview Family Centre scheduled for delivery in 2010/2011 would be accelerated and delivered in 2009/2010, and (3) indicating that discussions were underway with Council Services to identify a lead service, project briefs and total costs for the projects approved for delivery in 2010/2011.

Thereon, Michele Battersby was heard in further explanation of the report.

Thereon, Dave Sutton, Built Heritage and Design Team Leader provided an update on the feasibility study being undertaken in respect of the project at Bank Street/Ross Street and intimated that a further report would be provided on completion of the study.

Decided: that it be recommended to the Area Committee:-

- (1) that the progress in relation to delivery of the projects in 2009/2010, be noted, together with the oral update provided at the meeting;
 - (2) that the project at Lochview Family Centre be delivered in 2009/2010, and the project at Monklands Canal be deferred until August 2010, and
 - (3) that the progress in delivering the projects, further alterations or additions to the Programme be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership.
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NHS LANARKSHIRE – NORTH COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE

8. There was submitted a report dated 21 December 2009 by Jim Wright, General Manager, Coatbridge NHS Lanarkshire (1) providing (a) an update on the Keep Well Activity for the period up to 30 November 2009; (b) details of the Scottish Bowel Screening Programme which commenced in August 2009, and (2) intimating that the Swine Flu Vaccination Programme had started and that children aged between six months and five years old had been prioritised.

Thereon Liz Kearney was heard in further explanation of the report.

It was noted that the Local Area Partnership at its meeting on 6 October 2009 requested that a representative of GP practices in Coatbridge be invited to a future meeting of the Local Area Partnership to discuss appointment waiting times, and, following discussion it was requested that a representative of GP practices be invited to the Local Area Partnership meeting on 13 April 2010.

Decided:

- (1) that a representative of GP practices in Coatbridge be invited to the next meeting of the Local Area Partnership on 13 April 2010 to discuss appointment waiting times, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

NEW LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY DOCUMENT CONSULTATION UPDATE

9. There was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 19 January 2010) dated 19 January 2010 by the Head of Roads and Transportation providing an update in respect of development of the new Local Transport Strategy Document (1) outlining the background to the updated Local Transport Strategy Document which would be linked to the Council's Corporate and Community Plans and cover the period up to 2012; (2) setting out details of the key aims and objectives contained within the document, and (3) seeking views on the consultative draft after which the Local Transport Strategy would be re-examined and revised as necessary.

During discussion members of the Local Area Partnership and community representatives raised the issues of park and ride facilities at Blairhill train station; disabled access to train stations, particularly Coatbridge Central Station; transportation links to and from train stations in the Coatbridge area, and the proposed taxi rank in Coatbridge town centre.

In response David McDove intimated that he would incorporate the comments from the Local Area Partnership and community representatives into the consultation process.

Decided: that the comments from the Local Area Partnership and Community Representatives be incorporated into the Local Transport Strategy consultation.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN – CONSULTATION ON DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE AND REVIEW OF CONSERVATION AREAS

10. There was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 19 January 2010) dated 19 January 2010 by the Head of Planning and Development seeking comments/representations on the second batch of draft supplementary planning guidance and the review of conservation areas both of which were linked to the emerging North Lanarkshire Local Plan (1) intimating that a Programme of Community Engagement and Consultation was planned to run until Monday, 15 February 2010, after which the Council would move to adopt the guidance; (2) setting out, in the report, details of the draft supplementary documents which would be available for consultation, and (3) advising that the Council was carrying out a review
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of the conservation areas within North Lanarkshire and had a duty to investigate whether there were other existing areas which may be worthy of further consideration as possible future conservation areas.

Thereon Dave Sutton intimated that the consultation period had been extended until 1 March 2010.

Decided: that the consultation on the second batch of draft supplementary planning guidance and review of conservation areas be noted.

ELECTION MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR SCOTLAND CONSULTATION – TIMING OF GENERAL ELECTION COUNT

11. There was submitted a report (docketed as relative to the Minute of the meeting of Coatbridge Area Committee held on 19 January 2010) by the Head of Central Services advising of a consultation paper issued by the Interim Election Management Board for Scotland canvassing the possibility of moving the counting of votes in the forthcoming General Election from overnight commencing immediately following the close of poll until the following day; (1) intimating that the Board had identified that the results of overnight counts for the forthcoming General Election were likely to be later than has been the case in previous elections due principally to the increase in the number of electors using postal votes and the new statutory requirement to check signature of postal voters; (2) advising that the consultation process seeks the view of political parties, the media and other stakeholders including Returning Officers by 25 January 2010; (3) intimating that in North Lanarkshire the counting of votes would take place in three separate count locations across North Lanarkshire, and, should the counting of votes commence immediately following the close of poll, the declaration of results would not be unduly delayed, however, it was accepted there would be some savings in terms of costs were the counting of votes to be delayed until the morning of the day following polling day.

Decided: that the Election Management Board for Scotland consultation on the possibility of moving the counting of votes in the forthcoming General Election to the following day instead of overnight be noted.

Municipal Buildings, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, 19 January 2010 at 4.35 pm.

A Meeting of the COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor Brooks, Convener; Councillors Clarke, Ferrie, Higgins, Maginnis, Shields, Smith and Welsh.

CHAIR

Councillor Brooks (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services), Corporate Services; Local Regeneration Manager and Group Manager, Chief Executive's Office; Built Heritage and Design Team Leader; Assistant Business Manager (Roads Strategy and Safety) and Planning Officer, Environmental Services; Head of Financial Services, Finance and Customer Services; Community Social Work Manager; Service Manager and Senior Investigator, Housing and Social Work Services, and Education Officer, Learning and Leisure Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Tommy Murphy and Susan Flanagan, Coatbridge Community Forum, Liz Kearney, NHS Lanarkshire and Superintendent Henry Campbell and Inspector Bingham, Strathclyde Police.

APOLOGIES

Councillors McWilliams and Sullivan.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000

The meeting noted that there were no declarations of interest.

2. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2010

The Committee gave consideration to the recommendations made by the Coatbridge Local Area Partnership at its meeting held on 19 January 2010 and agreed in respect of each item, the following:-

(1) SETTING OF COUNCIL TAX AND GENERAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2010/11

Decided: that the presentation by the Head of Financial Services and comments made by the community representatives be noted.

(2) COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP AND COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE – MINUTES

Decided: that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

(3) COATBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM UPDATE

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(4) JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(5) COATBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN

Decided:

- (1) that information on whether the carriageway in Bank Street could be widened to allow the flow of two lane traffic on the approach to the town centre be included within the next report submitted to the Local Area Partnership, and
- (2) that the progress made on the projects and initiatives contained within Coatbridge Town Centre Action Plan, be noted.

(6) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Decided:

- (1) that the progress in relation to delivery of the projects in 2009/2010, be noted, together with the oral update provided at the meeting;
- (2) that the project at Lochview Family Centre be delivered in 2009/2010, and the project at Monklands Canal be deferred until August 2010, and
- (3) that the progress in delivering the projects, further alterations or additions to the Programme be reported to future meetings of the Local Area Partnership.

(7) NHS LANARKSHIRE – NORTH COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE

Decided:

- (1) that a representative of GP practices in Coatbridge be invited to the next meeting of the Local Area Partnership on 13 April 2010 to discuss appointment waiting times, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

(8) NEW LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY DOCUMENT CONSULTATION UPDATE

Decided: that the comments from the Local Area Partnership and Community Representatives be incorporated into the Local Transport Strategy consultation.

COATBRIDGE AREA – 19 January 2010

(9) NORTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN – CONSULTATION ON DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE AND REVIEW OF CONSERVATION AREAS

Decided: that the consultation on the second batch of draft supplementary planning guidance and review of conservation areas be noted.

(10) ELECTION MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR SCOTLAND CONSULTATION – TIMING OF GENERAL ELECTION COUNT

Decided: that the Election Management Board for Scotland consultation on the possibility of moving the counting of votes in the forthcoming General Election to the following day instead of overnight be noted.
