

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE held in
the TOWN HALL, CAMPBELTOWN
on WEDNESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2010**

Present: Councillor Donald MacMillan (Chair)

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| Councillor Rory Colville | Councillor Donald Kelly |
| Councillor Robin Currie | Councillor John MacAlpine |
| Councillor Alison Hay | Councillor Douglas Philand |
| Councillor Anne Horn | |

Attending: Iain Jackson, Risk and Governance Manager
Douglas Hendry, Director of Operational Services
Jim Robb, Head of Adult Services
Anne McColl-Smith, Service Commissioning Manager
Allen Stevenson, Service Manager – Mental Health
Jim Anderson, Performance Manager
Marius Huysamer, Facilities Manager
Paul Ashworth Sports & Physical Development Manager
Rod Clayton, Area Manager (MAKI)
Stewart Clark, Senior Engineer, Roads and Amenity Services
Fergus Murray, Development Policy Manager
Adrian Jackson-Starke, Statutory Plans Officer
Stephen Colligan, Policy and Strategy
Donna Carvill, Area Children's Service Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor John Semple.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2009

The Minutes of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee meeting were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendment:-

Page 8, Item 14 – Rural Transport Fund

Douglas stated that it was called HITRANS and he would provide details to Members about the scheme.

4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME

(Q) Jackie Fulton, member of the public, asked whether a cost analysis of the impact on the social work service if the grant funding is removed from the

Home-start service is removed had been undertaken, as yet.

(R) Iain Jackson replied that questions on the budget were being centrally collated and that her question would be sent to the relevant section and a response would be sent to her. He also confirmed that Members would receive a copy of the information she had brought in support of her question.

(Q) Councillor Kelly enquired if the recent inclusion of Dunoon Primary school onto the Scottish Government approved funding list would have a detrimental effect on Campbeltown Grammar schools application.

(S) Douglas Hendry replied that it would not. He explained that there would be a further tranche of funding next year and his opinion was that Campbeltown Grammar school was well placed to receive funding.

5. ROAD ISSUES

The Committee considered a report from the Head of Road and Amenity Services detailing the status of the Capital budget and list of schemes.

Stewart Clark expanded on the difficulties experienced in the Winter maintenance programme with the exceptionally severe conditions. Discussion ensued with regards to road prioritisation and complaints received from local communities. A review of the gritting programme was ongoing.

Councillor Currie enquired if Members would have any input into the review to determine how the road prioritisation was determined.

Councillor Hay requested more clarity in detailing the locale of roads within the report and enquired on the completion of the 20s Plenty Scheme in Ardrishaig.

Stewart envisaged imminent completion, barring any priorities which may arise. Councillor Hay advised that the Community Council be made aware of any further delay.

Councillor Currie expressed concerns in regard to the remedial works to be completed by Kiely Brothers.

Stewart responded that the work necessitated hot-lay material and this required reasonable weather conditions. As soon as there was a suitable 'weather window' this would be undertaken.

Councillor Kelly expressed concerns on the methodology and budget allocation for pot holes repairs throughout Argyll and Bute. He strongly recommended that the Council lobby the Scottish Government for additional funding to remediate this inherent problem.

Councillor Hay advised that Transerv were compiling a programme of works on the A83.

Action: Iain Jackson would write to Transerv and request a meeting to discuss their proposed programme of works on the A83.

Councillor Colville expressed his thanks to Council staff who, he felt, had

excelled in their gritting operation in the recent severe weather.

Councillor McAlpine stressed the importance of sourcing a depot suitable for storing salt and grit supplies in North Kintyre.

(Ref: Report by the Head of Roads and Amenity Services, dated 3 February 2010 – submitted).

6. FACILITIES AND THE LEISURE SERVICE IN MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS

Jim Anderson, Performance Manager, Marius Huysamer, Facilities Manager and Paul Ashworth, Sports and Physical Development Manager gave a presentation and verbal update on the Facilities and Leisure Service throughout Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands.

Councillor Hay enquired on the integration of public and private pools and the status of GP referrals to the Mid-Argyll Pool.

Jim Anderson replied that offers of advice and staff support had been made directly to the Mid-Argyll Pool Board. In regard to GP referrals, they had not been asked to proffer any help in developing this programme.

Councillor Currie expressed his dismay at the lack of support made available to the Mactaggart Leisure Centre on Islay.

Jim Anderson replied that the Service Level agreement was managed by a different section and he would be happy to pass on any information regarding to this.

The Chair thanked Jim, Marius and Paul for their informative presentation and wished them every success in the future.

7. FYNEVIEW REVIEW

The Committee considered a report by the Service Commissioning Manager.

The report detailed the usage of the Fyne View Respite House by service users during the contract year 2009/2010 and the financial status.

Members discussed the impact of the contract cessation with Fyne View and the

proposed savings.

Concerns were raised with regard to the alternative respite care facilities being proposed and potential visiting difficulties which carers may face.

The Chair congratulated Anne MacColl-Smith on her report.

The Committee agreed to note the terms of the report.

(Ref: Report by Anne MacColl-Smith, Service Commissioning Manager and Joanna Hynd, Service Manager, dated 18 January 2010 – submitted)

8. OLDER PERSON'S REDESIGN OF SERVICE - UPDATE

The Committee heard a verbal update by the Service Commissioning Manager and the Service Manager – Mental Health.

A full Business Case would be prepared and would be compiled by the end of June. The Special Project team were responsible for this remit throughout each locality and service provider.

Councillor Hay enquired if the Area Committee would see the completed report.

Douglas Hendry, Director of Community Services, replied that the Project Team would present the report to the Executive Committee.

The Committee agreed to note the verbal update.

9. SOCIAL WORK ISSUES

The Committee considered a report by the Area Manager Operations detailing the current status of the Area Social Work teams in MAKI.

Councillor Colville enquired if there were any financial implications in regard to late discharges.

Jim Robb, Head of Adult Services, replied that there were no financial issues within the Care Home budget.

Councillor Currie stated that on Jura the progressive care team were scheduled to have 2 meetings per year. To date, only 1 meeting had been organised.

Jim Robb requested clarification on who the organiser was and he would arrange suitable officer attendance.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

(Ref: Report by the Area Manager Operations, dated 20 January 2010 – submitted).

The Chair ruled, and the Committee agree to adjourn for lunch at 1.20p.m. and reconvene at the Aqualibrium Centre.

Councillor McAlpine left the meeting at 1.20p.m.

10. GETTING IT RIGHT FOR CHILDREN IN MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS

The Committee considered reports from the Area Children's Service Manager which had been tabled.

The Committee agreed to defer this item to the next Area Committee meeting to be held on 7 April. Members were requested to submit any questions to the officer prior to the meeting.

11. LANDSCAPE CAPACITY STUDY - NORTH AND SOUTH KINTYRE

The Committee considered a report by the Development Policy Manager detailing proposals for areas located within National Scenic Areas and Areas of Panoramic Quality as defined by the Argyll and Bute Local Plan.

Adrian Jackson-Starke gave an overview of the report background which had been commissioned to tackle the Reporter's concerns.

Existing documentation had been utilised as a starting point. The strategy and methodology used giving consideration to a landscape sensitive to any change.

Fergus Murray reiterated that the report process had been long with many onerous issues to address. He stated that the report was not a policy document, but a technical document study.

Discussion followed with Members debating many issues in the report.

Fergus informed Members of a meeting scheduled with the Head of Planning for 26th February.

The Committee agreed to the following recommendation:

The Council approves the technical Landscape Capacity Study for North and South Kintyre on the basis that it be used in the consideration of future planning applications with a flexibility around the red and orange boundary areas indicated in the study.

Moved by Councillor Hay; Seconded by Councillor Colville.

Councillor Kelly, having moved an amendment which failed to find a seconder, required his dissent from the foregoing decision to be recorded

(Ref: Report by Development Policy Manager, dated 3 February 2010 – submitted).

12. LOCAL AREA PLAN

The Committee considered the existing Area Plan and discussion took place regarding the content.

The Committee agreed that further discussion and input would take place at the next MAKI Area Committee meeting to be held on 7 April.

13. PORT ASKAIG GARAGE, PORT ASKAIG PIER

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Protective Services detailing the status of the ongoing dispute regarding the garage situation on Port Askaig Pier.

The Committee agreed to note the report and a further update will be provided for the next MAKI Area Committee to be held on 7 April.

(Ref: Report by the Head of Legal and Protective Services, dated 6 January 2010 – submitted).