

**MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM held in the EAGLESHAM
HOUSE, ROTHESAY
on FRIDAY, 24 JANUARY 2014**

Present: Councillor Len Scoullar (Chair)

Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Marie Bowie, Housing Director, Fyne Homes
Robert Cowper, Anti-social Behaviour Coordinator
James Ferguson, Area Streetscene Officer
Jim Howard, Trading Standards
Laura Stephenson, Argyll and Bute CHP
David Wilkinson, Police Scotland
Alison Black, Argyll and Bute Rape Crisis
Russell Bryne, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Stuart MacLean, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Ellen Cromack

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:- Inspector Gordon Anderson, Richard Gorman and Hugh McCormack.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Bute Community Safety Forum meeting held on the 25 October 2013 were approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) MAIL LEAFLETING COSTS

In the absence of the Area Governance Officer this item was continued to the next meeting of the Forum.

4. SEXUAL HEALTH

Laura Stephenson of Argyll and Bute CHP summarised a report which had already been submitted to the Community Planning Group where it was suggested it be re-submitted to the Forum.

The report identifies the need to promote sexual health and wellbeing at local, regional and national levels.

The group agreed to note the report and to raise awareness locally in relation to issues of sexual health and sexual attitudes.

5. PARTNER UPDATES

(a) POLICE SCOTLAND

Police Scotland advised the group on recent crime statistics, noting that there had been no serious disorder over the Festive Period and the festive action plan had worked well. Forthcoming community safety initiatives due to be carried out relate to the safety of female customers in the night time economy and to an internet safety event due to take place at Rothesay Joint Campus.

(b) TESSA

A representative from TESSA spoke on the project, noting that 8 schools in Argyll and Bute remain extremely engaged with the programme and that there is now a follow on worker who spends 2 days twice a year in each school, a process which is working very well. It was also noted that there is a full time support worker for young people with learning disability currently undertaking long term work in MAKI, the project is considering how this part of the service could be extended to other areas. The group noted with concern the uncertainty of the funding situation for TESSA beyond 2015.

(c) SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE

Stuart McLean from Scottish Fire and Rescue advised the Forum that although the number of false alarms had risen since the last meeting the overall number of incidents dealt with was down, though there had been a rise in the number of special service calls (road crashes/flooding etc). Cllr Scoullar recorded his thanks to Scottish Fire and Rescue for their excellent support with a recent incident at Ferfadd Court.

(d) ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

The Area Streetscene Officer updated the Forum on the issuing of 4 dog control letters and outlined the process in regards dealing with this type of problem whereby non compliance with a Dog Control Notice results in a report being submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. He also intimated ongoing work in relation to dog fouling, particularly in Castle Street Port Bannatyne and at Battery Place. Jim also intimated that traffic wardens should be in place with effect 12th May, and noted that these officers will also be able to issue fines for dog fouling offences.

6. BUTE ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR SUB GROUP

The Forum received an update from the Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator, noting that there have been 10 cases dealt with by the group since October, of these 3 are resolved and 7 remain current (3 are substantive case). Bute continues to account for 20% of all cases of anti social behaviour dealt with by these groups across Argyll and Bute.

7. FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE GROUP

The Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator gave a brief update on

progression of the Single Outcome Agreement in relation to Outcome 6 – People Live in Safer and Stronger Communities, noting that this work is being lead by Chief Superintendent Barry McEwan of Police Scotland. It was noted that their is likely to be a strategic Tasking and coordinating Group, and that the process for dealing with local issues is also being considered, potentially with a view to local Community Planning Groups taking on that role. The Forum expressed concern about the potential for really local issues to be lost in that process, and it was noted that a further update will be considered at the next meeting of the group.

8. NO COLD CALLING

Jim Howard gave a brief update on this initiative, noting that it needs to be taken forward in whole communities, and indicating that he is trying to access funding to enable this to happen.

9. AOCB

There was no other business intimated.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be on Friday 2nd May 2014, held in Eaglesham House, Rothesay at 10.15am.