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GEN.PURPOSES1996M

Motherwell, 7 August 1996 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor Craig, Convener; Councillor Combe, Vice-Convener; Councillors Barrie, E. Burns, Chadha, Clarke, Gray, Holloway, Leitch, H. McGuigan, McKendrick, J. McKenna, J. Martin, Murphy, Russell, Selfridge and Smith.

CHAIR

Councillor Craig (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Committee Services Officer and the Head of Legal Services

APOLOGIES

Councillors Logue, Shaw and Wilson.

RATIONALISATION OF TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENSING SYSTEMS - AREAS OF OPERATION, NUMERICAL LIMITS AND PARTNERSHIPS, TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE FEES AND DURATIONS, FARES AND FARE REVIEWS, VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS FOR TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES AND LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. There were submitted reports by the Head of Legal Services relative to various aspects of proposals to rationalise the taxi and private hire car vehicle licensing systems.

Decided: that consideration of the reports on the proposals to rationalise the licensing of taxis and private hire cabs be continued to a Special Meeting of the Committee.

RATIONALISATION OF FORMER LICENSING SYSTEMS - LATE HOURS CATERING AND STREET TRADERS' LICENCES

2. There were submitted reports by the Head of Legal Services regarding proposals for the rationalisation of the late hours catering and street traders licensing systems.

Decided: that consideration of the reports be continued to a Special Meeting of the Committee.

CUMBERNAULD AND KILSYTH LICENSING AREA - REVIEW OF  
TAXI FARES

3. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 22 May 1996 by the Head of Legal Services regarding a review of taxi fares in the area of the former Cumbernauld and Kilsyth District Council and detailing a formula for a fares review in Appendix C to the report.

Decided: that the scale of fees as detailed in Appendix C to the report be approved.

THE DEREGULATION (GAMING MACHINES AND BETTING OFFICE  
FACILITIES) ORDER 1996 - PERMITS - AMUSEMENT ARCADES

4. There was submitted report dated 26 June 1996 by the Head of Legal Services on the Deregulation (Gaming Machines and Betting Office Facilities) Order 1996 and on the requirement to fix a fee for the new permits in terms of Section 34(5)(e) of the Act for amusement arcades.

Decided: that the report be approved and the fee for Section 34(5)(e) Permits be set at \$125 to be reviewed if necessary once any additional costs had been assessed.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

5. There were submitted the Minutes of Meetings of the General Purposes (Licensing) Sub-Committee of 6 June, 26 June, 4 July, 10 July and 24 July 1996.

Decided: that the Minutes be noted.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(1) FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

6. There was submitted an application for financial assistance from the Forth and Clyde Canal Society.

It was reported that the Council's Leisure Services Committee was also considering a similar request from the Society.

Decided: that as the matter was being considered by the Leisure Services Committee, no action be taken by this Committee.

(2) BRITISH RED CROSS - DUNBARTONSHIRE BRANCH

7. There was submitted a report dated 19 July 1996 by the Director of Administration regarding an application for financial assistance from the British Red Cross, Dunbartonshire Branch.

It was reported that the purpose of the grant was to assist in the costs involved in taking disabled individuals and their carers on a short holiday and that over the past two years a significant number of people from the North Lanarkshire area had been involved.

Decided: that a grant of \$500 be made to the Dunbartonshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society towards the costs involved in this project.

(3) ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION - EAST KILBRIDE BRANCH - WINGS APPEAL

8. There was submitted an application for financial assistance from the Royal Air Forces Association, East Kilbride Branch towards the Wings Appeal, an appeal for which had been set up to provide welfare support to serving and ex-serving RAF personnel.

Decided: that consideration of this application be continued for further information.

CONFERENCES - THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS

(1) STUDY COURSES FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

9. There was submitted a programme of study courses for elected members for the period September 1996 to April 1997 organised by the National Association of Councillors.

Decided: that the Council be not represented at any of the study courses.

(2) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10. There was submitted invitation for the Council to be represented at the Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Councillors between 15 and 17 November 1996 in York.

Decided: that the Council be not represented.

TWINNING/CIVIC FUNCTIONS - BRANNOCK YOUTH EXCHANGE GROUP

11. There was submitted a report dated 19 July 1996 by the Director of Administration regarding a proposed return visit to Schweinfurt by the Brannock Youth Exchange Group.

Decided: that the Council agree to provide financial assistance to the Youth Exchange Group in terms of the policy previously agreed by the Council.

#### CIVIC FUNCTIONS GROUP - MINUTE

12. There was submitted the Minute of meeting of the Civic Functions Group of 3 July 1996.

Decided: that the Minute be noted.

#### BELLSHILL POST OFFICE

13. There was submitted a report dated 4 July 1996 by the Director of Administration regarding correspondence which had been received from Post Office Counters Limited on proposals to alter the service provision at their main Post Office in Bellshill to an "agency basis".

Decided: that the Council register its objection to any proposals which diminished the Bellshill Post Office as a direct service provider and that Post Office Counters Limited be advised accordingly and further that the Council indicate its support for the continuation of the Post Office in Bellshill Main Street.

#### APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS

14. There was submitted report dated 5 July 1996 by the Director of Administration advising that the Council was entitled to appoint a delegate and an observer to the General Management Committee of the National Association of Councillors.

Decided: that no appointment be made by the Council meantime.

#### BYE-LAWS PROHIBITING THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES

15. There was submitted report dated 20 June 1996 by the Head of Legal Services advising of the status of the Bye-laws which had

been initiated by the former District Councils to prohibit the consumption of alcohol in designated public places.

Decided:

- (1) that the Head of Legal Services be authorised to investigate the various alternatives open to the Council to extend the prohibition on the consumption of alcohol in public places to cover all Council areas and to report back to the Committee in due course, and
- (2) that the Head of Legal Services also report on the statutory requirements for publicising any such By-laws by way of public notices.

#### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 1997

16. There was submitted report dated 29 July by the Director of Administration regarding the determination of local public holidays in 1997.

Decided: that the undernoted dates be specified as public holidays in North Lanarkshire for 1997:-

January	-	Wednesday 1 January Thursday 2 January
March	-	Friday 28 March Monday 31 March
May	-	Monday 5 May Monday 26 May
July	-	Monday 21 July
September	-	Friday 26 September Monday 29 September
December	-	Thursday 25 December Friday 26 December

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CUMBERNAULD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION WIND-UP -  
ACQUISITION OF HOUSING STOCK AND AREAS OF OPEN SPACE

17. There was submitted report dated 31 July 1996 by the Head of Legal Services regarding the wind-up of Cumbernauld Development Corporation and the acquisition of housing stock and areas of open space.

The Head of Legal Services reported that a number of difficulties

had been identified with regard to the title of ground/property  
to  
be transferred to the Council from the Development Corporation  
which necessitated a reappraisal of the legal transfer process  
resulting in the current proposals.

It was noted that the report would also be considered by the  
Housing and Policy and Resources Committee for their interests.

Decided: that consideration of the report be continued pending  
consideration by the Housing and Policy and  
Resources Committees.

#### LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION - STAFFING

18. There was submitted report (docketed) dated 29 July 1996 by the  
Head of Legal Services regarding difficulties which had arisen  
associated with the workload arising from Council house sales  
and  
suggesting a number of short and long term solutions to overcome  
the current difficulties.

Decided: that the recommendations contained in the summary  
of proposals in paragraph 2.5.2 of the report be  
approved.