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## MINUTES of MEETING of KINTYRE INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, CAMPBELTOWN on FRIDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2014

**Present:** Councillor Rory Colville (Chair)  
Councillor Anne Horn  
Councillor John McAlpine

**Attending:** Lorna Elliott, Community Governance Manager  
Tom Murphy, Amenity Services Manager  
Lisa McCaffery, Area Administrative Officer  
James Lafferty, Project Officer, THI Campbeltown  
Susan Paterson, KFCC, KPPF and Shopper-Aide  
Jane Mayo, The Picture House  
Ishbel MacKinnon, South Kintyre Development Trust  
Jim Martin, Campbeltown Community Council  
Margaret Pratt, West Kintyre Community Council  
John Bakes, Southend Community Council

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated by:-

Councillor Robin Currie  
Councillor Donald Kelly  
Councillor John Armour  
Audrey Martin, Projects and Renewables Manager  
Jamie McGrigor, MSP  
Michael Russell, MSP  
Alan Reid, MP  
Simon Richmond, Area Operations, CalMac  
Grenville Johnston, HIAL  
John Lamont, HIAL  
David Roberts, HIE  
Donald Melville, Business Gateway  
Margaret Wallace, Argyll Voluntary Action  
Darlene Russell, Argyll College  
Dhonna McCallum, Argyll College  
Harvard Davies, Campbeltown Picture House  
Dave Kent, South Knapdale Community Council  
Donald Ewen Darroch, Isle of Jura Community Council

### 2. MINUTE OF THE KINTYRE INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP - 31 OCTOBER 2014

The Minute of the previous meeting held on 31 October 2014 was approved as a true record, subject to the following changes:

Attending –

Change Jim Campbell to Jim Martin

Item 1 – Apologies

To add Jane Mayo and Harvard Davis

Item 7 – Any Other Business

To amend the date of the start of works at Dunaverty Hall to 3 December 2014.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

The Community Governance Manager advised the group that further to the MacMillan Cancer presentation at the previous meeting, Ms Henderson had indicated that she was unable to attend the Community Planning Group in December and as such she would attend the next meeting of the Community Planning Group in March 2015.

**4. CO-PRODUCTION**

The group considered a presentation from the Council's Amenity Services Manager, which outlined the savings between 2011 to 2014/15; the service model for 2014/15, and proposed future service models. Mr Murphy advised the group of the services currently delivered by Amenity Services, which include burial services and maintenance of cemeteries; maintenance of sports fields and pitches; warden services and the maintenance and management of public conveniences. He provided a break down of staffing levels in Kintyre between 2011 and 2015, which showed a saving of 8 posts over the 4 year period.

Mr Murphy outlined the opportunities for the third sector, which included the possibility of sponsoring floral bedding displays and hanging baskets, and also the possibility of match funding, which enhances opportunities for local communities. He spoke of the link between his Service and local organisations, groups, businesses, Community Councils, sports clubs and horticultural societies. Mr Murphy highlighted the partnerships which already benefit from joint working. These included Quarry Green play area, Campbeltown, Kinloch Green play area, Campbeltown, Campbeltown Waste Watchers and the Killean and Kilchenzie Churchyards.

Mr Murphy requested that the group promote this theme and advised that the next step is to involve partners, elected members, workforce and area offices in the preparation of new work schedules. He further advised that he would bring regular updates to this forum and to future meetings of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee, where he hoped there would be engagement with potential partners.

The Chair, thanked Mr Murphy for his informative presentation.

**5. POTENTIAL CO-PRODUCTION OPPORTUNITIES**

The Chair advised of the current Community Action Plans, which had been in existence for 5 years. He advised that these had been funded by HIE and advised that the South Kintyre Development Trust were looking to take forward the revision and update of these documents. Councillor

Colville advised that this was a costly exercise and spoke of the opportunity to draw in external funding in this regard.

Discussion was had in relation to the priorities relating to the Amenity Services area of activity as outlined in Agenda items 5 (a)(b)(c)(d) and (e), with members of the group expressing concern at the suggestion of closing public conveniences within the area. The Amenity Services Manager advised that this is something that would only be undertaken if other arrangements were made, for example if a local business, such as a hotel premises consented to the use of their toilets by the public. Mr Murphy explained that a small donation would be made to the local business by the Council. He highlighted this option as an example of joint working as well as the current relationship between West Kintyre Community Council and Argyll and Bute Council in relation to the toilets at Tayinloan.

Further discussion was had in relation to possible co-production opportunities in respect of street cleanliness in Campbeltown town centre; the all weather pitch in Tarbert and roadside strimming and grass cutting.

Mr Murphy advised that he would welcome further discussions in relation to co-production and that he would make contact with Mr Martin regarding the possibility of entering into further discussion on road side strimming.

## **6. PARTNER UPDATES**

### **(a) THI CAMPBELTOWN**

Having noted that the Project Officer was in attendance the Chair asked Mr Lafferty to provide an update in relation to the ongoing works within Campbeltown town centre. Mr Lafferty advised that works were progressing well in the town hall. He advised that the internal works were already well under way and that the scaffolding for the external works was due to be erected in mid-January.

Mr Lafferty spoke of the dangerous buildings at 50-52 Main Street, he advised that works had already begun in this regard. Mr Lafferty outlined a further CARS bid which was to tackle tenements at Longrow South; and that a building in Kirk Street which had recently been renovated, had won an award at the Scottish Empty Homes Conference.

The Chair thanked Mr Lafferty for the information provided. Mr Lafferty left the meeting at this point.

### **(b) HIGHLANDS AND THE ISLANDS ENTERPRISE (HIE)**

There was no update in respect of Highlands and the Islands Enterprise (HIE).

### **(c) BUSINESS GATEWAY**

The group considered a report outlining a number of press releases which featured in the sponsored business pages of the Campbeltown Courier in October and November; the “Meet the Adviser” sessions run by Donald Melville in Campbeltown in October; the start-up workshops which were held in Campbeltown in October and also the “New Craft Business – Reaching More Customers” workshop which ran in Tarbert in November. Further information in relation to milestones scheduled for completion was provided. It was noted that the quarterly report in respect of Q3 would be available in mid January and Q4 in mid April 2015. The group were pleased to note the success of retired teacher Pat McPherson, who set up Kintyre Preserves three years ago with the support from Argyll and Bute Council’s Business Gateway service.

**(d) THE PICTURE HOUSE**

The group were given a verbal update by Jane Mayo, outlining the current HLF bid, the result of which should be known before the Christmas break. Ms Mayo highlighted other outstanding applications and advised that if they were all successful the funding would be complete. Ms Mayo advised that the aim of the committee is that the Picture House becomes the cultural hub of the community.

**(e) SOUTH KINTYRE DEVELOPMENT TRUST (SKDT)**

Ishabel MacKinnon advised the group of the service delivery of the Town Hall project. She advised that there would be a single access point within the building, which would be taken forward in the New Year. Ms MacKinnon further advised of the Renewable Energy Project, the purpose of which is to provide a sustainable income. She highlighted the opportunities for wind, solar and hydro funding.

The group noted that the AGM of the SKDT was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 16 December 2014 within the Red Cross Hall. Ms MacKinnon spoke of the quest to increase the membership of the Trust and advised that this had increased from 340 to 420 in the last 6 months.

**(f) ARGYLL COLLEGE**

The group considered a report outlining the short full-time courses and part-time courses currently being offered by the College. Members were pleased to note the “Access to Health and Social Care” course which was currently being offered. Having noted the part-time garden design course, the Amenity Services Manager requested a contact email address for the college. The Senior Area Committee Assistant agreed to furnish Mr Murphy with this.

**(g) KINTYRE WAY**

Councillor Horn updated the group in relation to the ongoing maintenance works. She advised that unfortunately the Committee had recently applied to the CCF 3 Fund and been refused. She advised that there would be another meeting of the Committee in January, where other options would be explored.

**(h) ARGYLL VOLUNTARY ACTION (AVA)**

There was no update in respect of Argyll Voluntary Action.

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Jim Martin provided a brief update in respect of the Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC). He advised that they were currently awaiting a signature in respect of the proposed fish farm, and that most of the properties on site have now been rented out.

Margaret Pratt of West Kintyre Community Council advised the group of the issues experienced by the residents of Whitehouse in relation to Broadband. She advised that they have been told that they are not considered to be big enough to constitute a green box. Ishbel MacKinnon advised that she was aware of other communities within the Kintyre area, who were also experiencing the same difficulties. She suggested that it may be beneficial for all those affected to get together to make a stronger case. The Chair suggested that this topic could be included as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Ms Pratt also advised that the playing fields at Tayinloan were undergoing the addition of drainage. She advised that this was being funded by money from the Windfarm Trust.

Councillor Horn provided the group with an update from Tarbert Community Trust. She advised that the wind farm is progressing well. She spoke of the mini outdoor gym, and advised that they were still £9,000 short. Councillor Horn spoke of the ongoing discussions with the Council and other agencies in relation to getting a bunk house in Skipness. She explained that this would offer visitors to the Kintyre Way, somewhere to stay, but she stressed that these discussions were still in the early stages.

Susan Paterson provided a short update in respect of Shopper-Aide, she advised that there were currently four paid staff and over thirty volunteers, which included students from the school. Councillor Colville offered congratulations to Shopper-Aide, he advised that this is a service which helps people stay within the community, in their own homes.

The Community Governance Manager advised that the meeting schedule for 2015 would be agreed and circulated by the Senior Area Committee Assistant in due course.

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