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MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE held in the MCCAIG SUITE, CORRAN HALLS, OBAN on WEDNESDAY, 11 APRIL 2012

Present: Councillor Duncan MacIntyre (Chair)

Councillor Gordon Chalmers Councillor Louise Glen-Lee
Councillor Neil Mackay Councillor Roderick McCuish
Councillor Elaine Robertson

Also Present: Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Jane Gillies, Area Governance Assistant
Marina Curran-Colthart, Local Biodiversity Officer
Callum Black, Streetscene Area Manager
Stewart McCracken, Streetscene Area Manager
Laura Macdonald, Community Development Officer
Martin Gorringe, Marine Manager
Hugh Blake, Estates Surveyor
Myra MacArthur, Head Teacher, Tiree High School

Attending: Euan Paterson, Head Journalist, Oban Times

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor Devon

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were noted due to Member's involvement with the groups and /or committees, Members left the room at these points and took no part in the discussion of the respective items:

Councillor McCuish	Non-financial	5(b) 2.10; 2.20
Councillor Robertson	Non financial	5(b) 2.3; 2.19; 2.21
Councillor Glen-Lee	Non financial	5(b) 2,15; 2.19
Councillor Mackay	Non financial	5(b) 2.19

3. OBAN 200

Continued to the next meeting.

4. CUSTOMER SERVICES

(a) MINUTES OF MEETING OF OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON 15TH FEBRUARY 2012

The minutes of Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee meeting held on 15th February were approved as a correct record, subject to amending page

1 to read "The Meeting recommenced at 10.30am"

(b) MINUTE OF SPECIAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2012

The minutes of Oban Lorn and the Isles Special Area Committee meeting held on 14th March were approved as a correct record.

(c) THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE - THE BIG LUNCH

The report outlined the background to The Big Lunch event and proposals on how the Council can support this as part of the celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Decision:

The Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the report and agreed;

- a) that this initiative is dealt with in the same manner as other events to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by disseminating this information to Community Groups to promote within their local communities and;
- b) to ensure that paperwork is circulated to the relevant services to ensure that support for the event is provided where possible.

(Ref: Report by Douglas Hendry, Executive Director - Customer Services, dated 27 February 2012, submitted)

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for the following items of business (5(a), (b) and (c)) on the grounds that they were likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

5. ACQUISITION / DISPOSAL / LEASING OF PROPERTY (AGENDA ITEM 8)

(a) DUNGALLAN PUBLIC PARK (AGENDA ITEM 8(A))

The Committee noted a tabled report by Callum Black, Streetscene Area Manager, in regard to Dungallan Public Park.

Decision:

It was agreed that a further report be submitted to the Area Committee meeting on 13th June 2012, to include advice taken from the Planning Service and Historic Scotland in regard to fully costed options for upgrade or removal of the wall, within the context of future options for the development of Dungallan Park, and including Risk Assessment information

on the balustrades of the wall.

(Ref: Report by Streetscene Area Manager dated 11 April 2012, submitted)

(b) SNACK BAR SITE - GANAVAN (AGENDA ITEM 8(B))

The Committee considered a report by Executive Director, Customer Services, in relation to the Snack Bar Site at Ganavan.

Decision:

The Committee agreed the recommendation contained within the report dated 2nd April 2012 by the Executive Director of Customer Services

(Ref: Report by Hugh Blake, Estates Surveyor, dated 2 April 2012, submitted)

(c) LAND AT GLENSHELLACH

Councillor McCuish requested an update on ownership of an area of land at Glenshellach following an area committee decision to purchase this.

Decision:

Estates Services to provide a written update to the next Business Meeting.

6. TIREE HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT (AGENDA ITEM 5(A))

The Committee heard a presentation from Myra McArthur, Head Teacher, outlining progress within the school which extends from Nursery through to High School, advising on the many varied skills brought in voluntarily from the community to add to the basic curriculum, and relevant to the local culture.

Myra informed the Committee that SQA results show very variable measures against other schools, and explained the difficulties in measuring against other schools and steps taken to give a more realistic comparison, adding that the staff work hard to raise expectations of the pupils and also of their parents.

Members noted the information provided and complimented Ms McArthur, her staff and pupils, on the ongoing high performance of Tiree High School.

7. DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE (AGENDA ITEM 6)

(a) GANAVAN SANDS - IMPACT OF STORM EVENTS DURING DECEMBER 2011 AND JANUARY 2012 (AGENDA ITEM 6(A))

Members considered and noted a report by Marina Curran-Colthart, Local Biodiversity Officer, advising on the effects of storm events between early December 2011 and January 2012 relating to Ganavan beach.

Decision:

Members:

- (a) noted and agreed the content of the report by the Local Biodiversity Officer; and
- (b) instructed the Streetscene Manager to investigate removal of the concrete bases which have been revealed due to the sand shifting.

(Ref: Report by Marina Curran-Colthart, Local Biodiversity Officer, submitted)

(b) MARINE ISSUES - QUARTERLY UPDATE (AGENDA ITEM 6(B))

Members considered a report by Martin Gorringer, Marine Manager, updating on current issues in the Oban Lorn and the Isles area.

Decision:

The Committee:

- (a) noted the report by the Marine Manager with the exception of 3.3; and requested that he discuss with the owners of the Barge in Oban Bay options to relocate the structure;
- (b) requested that a report on the lease of ground to Oban Sailing Club be submitted to the June meeting of the Area Committee; and
- (c) requested that a report be submitted to the area committee meeting on 13 June 2012 detailing proposals for taking forward the development of plans to construct a new waiting room facility on Luing.

(Ref: Report by Martin Gorringer, Marine Manager, dated 3rd April 2012, submitted)

The Chairman ruled that the meeting be adjourned for 30 minutes

8. COMMUNITY SERVICES (AGENDA ITEM 5)

(a) PROPOSAL FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORTING (AGENDA ITEM 5(C))

The Area Committee considered a report from Mr Chris Shirley, Quality Standards Manager, outlining proposals for primary school reporting.

Decision:

The Area Committee approved the proposals for primary school reporting as being the appropriate mechanism for the reporting of the achievements of primary schools, ensuring the same reporting format is adopted across the four Council areas:

- a) Education Scotland (HMIE) reports on individual schools to be presented to the relevant area committee by the Head Teacher following the report's publication;
- b) The Quality Improvement Officer(s) for the schools in each area attends the area committee on an annual basis to provide a brief update on issues pertaining to the schools in the area, e.g.

awards, new appointments or major curriculum developments;
and

- c) The Quality Improvement Officer(s) attends the Local Area Community Planning Group on an annual basis to present the Education Service's Standards and Quality Report, outlining any local issues.

(Ref: Report by Mr Chris Shirley, Quality Standards Manager dated 11 April 2012, submitted)

(b) THIRD SECTOR GRANTS SCHEME (AGENDA ITEM 5(B))

The Committee considered a report detailing recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations for Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

Decision:

To award the organisations listed below funding from grants to the Third Sector:

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Total Project Costs</u>	<u>Amount Requested 2012/13</u>	<u>Decision</u>
2.1	Clan Maclean	£10,995.00	£2,995.00	Grant of £1,100
2.2	Coisir Ceann An Tuirc (Argyll Male Voice Choir)	£450.00	£225.00	Grant of £125
2.3	Crossroads (North Argyll)	£11,260.00	£3,760.00	Continued to August Area Committee
2.4	Development Coll	£34,300.00	£4,000.00	Grant of £1,500
2.5	Highlands and Islands Music and Dance	£32,210.00	£2,500.00	Grant of £2,000
2.6	Lorn Agricultural Society	£3,335.00	£1,667.00	Grant of £1,000, subject to regularisation of the group's OSCR status prior to this year's event
2.7	MOD Ionadach Na Dreolluinn	£12,490.00	£2,000.00	Grant of £1,000
2.8	Mull and Iona Community Trust	£54,985.34	£3,000.00	Grant of £1,000 to be used solely for the purpose of carrying out community consultation work in regards the potential for developing a BIDS area on Mull and Iona
2.9	North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme	£22,168.00	£9,268.00	Postponed to August Area Committee
2.10	OASIS	£37,000.00	£5,000.00	No grant
2.11	Oban & Lorn Sports Festival	£7,600.00	£1,750.00	Postponed to August Area Committee
2.12	Oban and Lorn	£3,650.00	£1,000.00	Grant of £1,000

	Branch Alzheimer Scotland			
2.13	Oban and Lorn Lions Club	£1,556.80	£778.00	Grant of £778
2.14	Oban Community Sensory Garden sustainability and training project	£1,560.00	£780.00	Grant of £780
2.15	Oban Phoenix Cinema	£5,025.00	£2,512.50	Grant of £1,000
2.16	Oban Sailing Club	£3,595.00	£2,220.00	Grant of £1,000
2.17	Oban Winter Festival	£19,554.00	£9,054.00	Grant of £5,000 in principle, subject to clarification of the Festival's finalised costings
2.18	Oban-Laurinburg 20th Anniversary Exchange	£2,720.00	£1,360.00	Grant of up to £720 to cover venue hire, insurance and entertainment only, subject to the event being open to the wider community and the group making a presentation on the event to the August Area Committee meeting.
2.19	Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)	£31,700.00	£5,400.00	Grant of £3,500
2.20	The GRAB Trust	£25,925.60	£12,962.80	Continued to June Area Cttee to enable discussions to take place with the applicant and other operators of similar facilities in Oban regarding facilities/service provision in the town.
2.21	The Island Parrot Sanctuary	£11,300.00	£2,800.00	Grant of £500
2.22	Western Isles Yacht Club	£18,800.00	£18,800.00	Not eligible

(Ref: Report by Laura Macdonald, Community Development officer for Oban Lorn and the Isles, dated 2 April 2012, submitted)

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (AGENDA ITEM 7)

Mr David Miller,
Ganavan Resident

Referred to the issue of the use of the toilets at Ganavan Sands car park which he put to the Area Committee meeting on 14th December 2011, and the response given at that time.

Mr Miller stated that the toilets were not opened on April 1st/2nd and it appeared that little or nothing had been done to prepare the toilets for public use since the meetings on 14th December 2011 and 14th February 2012 although a metal grill had been installed to prevent access to the toilets. The area surrounding the toilets was a mess and one of the vandalised downpipes remained lying on the ground alongside the toilet block. The shabby appearance of the

toilets and surrounding area did not present the sort of image he was sure the Council would wish for such a popular location.

Mr Miller asked that the Council make every effort to bring this subject to a satisfactory conclusion by:

- Ensuring that the toilets are prepared to a satisfactory standard for public use;
- Agreeing a winter and summer timetable of opening times and resourcing for the facility;
- Ensuring that the public are made aware of the opening times; and
- Agreeing a plan for the continued maintenance of the car park.

Decision: The Streetscene Area Manager to send a written response to Mr Miller on the matters he raised.

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