

Municipal Buildings, Greenock PA15 1LY

Ref: RMcG/AI

Date: 5 February 2010

I refer to the special meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to be held on Tuesday 9 February 2010 and now attach report which the Committee may wish to consider as an additional agenda item.

ELAINE PATERSON
Head of Legal & Administration

Undernote:

Additional Item

**Request by Councillors Blair and Rebecchi
Inverkip Community Facility**
Report by Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources

Enquiries to - **Rona McGhee** - Tel 01475 712113

Report To: Policy and Resources Committee **Date:** 9 February 2010

Report By: Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources **Report No:** RMcG/AI/LA/481/10

Contact Officer: Rona McGhee **Contact No:** 01475 712113

Subject: Request by Councillors Blair and Rebecchi
Inverkip Community Facility

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to consider a request from Councillors Blair and Rebecchi relative to Inverkip Community Facility.

APPENDIX

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 With regard to the transfer of land, which was completed in April 2009, the land is only to be used for casual grazing and/or informal recreation, including use by scouting groups and other voluntary groups. Part of the land acquired by the Council has been leased to Greenock District Scout Council and there is a grazing let in place over a large part of the land. The Head of Planning & Housing is progressing consultation in respect of the transferred land and will be happy to include discussion with the community and community groups.
- 2.2 In terms of the planning contribution, the Section 69 Agreement between the Council and Stewart Milne provides that Stewart Milne are required to pay a planning contribution of £600,000 in two instalments, £300,000 to be paid on completion of 100 houses and the remaining £300,000 to be paid on completion of 200 houses. To date approximately 50 houses have been completed on site. It is not, however, possible to provide timescale for completion of the remaining houses.
- 2.3 The Corporate Director Regeneration and Resources has had some early dialogue with interested parties and will be undertaking consultation with a range of groups early in 2010 regarding the development of options. When proposals have been identified a report will be submitted to the relevant Committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to consider the attached request.

Rona McGhee
Legal & Administration

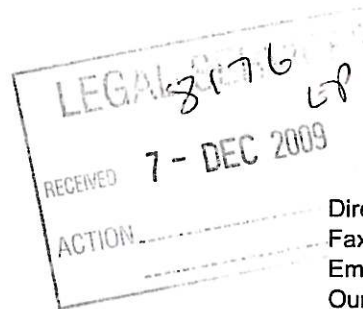
Councillor Alan Blair
Ward 3 – Inverclyde North
Municipal Buildings
Greenock
PA15 1LX

Councillor Ciano Rebecchi
Ward 6 – Inverclyde South West
Municipal Buildings
Greenock
PA15 1LX

APPENDIX

Inverclyde
council

Ms E Paterson
Head of Legal & Administration
Inverclyde Council



Direct Line: 01475 712020
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Email: alan.blair@inverclyde.gov.uk
Our Ref: AB/slc
Your Ref:
Date 4 December 2009

Dear Ms Paterson

Inverkip Community Facility

The agreement arrived at some three years ago between Stuart Milne and Inverclyde Council is now being implemented, and that is something we welcome.

At this stage, it would now be appropriate for the Council to take a view with regard to two important aspects of the agreement.

First, some 188 acres of land has now been transferred to the ownership of the Council, this to be designated as "green belt" irreversibly. Thought should now be given as to how best to use this land for community benefit, and we propose that arrangements be made for a consultation process with the public in Inverkip. This would plainly involve individual members of the community, but also organisations such as the Community Council, ICE, Inverkip Primary School, Inverkip Parish Church, local youth organisations and so on.

Second, within a relatively short period aggregate sums of £600,000 will be paid by the developers towards a community facility or facilities for the benefit of the people of Inverkip. While that is a substantial sum, it may well not provide a sufficiently extensive facility for what is an expanding village. For that reason, we propose that the Council commit a further sum of £600,000 and that thereafter a full consultation process take place with the Inverkip public, and with the organisations mentioned above. The objective would therefore be to reach agreement as to the project which would provide the greatest community benefit to Inverkip for a sum in the region of £1.2 million.

It is perhaps worth adding that the financial commitment proposed is very similar to that provided by the Council for the Kilmacolm Community Centre in proportion to the relative populations of the two villages.

We should be glad if you will arrange for this letter to be put before the relevant committees for consideration.

Yours sincerely

L Rebecchi
(Ward Member)

Alan Blair
(On behalf of Liberal Democrat Group)

