

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: COATBRIDGE TRADERS ASSOCIATION
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 8 October 1996	Ref: CMcA/LU/REP.082	

AIM OF REPORT

This report seeks committee endorsement for the appointment as secretary to Coatbridge Traders Association of North Lanarkshire Councils Town Centre Manager, and highlights examples of partnership activity involving the town centre manager.

INTRODUCTION

Members will recall from two previous committee reports of (May and August 1996) that Town Centre Initiatives Ltd is the company set up to manage the town centre management project. It was formed in March 1996, with funding from Motherwell District Council and British Steel (Industries) Ltd. It has appointed a town centre manager for Bellshill, Motherwell and Wishaw. Although it has been agreed by the Economic Development Committee that the town centre manager employed by North Lanarkshire Council to manage Airdrie, Coatbridge and Kilsyth will transfer to Town Centre Initiatives, some of the funding for this post has still not been identified. Representatives on the Board of Directors for Town Centre Initiatives Ltd includes three officials from the Planning and Development Department and the Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

BACKGROUND

David Evans is the town centre manager (TCM) with North Lanarkshire Council based within the Economic Development Unit at Fleming House, Cumbernauld and responsible for the town centres of Airdrie, Coatbridge and Kilsyth and working in partnership with Town Centre Initiatives Ltd (TCI).

Coatbridge Traders Association was formed three years ago by the manager of Boots and a group of local traders to stimulate trade and organise small promotional events to persuade local people to shop in Coatbridge.

During the past year involvement of members has fallen and they could not fill the vacancy for secretary at the last annual general meeting. The TCM has agreed to take on this role in an effort to strengthen the Association, involve more local traders and improve trading levels in the town.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

The town centre manager has been involved with organising and developing various forms of promotional events in Coatbridge, in association with the Quadrant Shopping Centre, North Lanarkshire Council Leisure Department, and various schools. Examples of such activity include a Halloween fancy dress parade and a window dressing competition.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee notes the contents of the report and endorses the appointment of North Lanarkshire Council Town Centre Manager as secretary of Coatbridge Traders Association.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stanley Cook', with a large, stylized flourish underneath the name.

Stanley Cook
Director of Planning & Development

For further information contact Gordon Smith, Head of Economic Development and Planning.