

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE held in
the PUBLIC HALL, CRAIGHOUSE, ISLE OF JURA
on WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE 2010**

Present: Councillor Donald MacMillan (Chair)

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

Attending: Iain Jackson, Risk and Governance Manager
Stewart Clark, Contracts Manager
Ian Fawcett, Streetscene Manager
Margaret Fyfe, Development Manager
Adrian Jackson-Stark, Planning Officer
Miss Catriona Hood, Headteacher – Tarbert Academy

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated from Councillor Kelly, Councillor Semple and Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared a non-financial interest in relation to the Grants to the Third Sector 2010/2011.

Councillor Anne Horn: Tarbert Youth Group (2.1) Tarbert Seafood Festival (2.21)

Councillor Robin Currie: Museum of Islay Life (2.5) Ionad Chalium Chille Ile (2.8)

Councillor Donald MacMillan: Campbeltown Community Business Ltd (2.9)

Councillor Douglas Philand: Mid Argyll Youth Project (2.10)

Councillor Alison Hay: Campbeltown Community Business Ltd (2.9) Kilmartin House Museum (2.17) Mid Argyll Music Festival (2.20)

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - 5 MAY 2010

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 5 May were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendment:-

Item 9 – Mid Argyll Swimming Pool

Councillor Philand had requested that Members be notified and receive updates on considered issues which may have an impact onto local communities.

Item 7 – Port Askaig Garage – Port Askaig Pier

Councillor Currie requested an update on the status of legal proceedings on this issue.

Action:

Iain Jackson would request an update for the next Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee scheduled for 4 August.

4. LANDSCAPE CAPACITY STUDIES -(1) MID ARGYLL & INVERARAY (2) ISLAY

The Committee considered 2 reports from the Planning Officer.

Adrian Jackson-Stark stated that the Landscape Capacity study reports would provide technical guidance for planning officers assessing planning applications.

Discussion took place in regards to the reports and the need to determine what was beneficial for relevant areas would be paramount in making the best judgement on planning applications.

Councillor Currie enquired as to why the public in general had not been consulted.

Adrian Jackson-Stark replied that the reports were provided by professional consultants who had been methodical and unbiased in completing the studies.

There was no requirement to consult with the public and if they wished to challenge any of the conclusions in the report, then they would need to engage their own company of professional consultants to undertake a similar study.

Councillor Horn stated the need for a degree of flexibility to be made available for future planning applications and it was confirmed by Adrian that the studies did not bar an application from being made for development in the red and amber areas.

Councillor McAlpine enquired if planning applications already submitted had been given due consideration in the compilation of the landscape study report.

Adrian replied that the consultants had been provided details of the applications awaiting approval.

The Chair summarised that the Landscape Capacity study reports were the best way forward, the reports were not set in stone and would provide technical guidance and be a tool in future planning processes and applications.

Decision:

The Committee unanimously agreed to approve the recommendation for the Mid Argyll and Inveraray report.

Motion

To approve the Landscape Capacity study report for Islay.

Moved by Councillor MacMillan, seconded by Councillor Colville

Decision:

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendation for the Islay report.

Councillor John McAlpine, having moved an amendment which did not receive a seconder, asked for dissent to be recorded.

(Ref: Reports by Adrian Jackson-Stark, 2 June 2010, submitted).

5. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME

Q William McDonald, Jura Community Council, questioned the standard of the remedial road work maintenance between Feolin-Craighouse.

R Stewart Clark, Contracts Manager, replied that he had inspected the work and found the standard to be acceptable. The finish was of a new prototype which should last for 10 years and provided excellent value for money.

Q William enquired where the proposed work maintenance was between Lagg and Tarbert.

R Stewart Clark would forward the proposed plans.

Q Dick Mayes stated that the road north of Craighouse was dangerous and badly in need of repair. He was aware of EU Funding which would enable the repairs to be enacted upon and questioned the methodology of Argyll and Bute applying for the funding. He congratulated David Ferrier, Technical Officer who was exemplary in carrying out urgent pot hole repairs on the island.

R Stewart Clark replied that forestry roads required more maintenance and agreed the need to manage the asset for the local community.

Q Dick Mayes submitted a question on behalf of Deborah Bryce, Jura Development Trust, in respect of the passenger ferry which was in its final year of a 3 year trial. He detailed the positive aspects - both social and financial in having the ferry service. He asked the Committee for their support to maintain the project.

R The Chair agreed that the Committee, to the best of their ability, would continue to support the ferry service.

Councillor Colville suggested that Douglas Blades, Public Transport Officer, explore the possibility of providing a Transport grant.

As Jura was defined as a 'fragile area', this may be an option to secure funding.

Councillor Currie put forward a further option for grant assistance from the Enhanced Demand Transport Initiative (EDTI).

Action: Iain Jackson to write to Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, Chair of the EDTI Working group to explore this possibility.

Q Andrew Fletcher enquired on the possibility of support from the Committee in respect of the local primary school. As a result of falling numbers, a decision had been made to reduce the number of teachers and this would be detrimental to educational trips for the pupils.

R Councillor Horn would request that Carole Walker, Head of Education, review this issue.

Q Peter Wetherspoon, Jura Development Trust enquired on the future funding of the Three Islands Partnership (3IP). The Service Points on the islands were an integral part of the community and needed to be maintained. The population on Jura had risen from 166 and was now in the region of 205-212. Tourists visiting the islands regularly used the Service Points to source information. Peter asked the Committee to consider this important issue in regards to future funding.

R The Chair agreed to note the afore-mentioned comments. Councillor Colville highlighted the success of the Service Points. Councillor Currie stated the need to define the services provided by the Service Points and market them more effectively. Councillor Horn agreed that the 3 Service Points were regularly used and perhaps it would be beneficial if they maintained a register of users.

6. GRANTS TO THIRD SECTOR 2010/2011

The Committee considered a report detailing the recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants to organisations within Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands.

	Organisation	Grant Awarded 2009/10	Amount Requested 2010/11	Total Running Costs	Recommendation
2.1	Tarbert Youth Group	£2,000.00	£3,350.00	£6,700.00	£2,500.00
2.2	Coisir og Dhail Riata	£783.00	£2,000.00	£3,595.00	£1,195.00
2.3	Girlguiding Argyll and Bute	£1,350.00	£500.00	£4,300.00	£500.00
2.4	Crinan Classic Limited	£1,175.00	£2,500.00	£9,889.13	£0.00
2.5	Museum of Islay Life	£1,175.00	£2,500.00	£4,500.00	£1,000.00
2.6	Mid Argyll Pipe Band	£783.00	£1,000.00	£8,000.00	£1,000.00
2.7	Bruichladdich Hall Committee	£0.00	£1,000.00	£2,000.00	£1,000.00
2.8	Ionad Chaluum Chille Ile	£0.00	£1,320.00	£5,320.00	£1,320.00
2.9	Campbeltown Community Business	£1,000	£1,500.00	£3,950.00	£1,500.00

	Ltd				
2.10	Mid Argyll Youth Project	£3,950.00	£4,273.00	£8773.00	£2,500.00
2.11	Tarbert Duke of Edinburgh Group	£0.00	£621.00	£1121.00	£500.00
2.12	University of the Third Age	£375.00	£626.00	£310.00	£0.00
2.13	Artmap Argyll	£1,500.00	£5,650.00	£11,300.00	£1,500.00
2.14	Kintyre Juvenile Pipe Band Association	£783.00	£43,993.00	£6,000.00	£1,000.00

Events and Festivals Grants

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Grant Awarded 2009/10</u>	<u>Amount Requested 2010/11</u>	<u>Total Running Costs</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
2.15	Mull of Kintyre Music and Arts Festival	£10,000.00	£9,000.00	£53,600.00	£3000.00
2.16	Argyll Drama Festival	£535.00	£985.00	£2,785.00	£985.00
2.17	Kilmartin House Museum	£8,000.00	£1,493.69	£4,393.20	£1,493.69
2.18	Jura Music Festival	£1,175.00	£2,000.00	£14,200.00	£1,000.00
2.19	Campbeltown Traders Association	£0.00	£6,800.00	£9,800.00	£0.00
2.20	Mid Argyll Music Festival	£0.00	£1,000.00	£11,000.00	£1,000.00
2.21	Tarbert Seafood Festival	£7,500.00	£6,700.00	£6,700.00	£2,000.00
2.22	Islay Jazz Festival	£5,000.00	£5,000	£24,445.00	£1,000.00
2.23	Mull of Kintyre Run Committee	£1,175.00	£1,230.00	£18,230.00	£1,230.00

Councillors Horn, Currie, MacMillan, Hay and Philand who previously declared non-financial interests in relation to relevant Grant applications left the room and took no part in discussions with the Grant application pertaining to them.

The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation to the report in regard to the following applications: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.16, 2.19, 2.20, 2.22, and 2.23.

It was agreed that the application by Crinan Classic Limited (2.4) would be withdrawn and reconsidered at a later date. It was agreed that the reporting officer Willie Young should contact the applicant to discuss the possibility of the application being resubmitted.

In regard to the application by Mid Argyll Youth Project (2.10)

Motion:

To increase the Grant funding to Mid Argyll Youth Project from £1750 to £2500.

Moved by Councillor Donald MacMillan, seconded by Councillor Colville.

Amendment:

Not to increase the Grant funding as the assessment had been made and it was not appropriate to increase.

Moved by Councillor John McAlpine, seconded by Councillor Anne Horn.

The Motion was carried by 4 votes to 2 and the Committee resolved accordingly.

In regard to the application by Mull of Kintyre Music and Arts Festival (2.15)

Motion:

To increase the Grant funding to £5000.

Moved by Councillor Colville, seconded by Councillor Hay.

The Committee agreed unanimously to increase the grant.

In regard to the application by Kilmartin House Museum (2.17) the Committee agreed unanimously to reduce the grant to £1490.

In regard to the application by Jura Music Festival (2.18)

Motion:

To increase the Grant funding to £2000.

Moved by Councillor Currie, seconded by Councillor Horn.

The Committee agreed unanimously to increase the grant.

In regard to the application by Tarbert Seafood Festival (2.21)

Motion:

To increase the Grant funding to £3350.

Moved by John McAlpine, seconded by Councillor Currie.

The Committee agreed unanimously to increase the grant but the release of the grant was conditional on match funding for the event being identified.

The following additional Grants to Third Secord were considered by the Committee.

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Grant Awarded 2009/10</u>	<u>Amount Requested 2010/11</u>	<u>Total Running Costs</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
1.1	Special Educational	£640	£1,500	£11,397	£750

	needs Parents Support Group				
1.2	South Kintyre Senior Citizens Committee	£600	£500	£2,244	£500
1.3	Kintyre Six Circle Group	£1,000	£2,025	£4,825	£1000

Decision:

The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation in the report in regard to the above applications.

2.21 Tarbert Seafood Festivals

(Ref: Report by Margaret Fyfe, Community Development Manager, dated 2 June 2010, submitted).

7. TARBERT ACADEMY - ACHIEVEMENT REPORT 2009

The Committee received a presentation from Miss Catriona Hood Head teacher at Tarbert Academy detailing the major achievements of the school in the year 2008/2009.

Councillor Horn stated that she had found the staff and pupils were extremely positive through the difficult time they were facing. She enquired if the uncertainty would impact onto future recruitment.

Miss Hood envisaged that this may be the case.

Councillor McAlpine congratulated Miss Hood on the high moral of the teaching staff and commended her on the fact that each year the school finances came in well below budget.

The Chair, Councillor McMillan, thanked Miss Hood on behalf of the Committee on the sterling work she was undertaking at the Academy.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

(Ref: Report by Miss Catrina Hood, Head teacher Tarbert Academy, dated 3 May 2010, submitted).

The Chair ruled, and the Committee agreed, to adjourn for lunch at 1.20p.m. and reconvene at 2.15p.m.

8. ROAD ISSUES - MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND ISLAY

The Committee considered a report by Stewart Clark, Contracts Manager providing an update on road related issues in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands.

Councillor Currie expressed his concerns at the time taken to resolve the issue with Scottish Water on Islay.

Stewart Clark replied that meetings had been scheduled to resolve this matter and he would report back to the next Area Committee meeting with an update.

Action: Stewart Clark to report to next Area Committee meeting with update on the status of the Scottish Water issue on Islay.

Councillor Colville again highlighted areas on the A83 which necessitated inclusion onto the works programme.

Stewart Clark replied that the Director of Development and Infrastructures was implementing an Asset Management Group whose remit would be determine a works programme for the areas most in need of remedial work. Members would be able to peruse this programme before work was instigated.

Councillor Hay advised caution in compiling a definitive list; B roads may not be perceived as a priority, but to local communities these were the lifeline and paramount to their survival.

Action: Stewart Clark to produce works programme for Members.

Decision:

Members agreed to note the report.

(Ref: Report by Contracts Manager, dated 2 June 2010, submitted).

9. CLEANLINESS INDEX MONITORING SYSTEM (CIMS) FOR STREET CLEANSING

The Committee considered a report by Ian Fawcett, Streetscene Manager detailing the contents of the Cleanliness Index Monitoring System (CIMS) for Street Cleansing carried out by the Council and Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) to August 2009.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

(Ref: Report by Ian Fawcett, dated 2 June 2010, submitted).

10. BALLYGRANT POST OFFICE - SERVICE RELOCATION - DISCUSSION

The Committee considered a letter from the Field Change advisor, Post Office Limited detailing proposed changes of service provision to Ballygrant Post Office, Islay.

Councillor Hay enquired on the existing Post Office hours.

Iain Jackson replied that the current service was for 17 hours per week, the new proposed hours would be 4 per week.

Councillor Hay stated that this service denigration was unacceptable.

Decision:

Iain Jackson to respond to letter stating that the Area Committee Members were against any proposal to reduce the current service at Ballygrant and that the preferred option would be for the service to continue to be provided from its current location, the alternative should be that the service as currently provided be provided in the village hall and then relocate back to the shop if and when this becomes available.

Action: Iain Jackson to write to Field Change Advisor, Post Office Limited.

11. CAMPBELTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL - ACHIEVEMENT REPORT 2009

The Committee decided that this Agenda item would be brought to the next MAKI Area Committee on 4 August.

12. UPDATE ON LOCHGILPHEAD JOINT CAMPUS

The Committee decided that David Logan would be requested to attend the MAKI Area Committee meeting scheduled for 4 August with a detailed update on the Campus.

13. AREA PLAN - UPDATE

The Committee considered an update on the proposed Area Plan by Iain Jackson.

Discussion ensued on the Plan content.

Decision:

Members approved the Area Plan.