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12 August 2021*

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP** will be held by **MICROSOFT TEAMS** on **THURSDAY, 19 AUGUST 2021** at **10:00 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director

BUSINESS

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES

- (a) Meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group held on Thursday, 20th May 2021 (Pages 5 - 16)

4. PARTNERS UPDATES

- (a) Transport Scotland Update

Verbal Update by Transport Scotland

- (b) Police Scotland Update (Pages 17 - 18)

Update by Police Scotland

- (c) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Update (Pages 19 - 26)

Update by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

- (d) Argyll College UHI Update (Pages 27 - 28)

- Update by Argyll College UHI
- (e) Helensburgh Community Council Update (Pages 29 - 34)
- Update by Helensburgh Community Council
- (f) Community Learning Service Update (Pages 35 - 36)
- Update by Community Learning Service
- (g) Opportunity for verbal updates by Area Community Planning Group Partners

5. COMMUNITY FOCUS

- (a) Cardross Climate Action Network
- Verbal Presentation by Heather Munro, Cardross Climate Action Network
- (b) Discussion around future Community Focus items

6. CLIMATE CHANGE

- (a) Climate Change Working Group - Involvement of Area Community Planning Groups (Pages 37 - 40)
- Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council
- (b) Plastic Free Helensburgh (Pages 41 - 42)
- Report by Plastic Free Helensburgh
- (c) Time for Change Argyll and Bute (Pages 43 - 44)
- Report by Time for Change Argyll and Bute

7. WATER SAFETY

Discussion Facilitated by Chair

8. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Verbal Update

9. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE (Pages 45 - 48)

Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council

10. CHAIRS REMARKS

**11. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND AREA
COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP** (Pages 49 - 50)

Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Group will take place on Thursday, 18th of November 2021.

Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group

Albert Bruce (Vice-Chair)

Contact: Iona Campbell, Senior Committee Assistant - 01436 658 801

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**MINUTES of MEETING of HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held
by SKYPE
on THURSDAY, 20 MAY 2021**

Present:

Laura Cameron (Chair), Gibson Hall
Shona Barton, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council
Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Rhona Grant, Community Learning Team Leader, Argyll and Bute Council
Councillor Lorna Douglas
Councillor Gemma Penfold
Councillor Iain Shonny Paterson
Morevain Martin, Garelochhead Station Trust
Duncan MacLachlan, Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust
Sergeant Marcus Littlejohn, Police Scotland
PC Laura Evans, Police Scotland
James Sullivan, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Allan Comrie, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
Alasdair MacCuish, Helensburgh Gaelic Group
Faye Tudor, Argyll College UHI
Sarah Davies, Helensburgh Community Council and Fun First
Neil MacFarlane, Transport Scotland
Eddie Cusick, Helensburgh Community Hub
Kenny Auld, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
Angela Anderson, Plastic Free Helensburgh and Time for Change Argyll and Bute

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the procedure for the meeting.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:

Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Susan MacRae, Skills Development Scotland
Janice Kennedy, Scottish Enterprise
Sophia McArdle, Ministry of Defence
Inspector Roderick MacNeill, Police Scotland
Jayne Burnett, Visiting Friends
Carole-Anne McDade, Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership
Sephton MacQuire, Dunbritton Housing Association
Vivien Dance, Helensburgh and Lomond Chamber of Commerce
Lynn Campbell, Department for Work and Pensions

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

- (a) **Meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group held on Thursday, 11th of February 2021**

The Minute of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group meeting held on Thursday, 11th of February 2021 was approved as a correct record.

4. PARTNERS UPDATES

(a) Transport Scotland Update

Neil MacFarlane, Transport Scotland, provided information to the Group around roadworks which had been completed within the previous month on the A82 and A83, as well as information around roadworks scheduled to be carried out within the following month on the A82 Tarbet to Inverarnan which would result in a road closure for 5 nights from the 23rd to the 27th of May to allow resurfacing, drainage and landscaping works.

Neil also provided an update to the Group on a Visitor Management Strategy for the area which was being worked on in conjunction with Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, Police Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council to monitor and manage traffic as lockdown restrictions eased and the level of staycationing in the area increased.

Neil noted that he was aware of a recent issue where cars were parking along the verge at Sloy power station and confirmed that possible solutions were being investigated. Neil also highlighted work being carried out by the Friends of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs and partnership working taking place around litter bins in laybys and signage for temporary toilet facilities in the area.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(b) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Helensburgh and Lomond FQ4 2020/21 Update

The Group considered a report highlighting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) FQ4 review of local performance across Helensburgh and Lomond for 2020-21.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by James Sullivan, Watch Commander/Local Authority Liaison Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, submitted)

(c) Police Scotland Update

The Group considered a written update from Police Scotland, providing information around increased fraud activity; a likely increase in visitors to the National Park in light of lockdown restrictions easing and preparations to combat any issues around this; work to prevent issues around 'wild camping'; police resources and activity in

the area; and mitigation measures being considered and implemented in response to concerns around speeding.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Inspector Roderick MacNeill, Police Scotland, submitted)

(d) Department for Work and Pensions Update

The Group considered a written update from the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) which detailed statistical information in relation to Universal Credit claimants and customers searching for work in the Argyll & Bute area, as well as information on the Kickstart scheme; Virtual Youth Hubs, local Job Centres; benefits; the Universal Credit benefits checker; Post Office card accounts; and Help to Save saving accounts.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. noted that in the absence of a representative from Department of Work and Pensions, any questions could be sent to Lynn Campbell following the meeting.

(Reference: Update by Lynn Campbell, Customer Service Leader WS Inverclyde/Argyll and Bute, Department for Work and Pensions, dated March 2021, submitted)

(e) Argyll College UHI Update

The Group considered an update from Argyll College UHI which detailed the changes made to the operation of Argyll College UHI in light of the Covid-19 pandemic; a move to the online provision of learning, information sessions and open days; participation in online school events; virtual events planned to attract new students; and ways in which people could locate further information around Argyll College UHI and their prospectus.

Faye Tudor encouraged everyone to engage with Argyll College UHI's social media profiles to stay up-to-date with their events and ongoing work.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Dr Faye Tudor, Learning Centre Manager, Argyll College UHI, submitted)

(f) **Argyll and Bute Council Community Learning Service Update**

The Group considered an update from Argyll and Bute Council's Community Learning Service which detailed information around the Scottish Youth Parliament Elections 2021; the Scottish Youth Parliament Awards 2021; the Argyll and Bute Community Learning and Development Plan 2021-2024; and preparations for coming out of lockdown restrictions. The Group noted that Cameron Garrett had been recognised as MSYP of the year 2021 for his commitment to the inspirational work of the Scottish Youth Parliament.

Rhona Grant further highlighted the ways in which the team were working in line with the easing of lockdown restrictions and encouraged partners to engage with ongoing consultations such as the What Matters to You Survey, noting that there was a section in the survey where people could express an interest in being involved with future work. Rhona also provided details to the Group of the planned transfer of the Community Learning and Development Team to Live Argyll, scheduled for the 30th of June 2021.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Community Learning Team Leader, Argyll and Bute Council, submitted)

(g) **Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust**

The Group considered an update report from Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust which provided details of their activities. The update included information around the 3 Villages Hall and Community Café; a mobile post office service; Coronavirus vaccination clinics; changes to the Community Café and Post Office; a successful application for funding from the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO); and ongoing marketing and promotion works. The report also included details around West Loch Lomond stakeholder consultations and action plans; the Two Lochs Visitor Management Project; the Two Lochs Green Recovery project; Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund (RTIF) funding; plans for a potential upgrade of the A83 Railway Bridge; objections to a local planning application; the consultation in relation to possible route options at the Rest and Be Thankful; and updates on bridges being built at Arrochar and Succoth.

Duncan advised that he had also provided a further written update on the activities of Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust which had been circulated to the Group by e-mail in advance of the meeting. Discussion took place around the provision of litter bins and temporary toilets, with Duncan confirming that temporary toilet facilities were hoped to be in place by the end of May. Duncan confirmed that facilities would be in place at the Glen Loin number 1 car park, with discussions ongoing around other potential sites.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Duncan MacLachlan, Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust, submitted)

(h) **Opportunity for verbal updates by Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group Partners**

Angela Anderson, Plastic Free Helensburgh and Time for Change Argyll and Bute

Angela advised that Plastic Free Helensburgh were looking to run events throughout the national Green Week and were looking for partners to assist with this. Angela noted that an advert in relation to this would be circulated in the press shortly but encouraged anyone who was interested in helping to get in touch with her.

Angela provided details of a number of big litter picks which were being organised, as well as involvement in a one million mile beach clean project. Angela confirmed that the group were continuing with their progress towards plastic free town status.

Angela advised that successful and well attended hustings had taken place for Argyll and Bute and Dumbarton, where questions were submitted in advance to MSP candidates in relation to climate change. Angela noted that it was hoped to have standing groups who would regularly interact with local Councils, MPs and MSPs around this issue.

Morevain Martin, Garelochhead Station Trust

Morevain confirmed that the Garelochhead Station Trust had recently relaunched with a successful pop up café, with further events planned for the 8th and 22nd of June and a Suicide Prevention Day event being planned for October. Morevain advised that the training programme was also being relaunched and a food hygiene course was scheduled for the 16th of July, noting that spaces were available for anyone who wished to get in touch to book a place.

Morevain confirmed that plans to visit other veterans were also being reinstated, with the first visit scheduled to Skelmorlie for an event on the 26th of June for Armed Forces Day.

Sarah Davies, Helensburgh Community Council

Sarah highlighted work being carried out by Helensburgh Community Council, noting that a consultation around a cycle path from the Hermitage to the town centre had been hosted on the Helensburgh Community Council website, with 93% of people in favour of this. Sarah advised that the Community Council had also been monitoring the building of the new swimming pool; consulting on the new John Muir Art Way; and had received assurance that the skate park would return to its original site following the completion of building works following concerns from young people in relation to its removal.

Sarah advised that the Community Council were also researching broadband provision in the Helensburgh area; consulting with Taylor Wimpey in relation to planned building works; investigating the possibility of a top up tap in Helensburgh where people could fill up their water bottles when walking; running webinars on a

variety of topics; attempting to increase youth participation with the assistance of Rosie Sumsion MSYP; gardening in Colquhoun Square; re-instating monthly beach cleans; and discussing participation in a community lottery. Sarah noted that a sub-group had also been set up to plan for the John Logie Baird centenary celebrations.

Sarah Davies, Fun First

Sarah advised that Fun First sessions were being re-instated in line with the easing of lockdown restrictions, and with limited group numbers. Sarah confirmed that there had been a very good uptake of these sessions which were bookable online, however the number of sessions which could be held were restricted by the number of venues which were open to accommodate them. Councillor Penfold advised that she had attended some of the sessions and found them to be very well run, noting that the Guide Hall on John Street could be a potential venue for further sessions.

Sarah encouraged the Group to spread the word that Fun First was operating again, and advised that support was also being offered by Fun First via Zoom. Sarah noted that the Group had received a generous grant from the Armed Forces Covenant to assist them in carrying out their work.

Kenny Auld, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park (LLTNP)

Kenny commended the work being carried out by the community and Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs. Kenny noted that a lot of work had been carried out over the last year to get more funding and staff on the ground, the benefits of which should be seen over the Summer as there were more rangers and environment officers employed to deal with litter and human waste. Kenny encouraged partners to provide information to him around any particular sites which they felt required additional focus.

Kenny advised that LLTNP were awaiting the outcome of a bid to the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund (RTIF) for funding to assist with strategic work in researching how sites could integrate and better work together to identify where there are gaps in terms of toilets, litter bins, waste disposal facilities, water facilities, and general visitor needs.

Kenny noted that LLTNP were also working with partners and providing regular communications updates, including social media updates, to advise visitors of areas which were particularly busy. Discussion took place around active travel and public transport links to the National Park, including the use of water transport. Kenny advised that active travel and improved methods of transport to sites were being considered by LLTNP. Kenny highlighted that a new journey planning App would be available in August or September to identify ways in which people could travel without using their car.

Kenny confirmed that an issue with a faulty message board displaying outdated information had now been rectified.

Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

Kirsty advised that the Community Development Team, in conjunction with Argyll TSI, were running 'Introduction to Evaluation Training' sessions. Kirsty encouraged anyone who would like a space for that evening's training to get in touch with her.

Kirsty confirmed that a report in relation to applications for the Supporting Communities Fund would be heard at the next Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee meeting, with a decision expected on applications in late June.

Kirsty advised that the Community Development team would continue to provide support and share information with communities as lockdown restrictions eased and facilities prepared to re-open, noting that the SCDC (Scottish Centre for Community Development) had provided information which may be of assistance to communities at the following link: <https://www.scdc.org.uk/supporting-communities-safely/13>. Kirsty highlighted that the Environmental Health team could also be a useful source of information and were contactable directly for support in this regard.

Allan Comrie, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)

Allan provided an update on ongoing cycle route works, noting that work was moving at a good pace, despite being beset by difficulties, to the credit of Argyll and Bute Council. Allan confirmed that a case for change option had been sent for approval in relation to a potential railway station at Faslane and an options assessment was being undertaken, noting that any railway services put in place would take into account current services and should not be detrimental to existing services or the community. Allan confirmed that the plans for a railway station at Faslane should not impact on the new facilities or ferries at Kilcreggan pier, noting that the bus service to and from the pier may also be reviewed in future if required.

Allan also provided updates on social distancing reducing public transport capacity across a number of services; the reinstatement of the West Highland line service; the reinstatement of late night services in Helensburgh; bus routes focusing on allowing people to get to and from vaccination centres; the capacity of trains on the West Highland line; and plans for the use of specially adapted trains on the West Highland line for bikes, which would not affect passenger numbers.

Allan explained to the Group the ways in which SPT were constrained by resources and legislation in terms of providing additional routes where commercial routes were already in existence, noting that he would encourage any requests for additional services to be directed to SPT's operational team for consideration. Councillor Paterson agreed to contact SPT in relation to a bus service for Arrochar and Tarbet.

5. POLICE SCOTLAND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

The Group considered a verbal update from Sergeant Marcus Littlejohn, Police Scotland, in relation to the work of the Police Scotland Community Engagement Team.

Sergeant Littlejohn advised that the Community Engagement Team and a Problem Solving Team had been created as a result of a restructure of community policing within Police Scotland, providing details of the aims of the Team and specialisms involved. He outlined information around a number of projects which the Team were involved in, particularly highlighting a recent online fraud event which had been hosted by Argyll TSI.

Sergeant Littlejohn confirmed that the Team could look at bicycle marking in Helensburgh in the future.

Following a query around when support and events could return on a face-to-face basis, PC Evans confirmed that this would be a decision made at a national level in line with the easing of restrictions and in the interim she would be happy to assist with anything required.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

6. COMMUNITY FOCUS

(a) Helensburgh Community Hub

Eddie Cusick, Helensburgh Community Hub, provided the Group with information around the background of Helensburgh Community Hall Ltd/Helensburgh Community Hub and their ongoing work. Eddie advised that the Hub had received funding and the building was undergoing adaptations to bring it up to a good standard, noting that it would hopefully re-open for community use in early July. Eddie noted that a number of community organisations providing key services in the area leased office space within the building and the money raised from this helped to sustain the operation of the building, with space in the hall also being available for hire by community groups and other organisations. Eddie advised that it was also hoped that land to the side of the building could be transformed into a community garden in due course.

Eddie noted that community engagement exercises were planned to raise awareness of the space being available and it was hoped that partnership working would ensure that the space would be at the heart of the community and would provide volunteering opportunities as well as services which were needed in the area. Eddie confirmed that he would be happy to offer support and link up with organisations who would be interested in doing so.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group:

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. agreed that Helensburgh Community Hub would be invited to join the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group Basecamp site to share information with the Group.

7. UK WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EU

(a) UK-EU Post Transition

The Group considered a report setting out the considerations of the EU Withdrawal Tactical Group with regard to identifying and assessing any risks relative to Argyll and Bute, following the UK exiting the EU and entering into a new agreement from 1st January 2021.

It was agreed that Councillor Paterson would outline his concerns in relation to the report in an e-mail, which would then be forwarded to the relevant officer and a response circulated to the Group when available.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group agreed to be assured that the Council and the HSCP are as well prepared as they can be with

regards to having exited the EU and are actively engaged with partners through the local and national resilience frameworks.

(Reference: Report by Chief Executive, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 7th April 2021, submitted)

(b) **Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners in relation to the impact of the UK Withdrawal from the EU**

There were no verbal updates from Partners in relation to the impact of the UK withdrawal from the EU.

8. CAMPERVAN, MOTORHOME AND STAYCATIONS

(a) **Campervan, Motorhome and Staycation Activity**

The Group considered a report which provided a brief update on campervan, motorhome and staycation activity in Argyll and Bute.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group agreed:

1. to note the contents of the paper and progress to date; and
2. that partners would continue to collaborate to try and address the challenges faced due to increased informal camping activity.

(Reference: Report by Head of Development and Economic Growth, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 20th May 2021, submitted)

(b) **Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners in relation to campervan, motorhome and staycation activity**

Kenny Auld, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park (LLTNP)

Kenny Auld advised that LLTNP were working with national partners to bring some consistency to licencing and planning approaches across the country, noting that LLTNP were also working with Stirling and Argyll and Bute Councils to understand their systems. Kenny provided details of the ways in which economic growth, visitor experience and visitor management were being considered and the need to be mindful of the ways in which local businesses and communities hoped to approach the situation and work with this particular market. He advised that a process was ongoing to understand the market and the needs arising from same, particularly noting the need to map out and signpost to waste disposal sites where appropriate.

Discussion took place around the positive aspects of campervan, motorhome and staycation activity as well as the increased opportunities for active travel and the use of public transport. Kenny confirmed that a lot of strategic work was ongoing around the positive trends which would hopefully allow better facilities for communities and residents as a result of the increased tourism.

9. COVID-19 RECOVERY

(a) Covid Infection Rates and Vaccination

The Group considered a briefing note which provided information around the current Covid infection rates in Argyll and Bute and also provided some information on the uptake of Covid vaccinations.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the briefing note.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 20th May 2021, submitted)

(b) Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners in relation to Covid-19 recovery

There were no verbal updates from Partners in relation to Covid-19 recovery.

10. AREA COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

In the absence of Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, the Chair provided an update to the Group in relation to the Area Community Planning Action Plan Update as follows:

“As members of the Area Community Planning Group will remember, we undertook the Place Standard engagement exercise over a 6 month period in 2019 and had a great response to this. The results were put onto the council website for all partners and communities to use as best suited them last February and we were due to develop the new Action Plans last year but Covid-19 happened and priorities meant that these plans were paused.

We’re now in a position to start work on developing these Action Plans again, and we can still use the Place Standard results, in addition to the response from the Building Back Better consultation and we’re in a good position to be starting to develop the plans now based on our knowledge of area priorities, both before and after the pandemic.

We are planning to hold a series of online workshops throughout June, August and possibly September, no more than 90 minutes in duration for each one. We will then be drafting the plans based on what comes out of the workshops throughout the Autumn with the potential for a further workshop at the end of the year to clarify things if required. We hope to have the draft plans brought to the February 2022 Area Community Planning Group for sign off, the Management Committee in March 2022 and then for the plan to go live in April 2022. These plans will then last for 3 years until 2025.

We’re really keen to have partner and community buy-in to help take forward the actions and look forward to working with all of you on this.”

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

11. BASECAMP TRIAL UPDATE

In the absence of Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer, the Chair provided an update to the Group in relation to the trial of Basecamp as follows:

“Basecamp is working well and log in details have been sent to everyone. If people have not received a log-in or have issues accessing the system please contact Samantha Somers – Samantha.somers@argyll-bute.gov.uk. There have been a wide range of posts by partners such as information campaigns from Police Scotland or the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and information from community partners as well giving information on what's happening in the local area. I'd like to encourage you to keep using Basecamp so that we can evaluate its usefulness at the end of the year and see whether it works for Area Community Planning.”

Discussion took place around the notification settings for users of Basecamp and it was agreed that instructions around how to manage these settings would be circulated to the Group.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

12. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Group considered a briefing note which provided information around matters discussed during a virtual meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee, held on 10th March 2021.

Shona Barton agreed to pass Angela Anderson's contact details to the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee team to offer her support in engaging with the Climate Change working group.

Decision

The Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the briefing note.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 20th May 2021, submitted)

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group would take place on Thursday, 19th of August 2021.

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Helensburgh & Lomond CPP Report August 2021

Covid - As we move forward with the continuing easing of Lockdown restrictions, and entry into level 0, local policing plans are in place to direct, guide and inform officers as the various different restrictions are relaxed. Officers continue to monitor the areas of retail, hospitality, travel and socialising.

Officers are generally still instructed to follow the strategic Police response which is the four-step escalation principles of engagement, explanation, encouragement and finally enforcement but as the lockdown restrictions have continued for so long now, there are more instances where officers are justified in moving straight to enforcement with the issue of fixed penalty notices.

Police Officer absence related to covid remains manageable but like all areas of society, is fluctuating on occasion which is being managed and resources moved accordingly to maintain resource levels through the division.

Future planning - Although lockdown restrictions are easing there have already been a number of cancellations or postponements to annual events normally held within the summer months. Planning is continuing on a National level regarding the upcoming COP26 Climate Change Conference being held in Glasgow in November 2021. Cowal and Bute resources may be used during this operation although planning has already been carried out to ensure that the Cowal and Bute area will be adequately resourced.

Visitor numbers continue to rise, more evident within the National Park area, resources deployed to the busy locations. Officers also now conducting additional patrols out with the National Park utilising Local Authority funding. Includes Helensburgh town centre, the Penninsula, A814, Ardmore Point. Detailed to engage with visitors and campers, advise re any by-laws and ensure environmental impact is minimised.

Fraud Prevention – Police Scotland in partnership with Argyll and Bute Council have successfully secured funding from the “Flexible Fund” to purchase more call blocker devices given the increase in telephone scams since the start of the pandemic and the success of the initial funding bid. During 2021, Police Scotland and Argyll and Bute Trading Standards have installed 66 call blocker devices onto landlines of vulnerable people who were being hassled by nuisance telephone calls. Initial analysis has shown that 33% of calls received were nuisance or scam calls and that over the 4 year lifetime of these units they will have blocked 64,833 nuisance calls. Over this same 4 year projection, these units will have prevented 105 scams, saved vulnerable households £309,736, led to a reduction of £287,702 in NHS, social care & police costs, and an increase in wellbeing & quality of life valued at £303,641 - total benefits of £901,080. In Bute and Cowal, devices have been installed in Rothesay, Dunoon, Innellan, Sandbank and Ardentinn. If you are being pestered by nuisance calls or you know a family member or friend that could benefit from having a call blocker please contact Argyll and Bute Trading Standards on 01546 605 519 or tradingstandards.office@argyll-bute.gov.uk to apply for a funded device. Priority will be given to those who are vulnerable.

Online Child Exploitation - The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), in partnership with age verification platform Yoti, have developed the Report Remove tool to support young people to remove sexual images of themselves online. Report Remove can support a young person in reporting sexual images or videos shared online and helps the young person to get the image removed if it is illegal. The NSPCC's Childline service ensures that the young person is safeguarded throughout the process. Young people aged under 18 who are worried a sexual image or video of them may have been shared online can use Childline and IWF's Report Remove tool at <https://www.childline.org.uk/Remove>. This helps children and young people to report an image or video shared online, to see if it is possible to get it removed. Once the report has been made, it keeps the young person informed at each stage and provides support and feedback where necessary.

Crime - With the exception of fraud, area crime figures are good and generally lower than the previous year and in line or below national 5 year averages.

Recent joint town centre initiative with Royal Navy Police was well received and is being reviewed looking at making it a regular occurrence. More relevant when larger boats in at Faslane resulting in increased footfall in the town.

Metal Theft Campaign:

Local officers carried out a Catalytic Converter marking day on 23rd April in Helensburgh and our entire allocation were used to mark some of the most 'at risk' vehicle types. This was in response to a national Metal Theft Campaign and was well received.

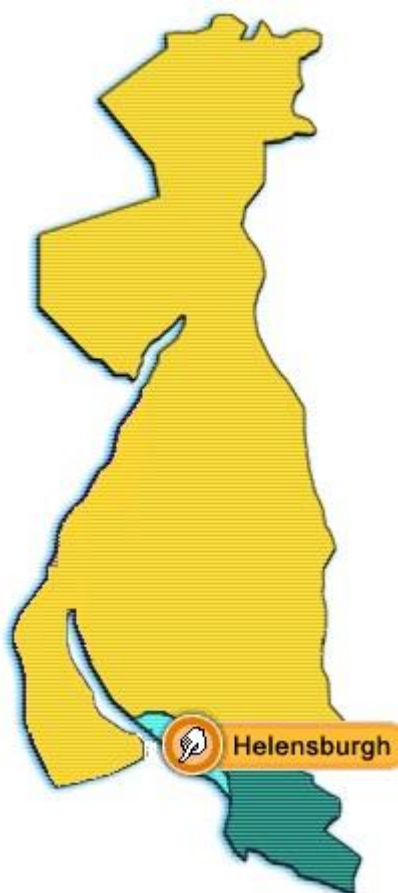
Keep Safe in Helensburgh and Lomond:

Keep Safe is an award winning initiative developed in partnership between Police Scotland and community charity I Am Me Scotland which creates a national network of safe places across Scotland that anyone who feels vulnerable can use to seek assistance, if required, while out in the community. Thanks to funding received from the Community Justice Partnership we have more business packs available and can train more places throughout Helensburgh and Lomond if we can establish who may be interested in this. Existing Keep Safe places include ACHA, Citizens Advice Bureau and Helensburgh Police Station, however we are keen to identify local small businesses as well such as cafes, youth centres, and other shops. If you would like more information on Keep Safe please visit www.iammescotland.co.uk/about-keep-safe and if you know any businesses that would like to be trained to support this please contact PC Laura Evans, Partnership Liaison Officer laura.evans@scotland.pnn.police.uk.



Helensburgh and Lomond Report

Q1 01/04/2021 – 30/06/2021



Helensburgh and Lomond Incidents Q1

H&LS – Helensburgh & Lomond South. HC – Helensburgh Central. LN – Lomond North

Incidents	H&LS 20/21	HC 20/21	LN 20/21	Total 20/21		H&LS 21/22	HC 21/22	LN 21/22	Total 21/22	=/-
Total	25	39	24	88		35	67	45	147	+59
Fire Fatalities	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Non-Fatal Fire Casualties	0	0	0	0		0	1	0	1	+1
Accidental Dwelling Fires	1	4	0	5		1	4	0	5	0
7KPI's										
Deliberate Fires	6	5	11	22		9	10	12	31	+9
Accidental Fire	6	9	4	19		7	11	7	25	+6
Fatal and Non-fatal fire casualties	0	0	0	0		0	1	0	1	+1
Non-Domestic fires	0	1	0	1		0	2	0	2	+1
Special Services Incidents	1	3	1	5		5	14	4	23	+18
RTC Casualties	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
False alarms	12	22	8	42		14	32	21	67	+25

Incidents of Note

Arrochar

Primary Fires

01/06/2021 Arrochar A82 Inverbeg Vehicle Fire Private Car on Fire

Secondary Fires

06/04/2021 Arrochar aRdartan Arrochar Grass / make pumps 2

Special services

10/04/2021 Arrochar tarbet RTC adult Male Injury To leg adult Female Stomach pain

24/04/2021 Arrochar A814 Arrochar Appliance RTC slight damage hit wall

Cove

Primary Fires - NIL

Secondary Fires

16/04/2021 Cove rosneath straw burning

Special Services

30/06/2021 Cove Shore Rd Cove Ring Removal Adult female

Garelochhead

Primary Fire Nil

Secondary Fires

_09/04/2021 Garelochhead Shore Rd chimney

16/05/2021 Garelochhead Mambeg Grass

07/06/2021 Garelochhead Whistle field SMALL Fire in Open APROX 10M by 20M

Special Services

13/06/2021 Garelochhead Queens Cres emergency CPR

Lochgoilhead

Primary Fires - Nil

Secondary Fires

22/04/2021	Lochgoilhead	Lochgoilhead	No MobilisationChild caller
23/04/2021	Lochgoilhead	Lochgoilhead	No MobilisationChild caller

Special Service - Nil

Helensburgh

Primary Fires

21/05/2021	Helensburgh	Helensburgh library	Fire Extinguished by Isolation / Light Fitting
29/05/2021	Helensburgh	East Princess St,	Stew Pot 1 Adult Male Suffering Slight Smoke Inhalation
14/06/2021	Helensburgh	Smugglers Way Rhu	FAULTY UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL MAIN - WASTE SITE
14/06/2021	Helensburgh	Cardross Rd,	ONE PRIVATE CAR ON FIRE
18/06/2021	Helensburgh	Hope St,	Food Left Unattended Extinguished by Removal by Occupier
19/06/2021	Helensburgh	East Princess St	Small Fire in Kitchen Oven Extinguished by Removal
20/06/2021	Helensburgh	East Princess St	Fire in Living Room of Ground Floor Flat

Secondary Fires

04/04/2021	Helensburgh	smugglers Way rhu	Grass
05/04/2021	Helensburgh	camis eskan Farm Rd	Grass
07/04/2021	Helensburgh	smugglers Way rhu	Grass
09/04/2021	Helensburgh	tempelTon Way	Grass
16/04/2021	Helensburgh	Carman Rd Cardross	Grass /make up 3
16/04/2021	Helensburgh	luss	Refuse In Car Park
17/04/2021	Helensburgh	Station Rd Helensburgh	Grass
18/04/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St Helensburgh	Grass
21/04/2021	Helensburgh	Helensburgh	Grass
22/04/2021	Helensburgh	Helensburgh deirland Farm	Grass
22/04/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St Helensburgh	Grass
22/04/2021	Helensburgh	Carmen Rd helensurgh	Grass
23/04/2021	Helensburgh	Helensburgh Drumfad Farm A&B	Grass
23/04/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St Helensburgh	Grass
23/04/2021	Helensburgh	murray Pl luss	Refuse
23/04/2021	Helensburgh	gareloch Rd rhu	Refuse
24/04/2021	Helensburgh	smugglers Way rhu	Grass
24/04/2021	Helensburgh	smugglers Way rhu	Grass
24/04/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St	Grass
25/04/2021	Helensburgh	DrumFork Rd Helensburgh	small Fire In unocupied House
25/04/2021	Helensburgh	Illeside walk rhu	Grass
25/04/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St Helensburgh	Grass
25/04/2021	Helensburgh	smugglers Way rhu	Grass
25/04/2021	Helensburgh	Cardross Rd Cardross	Grass
28/04/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St Helensburgh	sub Station Well Alight
30/04/2021	Helensburgh	Helensburgh	Grass
01/05/2021	Helensburgh	Helensburgh Wester bannachra	Refuse
31/05/2021	Helensburgh	Rhu Rd, Higher	Refuse
31/05/2021	Helensburgh	SInclair St, Helensburgh	Grass
01/06/2021	Helensburgh	CamperDown Crt, Helensburgh	Grass
07/06/2021	Helensburgh	East Argyle St, Helensburgh	SMALL Fire In Open - NEAR LIDL

Special Services

03/04/2021	Williamson St Helensburgh	Flooding	
07/04/2021	DrumFork Crt Helensburgh	Effect Entry	Assist SAS
13/04/2021	Est princess St Helensburgh	Animal Rescue	cat Stuck On roof
15/04/2021	Malcolm Pl Helensburgh	Effect Entry	young Child Locked in Car Removed No Injuries
23/04/2021	Colquhoun St Helensburgh	Assist SAS	Female in Water Code 26
26/04/2021	West Clyde St Helensburgh	Assist Police	cut piece of railing for evidence
29/04/2021	South King St Helensburgh	Medical Assistance	FF with irregular Breathing Ambulance Not Required
01/05/2021	William St Helensburgh	Effect Entry	Assist SAS/Female Fallen Not Required
03/05/2021	Sinclair St	Assist Police	make Building safe
08/05/2021	DrumFork Crt Helensburgh	Effect Entry	Not req
12/05/2021	Moss Rd Helensburgh	RTC	Car And deer
31/05/2021	Darleith Rd, Cardross	Vehicle Fire	Van on Fire
03/06/2021	GlenfInlas St, Helensburgh	Animal Rescue	Cat Stuck in Window
13/06/2021	Loch Lomond	Water Rescue	BROKEN BOAT ON LOCH - SELF RESCUE
15/06/2021	Drumfork Crt	Effect Entry	47-YEAR-OLD -HAS HAD A FIT - SAS IA
30/06/2021	WEST CLYDE ST, HELENSBURGH	Effect Entry	FOR CARERS
30/06/2021	SOUTH KING ST, HELENSBURGH	RTC VEHICLE AT HELENSBURGH FIRE STATION	

Community Safety Activity - 01/04/21 to 30/06/21

Home Fire Safety Visits (Q1)			
Station	Home Fire Safety Visits	High Risk Visits	HFSV with Smoke Detection Fitted
Helensburgh	50	16	5
Garelochhead	7	4	1
Cove	5	4	2
Lochgailhead	0	0	0
Arrochar	0	0	0
TOTAL	62	24	8

Community Safety Activity

- Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) – 19
- Fire Safety Talks – Summer and Water safety – Due to Covid-19 were unable to go into schools so we integrated our presentations into Education networks and remotely supported schools with the presentations
- Continue to deliver Fire Safety advice via telephone and provision of smoke detection where none is fitted. HFSV's are carried out where there is a threat of fire from criminal activity
- Represented on the MARAC for those affected by domestic Violence
- Continue to support "Make the Call" Campaign

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ARGYLL COLLEGE UHI – BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

The college continues to operate remotely, with all staff remaining at home for the moment. The college is not yet in a position to say when face to face or in-centre teaching will resume; we remain in consultation with health and safety groups and continue to follow the government guidelines. However, as in academic year 2020/21, we fully expect the majority of our courses to run, subject to numbers, and we will continue to make every effort to make learning from home possible for our students.

Last academic year, we provided laptops and internet dongles to students who required them, as well as additional financial support from Covid funds for students who were struggling. We anticipate that this will continue where appropriate and possible.

Student Success

Principal Martin Jones said, 'this has been an extraordinary year and our students have done extraordinary things to make it to this point'. Martin acknowledged that our students faced significant challenges in working from home, often juggling family, home schooling, work and study. In the absence of a traditional graduation ceremony, we will find alternative ways to celebrate our students' successes.

We have most recently, celebrated the success of one of our BA Business & Management students, John Frace, who won the Herald Higher Education Awards for Outstanding Student Contribution. John is the man behind the Scottish Coronavirus tracker website which you can view here: <https://www.travellingtabby.com/scotland-coronavirus-tracker/> - John originally began this project as a spreadsheet, entering data relating to Covid before being encouraged by friends and fellow students to create a website, which has now attracted 1.5 million users, and at the height of lockdown had over 1,000 people logging on every day for the 3pm update. John's Twitter following has exploded to 22,800 followers, including Professors Devi Shridhar, Jason Leitch, Linda Bauld, and the First Minister.

It is estimated that John has spent 1,500 hours (187 working days) over the past year on the site, whilst also keeping up with his full-time studies with the University of the Highlands and Islands. His selfless efforts have helped to improve many people's experience of the most challenging year most of us have faced.

College Applications Remain Open

We still have places left on many of our courses, with the exception of Access to Nursing and the PGDE in Primary/Secondary teaching, both of which are already fully subscribed.



Prospective students should visit our 'subjects' page on our website to find out more about the range of subjects on offer, from NC, HNC/HND and beyond to degree and postgraduate options – there's lots to choose from! The subjects page can be found here: <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/subjects/>

For those who are uncertain about aspects of studying with us, how to apply, or navigating the issue of funding, we have a really helpful 'study with us' page where you can click through a range of links to get more information. The study with us page is here: <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/study-with-us/>

Of course, despite working from home, staff are all ready, able and willing to help prospective students with their enquiries so they should feel free to contact Helensburgh centre staff via our email: achelensburgh@uhi.ac.uk or call the centre on: 01631 559 538 to chat to one of us.

We look forward to welcoming new and returning students in September when the new academic year begins.



Helensburgh Community Council

Annual Report Years 2019-2021

Introduction

Since my last report, the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 have welded together due to the COVID pandemic. For the majority of the period a lockdown period has been and continues in force. The HCC decided to keep in touch and continue to function via a video conferencing platform called Zoom. It had a reported security issue which precluded its interaction with Argyll & Bute Council. However, we continued to maintain our external communications with the community. We also introduced a public webinar programme of general interest and information which proved to be a success. By this means we have managed to maintain our function and carry out a wide programme of varied actions and interests. Nevertheless, many of our initiatives were slowed down significantly.

Detail

Because of the passage of time, the timescale of the report has been grouped into three-month periods.

August – October 2019

August. The 2019-2020 session commenced in August 2019 and at the AGM, Norman Muir was elected as Convener, Peter Brown as Vice Convener, Stewart Noble continued as Treasurer and Roger Ferdinand as Secretary. There were 18 community councillors in post against an establishment of 20 councillors.

We received an update from the Community Woodlands Group seeking to adopt Cumberland Avenue woodland and Castle Woods. The mechanics of raising funds and getting the administrative requirements were time-consuming and frustrating but there was progress and hope for the future.

There were low levels of crime; an annoying incidence of graffiti in Hermitage Park and vandalism of car mirrors.

The development of the swimming pool continued. The projection of the scheduled opening of the pool was now May 2022. In a parallel but unconnected event the Helensburgh pier was C-listed by Historic Environment Scotland.

Much local objection was raised by a planning application to build a Care Home on the site of a former Argyll & Bute depot in Sinclair St. It was the inappropriate scale and size of the building that was at issue. There was sufficient objection for the PPSL Committee of Argyll & Bute Council to order a Public Hearing on the subject later in the year.

Our Vision for Helensburgh study continued and a survey was underway. Monthly beach cleaning continued as did maintenance work on the shrub beds in the Square.

September. Jean's Bothy, the mental health support hub gave a presentation. A Lottery-funded development manager has been appointed. Duchess Woods has been closed to the public due to unsafe trees perhaps prompted by ABC relinquishing its responsibility for the Woods and a lack of maintenance work. It was also confirmed that the HCC would organise the Remembrance Day event. It was also confirmed that the wooden extension of the pier required major repair. A Public Hearing was expected in mid-October on the proposed Care Home construction in Sinclair Street.

October. The Financial Position of the Helensburgh Community Council was solvent. Restricted Funds showed a balance of £1434.60 still to be spent on Colquhoun Square. The Community Council's own funds stood at £2848.76p.

The Police report showed no serious crimes with and low levels of road traffic offences, disorder related offences. The closure of the Logie Baird Bar has resulted in fewer calls of disorder. Ongoing issues are speeding through the square, speeding on the dual carriage way, red light running on West Clyde in the mornings and graffiti.

We received a presentation from the Chamber of Commerce by Vivien Dance.

EKOS, Economic and Social Development Consultants Glasgow, carried out a retail and town survey to find that Helensburgh has an attractive town centre with heritage, the quality of buildings has been rated 7 out of 10. Town is outstanding for its very active voluntary sector. Helensburgh Tree Trust is active in planting trees and has now a notable tree collection in the town.

Vision for Helensburgh. Collection of information open until end of November 2019. A workshop was planned with Environmental Groups of Helensburgh, business & retail groups, Chamber of Commerce, Clubs & Organisations that do something for the public. So far, just under 700 returns have been received.

November 2019– January 2020

November. An ABC budget proposal was comprehensively answered by HCC. However, it was not acknowledged until HCC queried its receipt by ABC. The HCC continued to attempt to recruit Year 5/6 pupils from the local secondary schools as an unofficial youth forum for the HCC. Hermitage Academy was very supportive, Lomond School less so. The HCC made contact with the Glasgow School of Art to participate in our Vision for Helensburgh project. A HCC initiative to start up an Influencers Meeting with the Secondary Schools, Faslane Naval Base, Babcock, Lions Club, Rotary, Round Table to examine a perspective of town improvement was enthusiastically received and would be developed. The initiative developed by the HCC to provide an Innovators' Hub in the town library was now ready to be open. Remembrance Sunday was successful with much appreciated coordination and support.

No meeting held in **December 2019**

January. The Helensburgh Orchestral Society gave a presentation on its work and ambitions. The orchestra has 50 regular players and wants to broaden its support base. It aims to hold 2 concerts per year each of which requires 2/3 months rehearsal.

February - April 2020

February. A presentation was given on the Garelochhead Station Trust by the project co-ordinator Morvain Martin. This is a £350k project of which £117k has already been secured. Fundraising of £7k is required to buy the lease. Care for Veterans is the aim of the Trust.

The Helensburgh Seafront Development Project gave an update from chair David Castello and member Brian Robertson. HSDP had raised funding for a feasibility study that was completed last year. Current intention is for £70/80k partial refurbishment. A&B estimate £1m cost to restore the pier for use by Waverley. The Pier does not generate revenue and receives no income.

Tariq Durrani has been progressing a town-twinning since last meeting and has received a positive letter from the Mayor of Le Taillan-Medoc in Nouvelle Aquitaine Southwestern France expressing interest in twinning with the town.

Waterfront Project. Tender set to be agreed in June.

March. Planning concentrated on the planning application for a new residential care home on the site of the old ABC maintenance yard off Sinclair Street. The difficulty of assessing the application on the drawings that currently exist was highlighted. There is a minimum of available information on the project. Planning group will meet with residents to discuss the application further.

Town Improvement Group reported on the successful first maintenance session on the shrub beds on the Square and our appreciation for the volunteers who continue to support our work wholeheartedly. The first beach clean of the season took place on Saturday 6 April at 10.00 am at the pier.

April. The HCC was now in the throes of lockdown due to the pandemic and conducting its business via Zoom. AB are not using this due to government restrictions on security so contact is now solely via email or telephone.

The Helensburgh – Dumbarton cycleway has surfaced as an issue. A paper which summarised the situation was produced by Christine Woods and indicated a long, drawn-out process for its completion. The principal reasons seemed to be bureaucracy, funding of consultations and procurement of land.

HCC financial accounts for the year end March 2020 were examined and found correct and passed by the HCC at our meeting. They have been forwarded to ABC.

May – July 2020

May. Annual funding received from ABC. Lockdown continued. Tariq Durrani instituted a series of webinars for us to keep in touch with each other and the community. The cycleway was discussed further and the HCC has agreed to concentrate on the section which directly affects the town, namely the stretch between the Academy and the town centre.

Webinars

4 June 2020 Helensburgh Past and Present Stewart Noble

18 June 2020 Vision for Helensburgh Norman McNally

2 July 2020 Strengths Weakness Local Democracy Norman Muir

30 July 2020 Destination Helensburgh Michael Baker

6 Aug 2020 Rotary Movement John MacPherson

20 Aug 2020 Friends Hermitage Park Fiona Baker

3 Sep 2020 Helensburgh New Normal Nigel Millar

24 Sep 2020 JLB Innovation Hub Nigel Millar

June. Communication continued via Zoom. We have taken out an annual subscription of £96 plus VAT and our webinar attendees numbered 50 persons.

ABC have now removed themselves from the stewardship of Duchess Woods and ownership has reverted to Luss Estates. The HCC will take a more active part in proceedings and Roger Ferdinand has agreed to join the management committee of the Woods organisation.

July. The swimming pool has a start date of 10 August and we have established liaison with the project manager. A planning application has been proposed for a pub and office accommodation on a site adjacent to the Morrisons supermarket. The lockdown has closed down much activity within the town.

August – October 2020

August. HCC has formed a liaison with Plastic Free Helensburgh through Sarah Davies. Duchess Woods are seeking to reinstate its position as a Local Nature Reserve.

September. Heron Bros gave a briefing on the pier and the timetable of progress.

October. Xmas lights were now installed and a tree was being sourced. Remembrance Sunday came under threat from COVID. A suggestion from Irina Agostinelli that free parking should be initiated for the Xmas period and our representation on behalf of the town and the rest of Argyll & Bute was agreed by the Council. Town entry signs are in a poor state of maintenance and steps are in hand to replace them.

November 2020 – January 2021

November. The pier project and the cycleway continued to dominate discussion. We were asked to become more aware of recycling and will make it the subject of a webinar. A truncated ceremony took place on Remembrance Sunday.

December. Presentations were given by; Duchess Woods; Community Hall; Community Woodland Group; Heritage Trust.

Webinars

4 Jan 2021 Curating TV Iain Baird

4 Feb 2021 Henry Bell and Comet Stewart Noble

18 Feb 2021 Climate Change Sarah Davies

11 March 2021 Plastic Free Helensburgh/Recycling Irina Agostinelli/ Fiona Macleod

1 April 2021 Ancient Woodlands Protection Audrey Baird

15 April 2021 The Planning System Nigel Millar/Stewart Noble

February – April 2021

February. The cycleway was making slow progress from Dumbarton to Helensburgh and Rhu to Faslane. Planning discussion was started for a Taylor Wimpey housing development of 300 houses on the Helensburgh Golf Course. Traffic was seen as a potential problem with the development. A HCC paper has been written on the repair of the pier. Sarah Davies introduced the concept of a Top-up Tapwater Fountain. The design of the new town entry signs was approved by the HCC.

March. A proposal to celebrate the centenary of the invention of TV by John Logie Baird was introduced and a framework of the necessary organisation was put in place. The roundel marking the John Muir Way became the subject of a relocation study with the future location still to be decided. The Phase 2 of the Waterfront Project was raised as a matter of concern as to the finished state it will be in on completion of the contract. HCC agreed to continue to maintain the shrub beds in Colquhoun Square. The HCC presented proposals for consideration to ABC regarding our empowerment in planning procedures. A third conservation area in Helensburgh has been approved and attracted £1.2m funding.

April. The meeting was taken up with a presentation and discussion on the provision of broadband in the town. Knowledge and information are very hard to come by and Openreach is difficult to make contact with. A long-term problem to be solved. Also discussed was the involvement of town youth in community matters. A survey was conducted by our Youth Forum member Rosie Sumsion.

May 2021

The results of the youth survey were presented and it was agreed to introduce a refocus in the way that HCC conducts its business. There were also shortcomings expressed on the function and conduct of the Community Planning Group which will be addressed. The HCC agreed not to participate in the Argyll Lottery. HCC AGM is now scheduled for Thursday 24 June 2021 under the chair of Cllr Lorna Douglas.

Summary

In presenting the report in this headline fashion it helps to illustrate the variety of interests that the Community Council becomes involved in. I wish to place on record my personal appreciation for the support that the members of the Community Council have given me over this particularly difficult period. We have maintained interests in climate change, the environment, waste disposal and recycling, town planning and its architecture and design, town improvement matters including roads and street lighting, a planning vision for Helensburgh into the future, maintaining community communication using Zoom webinars, and dealing with a wide range of consultations from both local and national government sources. The list spans a wide spectrum under the auspices of the non-political volunteers who serve on the Community Council, whose collective aim is to support the town.

Norman Muir

Convener

17 June 2021

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Be inspired, be you!

Community Learning Service update

Community Learning Services have now transferred over to LiveArgyll. The Community Learning Service will continue to work alongside communities and partners to ensure individuals, families and communities reach their potential through lifelong learning, mutual self-help and strong community organisations. If you would like to get in touch with the Community Learning team, please contact cld@liveargyll.co.uk

Health and Wellbeing Project: Has been able to re-start and move forward as restrictions lift and some schools have already completed their Outdoor Learning days and young people are working through SQA Health and Wellbeing units. Other schools will start after the summer break the programme is around supporting young people struggling to reengage with Education after lockdown. Funded by through [Youth work Education Recovery Fund.](#)

ESP (Enhanced Summer Programme)

Local authorities across Scotland have been provided with funding to help improve the wellbeing of children and young people over the summer period. Local authorities will be able to work with local and national partners to coordinate and deliver holiday activities and experiences, integrating food and wider family support where needed, and targeted at low income families, children and young people particularly adversely affected by the impacts of the pandemic.

Community Learning Services are involved throughout July and August in both delivery across Argyll and Bute and the Co-Ordinating of the Programme of Activities in Cowal and Bute alongside their colleagues in Active Schools who are also involved in delivery and Co-Ordinating the Programme of Activities in other areas across the Authority. The programme will run throughout the Summer school holidays and covers P1s – to S6 (Primary and Secondary School ages).

New CLD Plan 21-24

Ongoing/Update: A wide range of statutory and voluntary organisations are involved in delivering Community Learning and Development (CLD) services to young people, adults, families and communities across Argyll and Bute. As previously stated The Community Learning & Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013 place a statutory requirement on local authorities to publish a plan every 3 years' outlining how it will co-ordinate and secure "adequate and efficient" Community Learning & Development (CLD) provision with other sector partners. The current plan can be found here [Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018-21](#). Work is underway and continuing on the development of the next CLD Plan for 21-24, which has to be completed by September 2021. A number of local consultation exercises have now already taken place along with the new CLD Plan Partnership having met and also regular meetings being held with the CLD Plan Working Group.

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Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Helensburgh and Lomond
Area Community Planning Group****19 August 2021**

Briefing Note: Climate Change Working Group – Involvement of Area Community Planning Groups

This briefing provides information on the Climate Change Working Group which has been formed by the CPP Management Committee, gives details on the aims of the Group and looks at how Area Community Planning Groups can be more involved.

Summary

A Short Life Working Group was formed by the CPP Management Committee following its meeting held in December 2019 and was initially co-chaired by the the MSYP's who were members of the Management Committee.

Following a break due to the pandemic, the Group has met recently and has a new Chair, Stan Phillips of NatureScot.

The Group is currently exploring its remit and what actions can be taken forward.

Membership of the Climate Change Working Group

The Group currently has members from across the CPP Management Committee. It is Chaired by Stan Philips from NatureScot and has input from partners and Council officers – Willie Lynch, Chair of the Bute and Cowal ACPG is also a member.

At their last meeting the Working Group agreed that they would be keen to increase membership, to make sure relevant sectors/demographics were represented, including young people. It is therefore suggested that each Area Community Planning Group may want to appoint a representative (and a substitute if possible) who could attend the Working Group meetings and act as liaison with the ACPG.

Remit and aims of the Climate Change Working Group

When the Working Group was originally set up it looked to build on and promote the work being carried out by partners across Argyll and Bute. At the most recent meeting the Group agreed to look at the remit and aims and discussion within the Group noted the following:-

- To educate everyone in A&B about climate change and reducing our carbon footprint.

- Messaging.
- More awareness raising around industrial decarbonisation agenda.
- How businesses are supported/incentivised to just transition to net zero.
- To have a simple, short statement reflecting our purpose/mission statement.
- To identify risks for the area e.g. rising sea levels
- Adaptation planning
- To explore what our natural capital means and how we can best use this, particularly in relation to Community Wealth Building.
- Continue to update website with new material

Members of the Group were asked to think about the discussion and to bring forward ideas for refining the discussion into a set of meaningful actions. Any actions which are put forward need to be achievable and realistic given that there is no direct resource allocated to the Working Group.

Primarily, actions should be something that can make a difference.

Input from the Area Groups with any ideas for actions would be welcomed.

Climate Change actions across Argyll and Bute

Across Argyll and Bute there are many examples of good work and practice which relate to the climate change agenda. For example, the Council has a Climate Change Board which looks at how the Council can make a difference by implementing different ways of working or taking forward different practices which all contributes to the climate change agenda. There are many more examples across the partners of the Management Committee and in the wider community.

Members will be aware that the Climate Change Conference (COP 26) is being hosted in Glasgow in November of this year. This is a key opportunity in terms of the climate change agenda and there will be many activities taking place in local areas which will link into the conference, including an Education conference in October which is being taken forward by the Council.

The CPP Management Committee has created a dedicated climate change webpage which is hosted on the Council website, it has lots of useful links and information and can be accessed here [Community Planning Partnership - Climate Change \(argyll-bute.gov.uk\)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/community-planning-partnership-climate-change).

ACT (Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust) are taking forward a project called Act Now and one part of this is the compilation of an interactive map which they hope will encourage greater levels of collaboration between organisations and promote engagement.

ACT Now is looking to add any not-for-profit organisation to the map which have a focus on climate change awareness, home energy efficiency, sustainable travel, local food production, health and wellbeing in the natural environment, environmental education, upcycling/recycling, improving biodiversity, promotion of natural heritage etc. You can view the map here [ECConnect Map Argyll | Argyll and the Isles Coast and](https://www.ecconnectmap.org.uk/)

[Countryside Trust \(act-now.org.uk\)](http://act-now.org.uk) Any examples which the Group considers relevant can be collated and passed on to ACT Now.

Recommendations

The Area Community Planning Group is asked to:-

- (1) Discuss the information outlined in the briefing and provide suggestions for actions for the Climate Change Working Group;
- (2) Consider the nomination of a representative (and substitute) to represent the Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG on the Working Group; and
- (3) Provide detail on any relevant project/organisation that could be put forward as an addition to the ACT interactive map.

For further information, please contact:

Shona Barton, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council (01436) 657605

Shona.barton@argyll-bute.gov.uk

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Plastic Free Helensburgh.

As part of Surfers Against Sewage Plastic Free Communities PFH is striving to achieve Plastic Free Town status.

Based on the population of Helensburgh we are tasked with signing up local independent businesses and community groups as allies to pledge to reduce the use of single use plastics and adopted more sustainable habits and lifestyles.

We have more than 20 approved business and another tranche waiting approval from SAS in Cornwall.

We are hoping to sign 20 community groups and businesses shortly.

We have a small steering group who meet every 4 weeks on teams and a wide following of active members in the community who are concerned and striving to reduce litter and waste and remove the rubbish lying around our beaches, townscape and country side.

We are currently pressing for more effective waste bins particularly along the front and have undertaken a trash survey for the month of July of some 50 bins in the central area.

In conjunction with many of our members undertaking regular individual litter picks we joined the Community Council in there monthly beach clean.

We have planned another survey/ information giving and gathering exercise with the fast food shops in the town, with information on the withdrawal of some packaging such as polystyrene due next year.

We are also looking into the quality of sea water on our shores and the factors which caused the highest number of overflows reported to SEPA by Scottish Water in 2020 with 1245 overflow events from the Wastewater Treatment Works.

PFH has planned, secured funding,(from A&B and Stop Climate Chaos Scotland Climate Fringe Fund) and organised a full programme of events for the Climate Fringe Week 18th -26th September. In collaboration with a number of local groups there are events for a wide range of interests and ages throughout each day in multiple locations in the town and on zoom, some ticketed, some self directed.

Funding has also allowed the purchase of litter picking equipment and feather flags to highlight where activities are taking place.

We are also part of the A&B Climate Education Summit. And collaborating in the Council lead Pre-Cop Event in November.

Events will be advertised on facebook and the community advertiser.

If you are interested in any of the up coming events, our general activities, becoming a community ally group or joining our steering group please get in touch via face book.

<https://www.facebook.com/PlasticFreeHelensburghCommunity>

Helensburgh Litter Pickers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/729373511080067/>

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Time for Change Argyll and Bute (TfC)

<https://www.facebook.com/timeforchangeargyllandbute/>

<https://sites.google.com/view/timeforchangeargyllbute/home>

Are a group of Argyll and Bute residents who are concerned about the threats to environmental stability and want to bring about change by speaking out, proposing effective solutions, demonstrating our support and working with local elected representatives to keep climate change on the agenda. We seek to raise awareness of both the threats posed by climate change and environmental degradation, and the potential solutions to these problems, on a local level appropriate to Argyll and Bute.

TfC build relationships with our local MP, MSPs and Councillors, expressing the urgency and scale of the issues and urging them to educate themselves on the climate crisis and take more action. We also organise awareness-raising events in our local communities, acting as a link between communities, businesses, civil society groups and politicians.

Argyll and Bute Climate Summit

On September 20th 7.30pm, - 9.30 pm BST

We are holding an Argyll & Bute-specific climate summit, as part of Climate Fringe Week. The event will focus on what changes people in Argyll & Bute want to see in the next 5 years around the themes of Energy, Food and Transport. Sign up [here!](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/argyll-bute-climate-summit-tickets-165643992641?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Other recent activity includes zoom meeting with our MP Brendan O'Hara and fortnightly updates. Sell out Climate and Environment based hustings and follow up meetings with our Argyll/ Highland and West Dumbarton/ West of Scotland MSPs.

Meeting with The leader of the Council and Senior Officers. Input to the A& B decarbonisation plan. Attendance at quarterly Area Community meetings and Council meetings.

Fortnightly group zoom meetings with feed back from various sub groups such as action with the council and land use/ food.

External invitees have included representatives from DRAX on the expansion at Cruachan, Divestment Strathclyde on lobbying to divest the council pension scheme from investment in fossil fuels and an 'Are You Influential' UK parliamentary training session.

Started by a group of young people to organise a Climate and Environment based hustings in Lochgilphead for a Westminster election and now spanning all ages and areas of Argyll and Bute.

TfC is an active group with ambitious aims: we want to change the political narrative on the climate crisis through a combination of grassroots action and political lobbying. We feel that only through combining bottom-up and top-down approaches will we see any lasting change. We are also keen to connect with other groups who have similar objectives, both local and national. If you are involved in such a group, we'd love you to get in touch by messaging this page!

If you'd like to be more involved in the organisation of our group and actions, we are now using Slack to coordinate our members throughout Argyll and Bute. If we are to be effective, we need direction and inspiration, and as a group we have plenty of both! Please message us if you would like to be added to the Slack workspace, even if you don't feel like you have anything to contribute. Your perspective and your experiences matter, and the more people we can get involved, the more inclusive we can make our group.

So please, get in touch with us if you are part of another climate action group, or if you would like to be added to our Slack workspace!

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Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Helensburgh and Lomond
Area Community Planning Group****19 August 2021**

Briefing Note: Community Planning Partnership Management Committee Update

This briefing relates to the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee which was held on 30 June 2021. The briefing is for noting and relevant discussion.

Summary

The CPP Management Committee met on the 30th June 2021 with the meeting being held virtually given the restrictions in place in regard to public gatherings.

This update provides an overview of the discussion which took place.

Further information is available in the *meetings, minutes and agendas* section of: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership>

HighlightsMatters Arising from Area Community Planning Groups

- An update was provided on the discussions which had taken place at all 4 Area Community Planning Groups which had been held in April/May 2021. The meetings had been well attended and there had been a variety of interesting presentations given.
- It was noted that the administrative arrangements for the Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG would now be undertaken by the Council's Governance Team which would provide a consistent approach across all 4 Groups.
- Discussion took place on how the Area Groups could contribute to the Climate Change Working Group as it had been highlighted that there are many examples of local good practice which could be shared – it was agreed that Stan Phillips would raise this with the Working Group at the next meeting and that there would be discussion at the Area Group meetings.
- Willie Lynch, Chair of Bute and Cowal ACPG advised that the Argyll Rally had went ahead despite the concerns around rising Covid cases and that it had went well. It was noted that there would be a review undertaken to discuss the event and look at any lessons which could be learned going forward.

Scottish Youth Parliament

Cameron Garrett, MSYP spoke about his work with the Scottish Youth Parliament including the work on the SQA exams appeal process. Cameron also spoke about the “bounce back campaign” and how it looks to take a human rights based approach to pandemic recovery and highlighted the work that is ongoing to encourage visitors to the area to take home litter and reduce waste wherever possible. He spoke of the importance of distance learning and university promotion to the youth in Argyll and Bute which provides avenues for young people who might not want to leave the area to study. A video was also shown and this is available to view on YouTube via this link - [video](#).

Cross Cutting Themes

- The Committee heard a presentation from Martin Turnbull and Ailsa Clark around digital inclusion. Ailsa spoke on the Digital Connection project which had started as a response to Covid in Kintyre with over 150 devices being donated by the community for redistribution. The project identified that there was a need for more devices and following engagement with the Council this led to increased donations and grant funding to purchase 220 more refurbished devices. The project ran over a period of 8 months and complimented the Connecting Scotland project. Martin spoke about the Connecting Scotland initiative which the Scottish Government set up with the aim of targeting 50,000 digitally excluded households by the end of 2021. He provided detail on the project and outlined the success of distributing devices to older people, disabled people, families and care leavers. The Education service also funded the purchase of 1356 new devices and 254 mifi connections.
- Discussion took place on the importance of digital connectivity and it was agreed that a short life working group would be set up to look at what partners can do in regard to digital inclusion across their organisations.
- Fergus Walker, Revenue and Benefits Manager advised that the Council was looking to procure a poverty awareness training programme.

Climate Change

- The Council has a new website which has a map linking to climate change projects across the area – [Climate website](#)
- In regard to the Climate Change Working Group it was noted that the group had recently met and had discussed the purpose of the group and they were looking to identify what projects to take forward. This will be explored further at the next meeting with it being noted that they were keen to welcome new members and diversify the membership particularly from young people.
- There are plans for an Education Climate Summit in October prior to COP 26 and plans for this are being worked on. It was noted that the Scotland Climate Assembly have compiled a report for the Scottish Government which tables 81 recommendations, you can view the report [here](#)
- The Committee was shown a video by Cowal Youth Forum which had been made as part of the Keep Scotland Beautiful competition and had received a

commendation. The video was well received and provided some great images and took on some key themes around the use of plastics and the impact of fires on beaches. The video can be viewed here [Video](#)

Outcome 3 – CLD Partnership

- Nicola Hackett provided an update on the work of Community Learning and Development (CLD) which has recently transferred to Live Argyll and a new strategic partnership has been formed. CLD covers areas such as adult learning and literacy, youth work, family based learning and the early intervention agenda and wider volunteering opportunities to build capacity in Community Learning.

Outcome 4 – Children and Young People

- Brian Reid, Interim Head of Service for Children, Families and Justice gave a presentation on “The Promise”. Following the Independent Care Review which had been commissioned by the First Minister to figure out how Scotland could love its most vulnerable children and give them the childhood they deserve “The Promise” was made – “We grow up, loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential”. A suite of documents have been created which apply to a wide variety of areas within which change will be driven to meet this Promise.
- The Promise Scotland Team who have been delivering the framework have now been commissioned by the Scottish Government to lead the implementation of the Promise and an initial Change Programme has now been published. It was acknowledged that the CPP has a governance role in overseeing the work to keep “The Promise”.

For further information, please contact:

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Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership**Helensburgh and Lomond
Area Community Planning Group****19 August 2021**

Appointment of Chair of the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group

Summary

The following report provides information relating to the appointment of a Chair for the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group. It outlines the expected time commitment and also gives information on the role. The Area Community Planning Group is asked to consider making an appointment to the position of Chair.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report asks the Area Community Planning Group to consider the appointment of a Chair.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Area Community Planning Group is asked to consider the appointment of a Chair.

3. Background

- 3.1 The current Chair, Laura Cameron has tendered her resignation from the position with immediate effect. The Group is therefore required to nominate a member to take on the role of Chair.

4. Detail

- 4.1 According to the Terms of Reference the Chair, if elected, would serve for a term of 2 years with an option to be re-elected at the end of this time. However, no one person can serve for more than 2 consecutive terms.
- 4.2 The current Vice-Chair, Albert Bruce concludes his 2 year term in November at which point we will be looking to appoint a Vice-Chair. Albert has indicated that he would be agreeable to continuing in the role to ensure a smooth transition with any new Chair/Vice-Chair.
- 4.3 In order to be considered as a candidate for the position of Chair the person must be a member of the Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG.

4.4 Some further information on the commitment required:-

- Attend meetings of the Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG;
- Attend meetings of the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee or the Full Partnership;
- Time commitment of at least 4 CPG meetings per year in February, May, August and November and 4 pre-agenda meetings per year in January, April, July and October;
- To participate in any Short-Term Working Groups as required; and
- To engage with officers of the Council in terms of setting the Agenda for the CPG in consultation with the Vice-Chair.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The ACPG is asked to consider the appointment of a Chair.

6. SOA Outcomes

6.1 This report does not link to any specific Outcome as it relates to the administrative arrangements.

Name of Lead Officer

Patricia O'Neill, Governance Manager

For further information please contact:

Shona Barton, Committee Manager (01436) 657605