

Public Document Pack

ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

A meeting of the **ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **FRIDAY, 6 JULY 2007** at **11:00 AM**.

Coffee will be available from 10.45am

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**
2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2ND MARCH 2007** (Pages 1 - 2)
3. **MATTERS ARISING**
4. **UPDATE ON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JUNE 2007** (Andrew Campbell)
5. **BIENNIAL CONFERENCE HELD ON FRIDAY, 15TH JUNE 2007** (Eileen Wilson)
6. **COMMUNITY PLAN 2007-2017** (Eileen Wilson)
7. **CPP BUDGET**
8. **PILOT SUSTAINABILITY SEMINAR**
Note by Policy Officer - Strategy (Pages 3 - 4)
9. **CAMPBELTOWN - BALLYCASTLE FERRY**
Note by Leadership Support Officer (Pages 5 - 6)
10. **EQUALITIES TOOLKIT**
Report by Policy Officer - Strategy (Pages 7 - 8)
11. **ARGYLL AND THE ISLANDS LOCAL ECONOMIC FORUM**
Annual Report by Ken MacTaggart
12. **COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES**
 - (a) Update on CPP priorities
 - Health and Wellbeing Group (Pages 9 - 12)
 - Argyll and the Islands Economic Forum (Pages 13 - 14)
 - Dunbartonshire Economic Forum (Pages 15 - 20)
 - Strategic Housing and Communities Forum (Pages 21 - 22)
 - Update on the Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot (Pages 23 - 24)
 - (b) Initiative at the Edge – Update Report from the Islands of Coll and Jura (Pages 25 - 32)

13. FUTURE PARTNERSHIP REPORTING TO MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (Eileen Wilson)

A buffet lunch will be available at 12.30pm

Followed by Health Improvement Seminar on Alcohol at 1.00pm

ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of MEETING held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on FRIDAY, 2nd MARCH 2007**Present:**

Councillor Allan Macaskill (Chair)
 Councillor Robin Banks (Vice-Chair)
 Andrew Campbell, Scottish Natural Heritage
 Raymond Park, Strathclyde Police
 Eileen Wilson, Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership
 Fiona Ritchie, Argyll and Bute CHP
 Peter Minshall, CVS in Argyll and VC
 Julian Hankinson, Association of Community Councils in Argyll and Bute
 Muriel Kupris, Argyll and Bute Council

Elaine Garman, NHS Highland
 Gordon Anderson, Strathclyde Police
 David Penman, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
 Geoff Calvert, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
 Nick Purdy, Forestry Commission Scotland
 Kevin O'Hare, Scottish Water
 Gordon Donaldson, Forestry Commission Scotland
 Sue Gledhill, HIE Argyll and the Islands
 Alex Robertson, Communities Scotland
 Brian Barker, Argyll and Bute Council
 James McLellan, Argyll and Bute Council

Apologies:

Bill Dalrymple, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority
 Lesley Campbell, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority
 George Harper, Argyll and Bute Council
 Shirley MacLeod, Argyll and Bute Council
 Andy Law, Argyll and Bute Council
 Moira MacDonald, Argyll and Bute Council
 Keith Miller, Forestry Commission Scotland
 Deborah Bryce, Initiative at the Edge, Jura

Jane Fowler, Argyll and Bute Council
 David McGregor, Scottish Enterprise
 Aileen Edwards, Scottish Enterprise
 Councillor George Freeman, Argyll and Bute Council
 Erik Jespersen, NHS Highland
 Douglas Hunter, Argyll and Bute Council
 Jim McCrossan, Argyll and Bute Council
 Alasdair Oatts, Argyll and Bute Care and Repair
 Jim Frame, SEPA
 Malcolm MacFadyen, Argyll and Bute Council
 Jim Clinton, Community Links

1. WELCOME

Allan Macaskill, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Kevin O'Hare, Scottish Water, David Penman, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue and Fiona Ritchie, NHS Highland, who were attending their first meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th NOVEMBER 2006

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2006, subject to the following adjustments, were accepted as an accurate record.

Item 7 – Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

It should be noted that restructuring followed the introduction of the "2005 Fire (Scotland) Act" and not the 2005 Fire Service Act and that "the areas of command were previously covered by 4 larger areas" and not 5.

3. MATTERS ARISING

The matters arising were those included on the agenda for this meeting.

4. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

- (a) The minutes of the Community Planning Management Committee meeting held on 7th February 2007, copies having previously been circulated were noted. An amendment was noted to Item 8(c) of the minutes – Initiative at the Edge – "the fast passenger ferry may not go ahead this year until funding is secured for the revenue", not the infrastructure. It was also noted that Initiative at the Edge were currently sourcing potential funders in order to fund three months' revenue which would help to show the need and develop the longer term sustainability.
- (b) The Partnership also noted the activities of the Committee Chair, Andrew Campbell, since the Partnership meeting held on 10th November 2006.

Matters arising from the Migrant Workers Forum held in Oban on 20th November 2006 were discussed and it was agreed that partners would do all they could to assist in attracting workers to the area. The Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot review meeting held in Strachur on 1st December 2006 was very successful, with positive feedback received.

5. THE COMMUNITY PLAN PROPOSAL FOR 2007 – 2012 – DRAFT PLAN

Eileen Wilson answered various questions on the proposed format for the Draft Community Plan 2007 – 2012 which outlines the Leading Rural Area vision for outstanding environment, vibrant communities and forward looking, with priorities for Environment, Culture, Economy, Housing, Health, Public Sector Reform and Integration, Communication and Capacity Building. The Draft Plan will be submitted to the Management Committee at their meeting on 18th April and the Final Plan launched at the Community Planning Biennial Conference to be held on 15th June 2007.

6. **LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY**

The Report and Executive Summary on the Local Transport Strategy for Argyll and Bute, copies having previously been circulated, were noted. For details log on to the Council website Consultation Page at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

7. **COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES**

(a) **UPDATE ON CPP PRIORITIES (THEME GROUP LEADERS)**

Health and Wellbeing Group

Elaine Garman spoke to the meeting on the activities of the Health and Wellbeing Group, copies having previously been circulated. The update was noted.

Argyll and the Islands Local Economic Forum

Sue Gledhill provided an update to the meeting on the activities of the Argyll and the Islands Local Economic Forum, copies of which were laid on the table.

Dunbartonshire Economic Forum

The report on the activities of the Dunbartonshire Economic Forum, copies having previously been circulated, was noted.

Strategic Housing and Communities Forum

The report on the activities of the Strategic Housing and Communities Forum, copies having previously been circulated, was noted.

Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot

The Management Committee noted the update provided by Shirley MacLeod, copies having previously been circulated, outlining progress in taking forward the Bute and Cowal localised Community Planning Pilot and providing details of the proposed future structure of the project.

(b) **INITIATIVE AT THE EDGE**

Andrew Campbell gave a verbal update on behalf of Initiative at the Edge on the activities of the Development Officers for the islands of Coll and Jura.

Intimation had been received from Anne Clark of her retirement after 26 years service with the Islay and Jura Council for Voluntary Services and the Chair expressed the Partnership's appreciation of her work.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Partnership meeting will be held on Friday, 6th July 2007.

As he would not be standing for re-election in the local authority election to be held in May 2007, and would be retiring from the Council and as Chair of the Community Planning Partnership, Allan thanked partners for their co-operation during his chairmanship of the Partnership. The Partnership's Vice-Chairman, Robin Banks, would also be retiring.

Andrew Campbell, Chair of the Community Planning Management Committee, thanked Allan and Robin for their chairmanship and support.

9. **DRIVESafe Seminar**

DRIVESafe seminar was held immediately following this meeting. Invitations had been extended to all Partners and those involved in the DRIVESafe initiative to explore the issue of employers' responsibilities where members of staff regularly drive as part of their work.

- To assist in the development of UHI by providing a series of events, and potential output, to bind those UHI partners involved in a sustainable development research assessment exercise submission in 2007-8.

The seminar series included lectures from Chief Executives, Chairs and Heads of Service from the Scottish Executive's Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Highland Council, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Communities Scotland, Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Shell Exploration and Production, and the Centre for Rural Health.

3. DETAIL: PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

- Aim** To raise awareness and delivery of practical sustainable development solutions in Argyll and Bute
- Strategy** Hold a pilot project workshop where key individuals will be invited to discuss sustainable development challenges and opportunities for Argyll and Bute. Anticipated outcomes for the event include:
- Identification of Research and Development/ training/ education opportunities
 - Improving the joining up of economic, social and environmental agendas
 - Identifying new business opportunities.
- Facilitator:** Sarah Parkin, Forum for the Future
- Speakers:** could include a representative from each of the following
Sustainable Development Commission Scotland (SDC-Scotland)
Carnegie UK Trust
CADISPA (Conservation & Development in Sparsely Populated Areas)

Case study: Atlantis Leisure in Oban, Gigha Heritage Trust

If successful, this pilot workshop for Argyll and Bute could be repeated throughout the Highlands and Islands to help find practical and pragmatic sustainable development solutions for communities. The aim is that this would ultimately lead to more sustainable communities.

Further details: Jennifer Swanson, Chief Executive's Unit, tel. 01546 604298
jennifer.swanson@argyll-bute.gov.uk

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership****6 July 2007**

Campbeltown / Ballycastle Ferry Service

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks the ongoing support of the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership for the reinstatement of the Campbeltown – Ballycastle Ferry service.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the CPP writes to the Scottish Transport Minister Stewart Stevenson and Northern Irish First Minister, Ian Paisley, seeking the reinstatement of the £300,000 p.a. subsidy from the Northern Ireland Office and the immediate re-tender of the service.
- 2.2 That the CPP asks constituency and regional MSP's, and their own particular organisations, to write in similar terms.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A summer only ferry service between Campbeltown (Scotland) and Ballycastle (Northern Ireland) was established in the late 1990's. Necessary infrastructure was installed e.g. ferry terminal in Campbeltown, however the service proved commercially unviable due to short operating period and restricted marketing activity.
- 3.3 Significant interest in the route has been maintained across a range of strategic partners within the Highlands and Islands and Northern Ireland who recognise the potential of the route as an economic and cultural catalyst for the area and a key tourism driver for the West Highlands.
- 3.4 The Scotland/Ireland Cross Border Programme is currently being prepared by the Special EU Programmes body in Ireland and the Scottish Executive. The broad priorities are likely to support a range of activities including enterprise, tourism, transportation and environment – many of which could add value to such a transport link.
- 3.5 In September 2005 the Scottish Executive and Northern Ireland office announced the issue of tenders for the route on a basis of £1m p.a. subsidy over a five year contract period. £700,000 of the subsidy was to be met by the Scottish Executive with the balance (£300K) being met by the Northern Ireland office. No tenders were received from the four original bidders.
- 3.6 Following representations from interested parties, including potential operators, the Scottish Executive and the Northern Ireland office agreed in March 2006 that a final effort be made to identify any potential ferry operator, however prior to the tender being reissued the Northern Ireland office in October 2006 withdrew their funding commitment.

- 3.7 The return to devolved government within the Northern Ireland Assembly presents a significant opportunity for the funding commitment to be reasserted. The First Minister, Ian Paisley represents Ballycastle within his constituency and has always been a supporter of the route.

*Alison Debling
Leadership Support Officer
Argyll and Bute Council*

20 June 2007

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S

6 JULY 2007

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Argyll and Bute Council has produced an Equality Impact Assessment toolkit that can be used by partner organisations. This report describes how the toolkit was developed, outlines the process for Equality Impact Assessment and sets out the process for rolling out the toolkit.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Public authorities have a statutory duty to promote equality and as part of this need to carry out impact assessments in terms of race, disability and gender. All policies and functions should be impact assessed to ensure that they do not have a negative impact on people in the different equality target groups.
- 2.2 Equality Impact Assessments should help to develop more customer-led services by involving people in the assessment process. This also helps to encourage greater openness about policy-making.

3. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)

- 3.1 The EqIA is a forward-looking planning tool that allows us to:
- Engage with communities
 - Assess the impact of our work on diverse groups of people within communities and take action where there are any negative impacts
 - Monitor the affects of our functions and policies over time, and take action where there are any negative impacts.
- 3.2 All new functions and policies need to be assessed and the Council also has a programme to review its current policies and functions. Equality Impact Assessments are carried out by policy makers, managers and lead officers in consultation with relevant groups, individuals and partners.
- 3.3 Equality Impact Assessments focus on people who are at risk of discrimination and social exclusion. Equality Target Groups are:
- Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) people
 - Disability
 - Gender
 - LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender)
 - Belief (religious or political)
 - Age (younger and older)

4. DEVELOPING THE TOOLKIT

- 4.1 The toolkit was developed by, firstly, reviewing equality impact assessment toolkits used by other public sector organisations and the guidance produced by the equality commissions. The Council's Policy and Strategy team worked with the Best Value Network to draft the Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit. Discussions were held with other councils about their approach and the user feedback that they had received. A development day was held to trial the draft toolkit and to provide an opportunity for input from users.
- 4.2 The result is a simple process that officers find easy to use and therefore it is more likely to be used.

5. ROLLING IT OUT

- 5.1 Within the Council, half-day workshops have been held to train officers who will carry out Equality Impact Assessments. The Improvement Service has promoted the toolkit via its website and has supported a workshop for other local authorities who had expressed interest in using the toolkit. Communities Scotland has also offered to support an equalities training event for community planning partners to include a workshop on the toolkit.
- 5.2 There is a requirement for service users, project partners, and officers with knowledge of the policy, function or project, to be involved in the impact assessment process. The Council's Policy and Strategy team can provide support for consultation and research and help officers to access relevant data.
- 5.3 The results of Equality Impact Assessments are reported to elected Members through the normal committee papers process. There is also a half-yearly report to the Strategic Management Team and a list of assessments carried out will be published on the Council's website.
- 5.4 Community Planning Partners are welcome to use the Equality Impact Assessment toolkit.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 In conclusion, the Council has developed an Equality Impact Assessment toolkit in order to improve services. The process of developing the toolkit involved the officers who were going to use it. The result has been a simple and easy to use Equality Impact Assessment process. The toolkit has been shared with other local authorities and with community planning partners in Argyll and Bute.

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

Health and Well Being Theme Group (HWTG) Update

Good progress has been made on the review of the HWTG since the last report. It is felt that there is value gained from meeting as a group and Terms of Reference for the group have been drafted (see next page). The Management Committee is asked to approve those Terms of Reference. A sub group has been formed to take some of the more routine matters allowing the wider group to have time to discuss more strategic issues.

Review of the HWTG has also led to review of the co-ordination of the Local Public Health Networks (LPHNs). The role and remit of the Co-ordinator has been agreed. As previously noted some of the LPHNs are functioning better than others and action has been agreed to provide specific support for those networks that have additional needs.

A number of the Health Improvement Fund (HIF) projects (fully or partly funded by HIF) had completed recent evaluation. The total value of HIF monies spent by the projects was £38,300. The range of monies dispersed was £600 - £15,000. The main themes that money was directed towards were:

- Community capacity and knowledge
- Tackling social isolation for vulnerable groups, particularly older adults
- Increasing integration of public health work at a local level
- Physical activity
- Support for domiciliary patients and carers
- Healthy eating
- Social skills

Elaine C Garman
Chair, Health and Well Being Theme Group

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Meeting Title: Health and Wellbeing Theme Group

Meeting Remit

To work together with agencies and communities to improve health and wellbeing for everyone in Argyll and Bute. The Group will work together in partnership and develop, implement and evaluate the Joint Health Improvement Plan (JHIP).

Reporting and Accountability

Reports directly to Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Team and full CPP

All Stakeholders

Designation	Rep attending at HWTG meetings	Name
Local public health networks x 7	x	
A&B Council Head of Integrated Care		Jim Robb
Community Safety Partnership	x	Gordon Anderson
Domestic Abuse Partnership	x	
Community Learning and Regeneration	x	Felicity Kelly
Community Councils	x	John White
Dialogue Youth	x	Roanna Taylor
Communities Scotland		
NHS Highland Public Health Specialist/Consultant Public Health Medicine	x	Elaine Garman
NHS Highland Public Health Practitioner	x	Ann Campbell
A&B Council Health Development Officer	x	Susan Dawson
A&B Council Community Planning Manager	x	Eileen Wilson
Strathclyde Police, LALO	x	Gordon Anderson
Argyll CVS		Peter Minshell
Healthy Living Centres x 3	x	Yennie van Oostende/Carol Muir/ Diane Mackenzie
Education service	x	
Strathclyde Fire and Rescue	x	Verina Litster
Argyll and Bute Drug and Addictions Team	x	Dave Greenwell
Argyll Community Housing Association	x	Gillian McInnes
Homelessness/Community Regeneration	x	Moira Macdonald

Quoracy

There must be a minimum of 5 members of HWTG present to make the meeting quorate. In the event of a meeting not being quorate, then the meeting may proceed; any issues or recommendations being made would be subject to agreement by other members. This agreement could be reached either at the next meeting, or if the decision was urgent, then it could be reached by emailing the group members.

Any subgroup should have a minimum of 3 people present to make the meeting quorate.

Agenda Setting

Agenda and papers will be circulated seven days in advance of the meeting. Agenda items and papers for the meeting should be submitted to the Chair for circulation at least two working days prior to circulation of the papers to the Group. The approved minutes will be distributed to the full stakeholder group. The list of dates and times of meetings will be agreed at the start of the calendar year.

Administrative Arrangements

Administrative support will be provided to the Chair by that agency's clerical staff.

Work Programme

Date	Regular Business	Special Items
6 weekly meetings with representation from local public health networks at every other meeting	JHIP action plan delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic issues • Update from local public health networks at alternate meetings • Financial update on the Health Improvement Fund (HIF) from the HIF sub group • Lessons learned from HIF funded projects • CPP Management Team actions/reports • Monitoring and evaluation 	Development and updating of JHIP

Date TOR Agreed:

Review Date:

This page is intentionally left blank

**Report on the April 2007 meeting of the Argyll and the Islands
Local Economic Forum to Argyll & Bute Community
Planning Partnership**

Ken Abernethy updated the group on the major projects which HIE Argyll and the Islands (HIE AI) are pursuing.

The Marine Science initiative, which revolves around SAMS and the cluster of small biotechnology companies, should progress as the objections to the local area plan have been withdrawn. Planning permission for the Dunstaffnage site has been sought. The proposed development should include halls of residence and the opening up of estate land for further housing, the latter as part of the North Argyll Initiative run by Argyll and Bute Council. The impact of the expected population increase in the area should be recognised by community planners with specific regard to health services.

Argyll and Bute Council have put the Argyll Air Services out to tender. This will involve airlinks to Coll, Colonsay and Oban. It is anticipated that there would also be a daily air passenger service from Oban to/from Glasgow and this should benefit the marine science initiative, opening up easy access to international air routes.

A number of initiatives have been undertaken during the year to engage closely with local businesses within the National Park area, covering, amongst other things, the waterfront development, town centre improvements and environmental assets.

Jura and Coll remain within the Initiative at the Edge programme and both have developed healthy community groups that have challenging projects in mind. Although Colonsay is no longer in the scheme, HIE AI would continue to give support according to need.

HIE has produced an Economic Update publication and the contents were reviewed by the LEF group. The population of Argyll and the Islands increased 1.7% from 2001 to 2005. The median house price in Argyll and the Islands in 2005 was £82K compared to £88K in the Highlands and Islands. There were 5.5 new start ups per 1000 population in 2005 compared to 4.7 in the Highlands and Islands.

There was some discussion about unemployment rates and the dependency of the tourism sector on seasonal migrant workers. It was agreed that there are local variations in the number of unemployed available seeking work.

Unemployment in the LEF area was covered by Ken MacTaggart during his presentation. The figure for February 2007 was higher than for the previous months and is expected to top out in March. Overall, the unemployment figures are neither as high nor the fluctuation as great as in previous years, probably as a result of the seasonal migrant workers.

New business formation is counted by the LEF when a new business bank account is opened. Although there was a drop in early 2006, the numbers of new starts picked up by the end of the year. This corresponded closely to a change in HIE policy and also indicated high penetration by HIE AI in the new starts sector.

Broadband coverage was discussed. The problem appears now to be one of capacity, particularly for some areas on Mull.

This page is intentionally left blank

DUNBARTONSHIRE ECONOMIC FORUM

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 15 May 2007

at Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire

Present:	Andrew McAllister	RAD Software (Chair)	
	Fraser Campbell	Campbell Dallas	
	Gary Groves	Federation of Small Businesses	
	James Richardson	Chamber of Commerce	
	Kevin Williams	Argyll & Bute Council	
	Crawford McGhie	East Dunbartonshire Council	
	Kevin Neeson	West Dunbartonshire Council	
	Gordon Watson	Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park	
	Alma MacLean	JobCentre Plus	
	Andy Jones	Cloudline	
	Stuart Cordner	Cruise Loch Lomond	
	Patrick O'Shaughnessy	VisitScotland	
	In attendance:	David McGregor	SED
		Aileen Edwards	SED
Alison Bennett		SED	
Theresa Fitzgerald		SED (Minutes)	

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting, with a special welcome to the new members of the LEF.

Apologies were noted from Matt Mochar and Jim McAloon.

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING HELD ON 28 FEBRUARY 2007**

2.1 **Common Branding**

Aileen Edwards had met with the Secretariats of the three Alliances. The issue of a common logo or branding was discussed, which all Alliances would share, and which would demonstrate the connection to the LEF. The Secretariat would work with Comms to come up with a strapline. This will be done over the next couple of months.

Action: Secretariat to progress common branding. Sub Group to meet and Andy Jones and Gary Groves to attend.

3. **RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE FORUM**

Two new private sector members have recently been recruited onto the LEF. Stuart Cordner of Cruise Loch Lomond and Andy Jones of Cloudline were identified, and were in attendance. The Chair asked each of them to say a few words about themselves.

Stuart Cordner said that his business ran cruises on Loch Lomond and was expanding into the Corporate and Wedding Markets. The Company ran 40-50 wedding cruises per annum. They had just purchased a new vessel bringing the fleet to six, which makes Cruise Loch Lomond the largest operator in the country.

Andy Jones told the LEF that Cloudline's business was advertising, marketing and PR covering most industry sectors. Andy had worked within the public sector for the past 10 years working with the Scottish Executive, working on Glasgow's Miles Better and the City of Architecture when it was hosted by Glasgow.

Alison informed the LEF that new Local Authority representatives would be coming onto the LEF subsequent to the recent election. There are also new members from VisitScotland and JobCentre Plus. She went on to say that, as a result, the next meeting of the LEF would be a half day Away Day for a teambuilding exercise. She was looking for volunteers to help scope out the half day, and Andrew McAllister and Andy Jones both offered their help.

Action: Small sub group to meet with Andy Jones and Andrew McAllister to progress LEF Away Day

4. **TOWN CENTRES DISCUSSION**

David McGregor explained to the new members that the LEF had previously discussed the Town Centres (TCs), which had been raised by the Chambers of Commerce and the Federation of Small Businesses who were concerned about the national situation regarding TCs and the drain of out of town retail outlets.

The LEF had asked Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire to investigate the position of TCs. Copies of the responses had been circulated to the LEF.

A full discussion was held around the issue of town centres within each of the Dunbartonshire local authorities. All three Local Authorities are clearly committed to investing within their town centres, however there do appear to be issues with retaining and attracting businesses. In particular this seems to be related to an issue around business rates and increases in rental charges within some town centres.

Fraser Campbell felt that, if this is the case, we should be working with other LEFs to bring the issue up to a national level. Kevin Williams said that the recommendation is that small towns should be expecting help from the Scottish Executive.

Aileen Edwards said that she could raise this with the three-monthly meeting of the LEF Co-ordinators to ascertain whether any of them would be willing to jointly lobby the Scottish Executive. Crawford McGhie said that the reduction of business rates was high on the agenda of all parties during the local elections. There is money available to the Local Authorities for town centres from the Scottish Executive which, in the past, had to be bid for. However, it is currently unclear how these funds will be allocated.

It was agreed that, as a first step, a letter would be written to the Scottish Executive raising the issues discussed.

Action: The Secretariat to draft a letter on impact of business rates in town centres to be sent to the Scottish Executive on behalf of the LEF. Secretariat to raise issue at LEF Co-ordinators' Group.

5. NATIONAL PARK – PLANNING, PERSPECTIVE PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed Gordon Watson, Director of Planning for the National Park, to the Meeting. Gordon gave a presentation on Planning in Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park.

He explained the differences between Local Authority Planning and Planning in the National Park, together with the key planning issues and challenges.

The National Park covers a wide area, crossing various Local Authorities and SE LECs. The NP has a responsibility for conservation, which has to be balanced with other considerations. It receives 450-470 planning applications a year, of which 90% are approved. Its policy framework was inherited from four council areas.

The National Park aims are:-

- to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area.
- to promote sustainable use of the natural resource of the area.
- to promote understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public, and
- to promote sustainable social and economic development of the communities in the area.

Unlike Local Authorities, the National Park Authority has to prepare a Park Plan and give greater weight to conservation aim where other aims are in conflict. The National Park Plan is effective from 2007-2012 and was approved in March 2007.

Gordon told the LEF that the new National Park Headquarters will be a building which embodies the aims of the National Park. He added that new legislation had come in before the election, which means that the National Park will become the sole planning authority for its area.

Following the presentation, Gordon responded to questions from the LEF. He told them that the amount of investment in tourism development has increased over the years in the National Park. He also said that the National Park takes account of Local Plans of all the Councils in their area.

In relation to the communities within the Park, the Communities Futures programme had been set up to help communities have control over their future development.

Regarding rural development, the National Park is looking at which type of development would be best to invest in. Farming, in general, is less viable and farms have to look at diversification.

Gordon also talked about climate change and mentioned that Loch Lomond had flooded in the past and this could have an effect on development. He went on to say that there has to be a balance between the attractiveness of the area for the visitor and the people who live in the area, and planning policy would reflect this.

Aileen Edwards said that this was of specific concern to the Federation of Small Businesses and the Chambers of Commerce, and asked if Gordon could come back to them with the Authority's Plan.

Action: Gordon Watson to provide Chambers of Commerce and FSB with a copy of the NP Planning Authority Plan.

6. CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE UPDATE

John Allan of the Construction Alliance joined the Forum to give a presentation on the Dunbartonshire Construction Alliance, together with a demonstration of its website (www.dunbartonshireca.org).

John went on to say that the Alliance had established a new logo and the new website was designed and live. The Alliance had 89 local construction companies and four national contractors registered on its website and had an agreement with Scottish Construction News to link to their website. It had also arranged for 18 apprenticeships through the West Dunbartonshire Council's NEET Construction Apprenticeship Training Programme. The National Park is also looking to take on an apprentice.

He said that most of the Dunbartonshire construction businesses were small. The Construction Alliance can contract locally and encourage people to take on apprentices from the local area. He told the Meeting that most vacancies come through the JobCentre Plus website for sites that the Alliance can access.

The Forum agreed that the Construction Alliance had performed well for its first year. Fraser Campbell asked if there was anything the Alliance wanted the Forum to do to help continue the success into its second year. John Allan replied that the aim of the Alliance is to bring agencies in and talk face to face with construction companies. One of the main objectives is to start up Working Groups, which the Alliance would facilitate to get people together to exchange ideas and keep communication open. The LEF will help to get to the key players who the Construction Alliance can then bring to the table.

7. **WRITTEN UPDATES FROM OPERATIONAL SUB GROUPS**

7.1 **Business Gateway Management Group**

The Business Gateway contract had been extended for a further six months until the tender process has been finalised for the new Business Gateway contract.

7.2 **Global Connections**

For the benefit of new members, Alison Bennett explained that there had been previous discussions around the viability of continuing with this Sub Group. There would be a scoping exercise carried out on this to ascertain what other groups and partnerships exist, and a whether there is a potential role for a Global Connections Partnership. .

Action: Secretariat to work with partners to scope out potential role for Global Connections Partnership.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the LEF would be held at the end of August or the beginning of September, and would be a team Away Day. Alison would circulate the exact date to the LEF at a later date.

Action: Secretariat to identify date of next Meeting and circulate accordingly.

This page is intentionally left blank

COMMUNITY PLANNING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE 2007

STRATEGIC HOUSING & COMMUNITIES FORUM

The Forum met yesterday with the main topic for consideration being the Local Housing Strategy Annual Update. This is currently being prepared for submission to Communities Scotland in early July.

A major paper was also presented in relation to Communities Scotland's Investment Programme. Last year's outturn expenditure was reported as £21.4m which permitted 203 site starts. Members also noted that the budget available for investment within Argyll & Bute for 2007/08 would be circa £17.675m. In addition, Communities Scotland presented papers on the new Strategic Housing Investment Plans which local authorities will require to submit by the end of November. These are designed to create a more explicit linkage between the housing needs assessment contained within the Local Housing Strategy and the investment plan that is to be put in place over a three to five year period to address the needs. Agreement was also reached to promote an Argyll & Bute wide research project into options for the use of Homestake to promote opportunities for low cost home ownership.

Other papers included an update on Community Learning & Regeneration, an outline of Scottish Water's Investment Programme for Argyll & Bute together with updates on the measures that are being undertaken to combat Homelessness and to develop the Telecare Strategy following the allocation of £141,953 from the Scottish Executive Telecare Development Fund.

Malcolm MacFadyen
Head of Community Regeneration

12 June 2007

This page is intentionally left blank

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL
CORPORATE SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY PLANNING
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

13th June 2007

BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report outlines recent progress in taking forward localised Community Planning in Bute and Cowal.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Management Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and to consider the request for partnership funding for development of the talk site website.

3.0 DETAIL

3.1 The Committee will recall that following evaluation of community planning in the Bute and Cowal area it was agreed that each of the five themed issues raised at the seminar held in Strachur in December 2006 would be progressed where possible by an existing partnership group, and that a small management group would track progress of issues and provide feedback to those who attended the seminar, community groups and any other interested party. It was further agreed that feedback would be provided by way of a 6 monthly newsletter, and that a follow up/further planning seminar would be held in late 2007.

3.2 Progression of actions has been taking place over the 6 month period since the Strachur seminar, and the management group will be meeting in late June to collate progress reports and ensure these are issued during the Summer to all attendees. At this time people will also be asked to start considering the issues which they would wish to see discussed at this year's seminar, likely to be held in late November.

3.3 In relation to progressing the clearly expressed desire of the seminar in Strachur for better communication amongst partners and community groups and the need to develop effective consultation tools for the areas groups and community organisations, the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Management Group is proposing to undertake a pilot initiative to develop a talk site website as a consultative tool, and to enable community groups to publicise their work and activities. The site enables groups to publish ideas which they are developing for their community/group, and for members of the community to give feedback, both positive and negative, in relation to ideas and initiatives. It is envisaged that the provision of such a website would prove very successful in an area such as Bute and Cowal, particularly among young people and groups, who frequently are unable to communicate their ideas and developments face to face due to their rural location.

To progress this, investigations were carried out into where this type of toolkit has been effectively developed, and a very effective community talk board exists at www.dennistoun.co.uk . The group have met with the person responsible for the development of the Dennistoun site, who has provisionally agreed to set up a similar site for the Bute and Cowal area.

The set up of such a site would require identification of a lead client (likely to be the local community planning group), and an overall editor for the site who would act as a gatekeeper and agree which groups could run the individual pages. Thereafter page editors would need to be identified for every organisation who wished to have a page on the site, these editors taking responsibility for the content of their individual web page. It is envisaged that page editors could be from Community Councils and other Community groups.

The cost of the ICT to set up a community talk board would be £500 and there would then be the initial costs of setting up the structure to run, monitor and maintain the site. Communities Scotland have agreed to provide £1000 towards set up and early costs of the initiative, provided match funding is made available from partner organisations.

The provision of such an innovative community development and consultation tool is seen as significant in developing localised community planning and cross working in a rural area such as Bute and Cowal, and the Community Planning Management Committee is asked to consider favourably this request for partnership funding of £1000 to enable the pilot development to proceed.

For further information contact: Shirley MacLeod, Community Planning Pilot Co-ordinator 01369 704374

Date: 23rd May 2007

Initiative at the Edge Base Report

Area	Isle of Jura
------	--------------

Contacts - Please list all relevant contacts (Ensure people listed are actual people who will be able to deal with Initiative business)

Local Development Officer		Community Group		Agency	
Name		Name		Name	
Deborah Bryce		Dick Mayes (Chairman)			
Jura Service Point School House Craighouse Isle of Jura PA60 7XG		Lealt Isle of Jura		Address	
E-mail Deborah.bryce@argyll-bute.gov.uk		dick@lealt.waitrose.com		E-mail	
Tel 01496 820161		Tel 01496 820330		Tel	
Fax 01496 820162		Fax		Fax	
Mobile		Mobile		Mobile	

Please use the space below to indicate any past, current and future projects for your area/s. Outlining the status and progress of the specific project

Action	Target	Indicator	Progress
	Put in place a summer only passenger ferry	On-going	We have decided to go ahead with service beginning 2nd July until 28th September IF

Passenger Ferry	from Craighouse, Jura to Crinan.	we can secure further revenue subsidy, otherwise will need to run to amount we have. Unfortunately RSPA money cannot be used toward revenue. NOT ENOUGH REVENUE FOR THREE MONTH TRIAL. Only have 20,000 in place need a further 8-10,000. Could any remaining RSPA money be used to aid with infrastructure at Craighouse? David Crook, marketing correspondent will be in touch with Debs to discuss the way forward – need to advertise ASAP!! Pontoons and moorings project no longer responsibility of AIE. JDT have taken on responsibility and have to find 10% of total cost which is estimated at 170000k Planning for infrastructure at Crinan approved. Go ahead has been given to put infrastructure in place.
Parking Area next to Village Hall, Craighouse.	To complete a parking area for approx twenty cars	On-going Private engineer carried out a topographical survey of the area end of January. Drawings completed Feb 7 th , to be sent out to tender for costs. Ardfin Estate agreed to the hand over of land. Land registry layout plans to be sent to Solicitor to draw up deeds/ transfer of land (March). Planning permission for the car park will be submitted together with that for the Antlers. We are hoping that the Big Lottery will fund 50% of the costs and are looking for contributions from other organisations at present total costs is in the region of £60-70k.
Roads and Passing Places	To upgrade roads and passing places	Work underway ABC agreed to the upgrading of passing places by a local contractor. Survey complete. Work underway, 20 passing places complete so far a further 20 required.
Beach Clean	Up keep of our shorelines and beaches throughout from Feolin to Ardfarnal.	On-going April beach clean raised £600 pounds. Application for match funding in to Diageo to help with community marquee and swimming trips to Islay for the school kids.
Crofting Land	Bring more families to Jura.	Looking at the possibility of creating new crofts. The new Crofting Bill will be enacted in

			<p>two phases. The first, in June of this year, will introduce the ability to create new crofts and allow the Commission to deal with neglected croft land. The second phase will be introduced in January 2008 and includes covering the regulatory work of the Commission.</p> <p>Letter sent to Scottish Executive and BT of those who have no broadband access and those with difficulties that should be able to receive broadband.</p>
BT Internet	Upgrade exchange on island to help self employment		
Regeneration Plan	An umbrella venture incorporating seven projects within Craighouse area	On-going	<p>Document and illustration of seven projects happening and proposed for the Craighouse area collectively known as the 'Regeneration Plan' all assisted by various community groups, these are; <i>Jura Development Trust</i> - Antlers tea-room & interpretation centre, Pontoons & moorings and Bio-fuel. <i>IatE</i> - Car park & recreational are and Direct mainland Passenger ferry service. <i>Village Hall Committee</i> - Village Hall refurbishment <i>Jura Community Business</i> - Workshops.</p> <p>Full funding application to be submitted to The Big Lottery Fund by Jan. OPF has been approved for Antlers and Car Park.</p>

Please indicate any projects past, present and future and outline amount, if any, of funding approved and the amount of funding spent

Project Title	Funding Approved	Funding Spent
Beach Clean April	£750.00	£750.00
Beach Clean August	£225.00	
Beach Clean April 07	£600.00	
Development Plan	£10,000 -	£198.16*
"		£
	£	£

Please list below any pending media coverage or recent media coverage providing a details of who provided the media coverage – if possible

Media Coverage	Details of media coverage	Contact details
Jura Jottings	101 island recipients 175 mainland recipients	We continue to report our progress in our local newspaper.

List any local links that you would want to see on the Initiative at the edge website:

Any other information

£750 raised from April Beach Clean. £300 awarded to Playground Association, £300 to School Board for trips and £150 to Jura Badminton Club.

£198.16 spent for the investigation carried out on the land ownership of the foreshore.

£225 raised from August Beach Clean. £200 to be used to produce large display boards for exhibitions in hall. £25 remains as kitty for next clean – food and drink.

£600 raised from April 2007 Beach Clean

Date Sent: 21 May 2007

Date Returned:

Date Logged:

Initiative at the Edge Base Report

Page 29

Area	Isle of Coll
------	--------------

Contacts - Please list all relevant contacts (Ensure people listed are actual people who will be able to deal with Initiative business)

Local Development Officer		Community Group		Agency	
Name	Fiona Carswell	Name	Development Coll	Name	
Address	Middle Pier Arinagour Isle of Coll PA78 6SY	Address	Peter Isaacson Uig Cottage Isle of Coll PA78 6TB	Address	
E-mail	developmentcoll@btconnect.com	E-mail	isaacson@isleofcoll.org.uk	E-mail	
Tel	01879230000	Tel	01879230491	Tel	
Fax	01879230000	Fax	01879230272	Fax	
Mobile		Mobile		Mobile	

Please use the space below to indicate any past, current and future projects for your area/s. Outlining the status and progress of the specific project

Action	Target	Indicator	Progress
Community Centre	To build a multifunctional building combined with a new primary school to include, service point, library, catering, sports facility, archive collection, meeting rooms, workshops, exhibition space.	On-going	<p>Received £10,000 'Investing In Ideas' from lottery, to fund feasibility study, business plan, architects fees and to have land valued. This will lead up to applying to Big Lottery 'Growing community Assets' Our aim is to raise £50,000 from community effort.</p> <p>Received £300 seed corn money towards the printing of 2000 leaflets. They will be handed out at all community events, also to visitors and put into discover Coll leaflets. Info on leaflet includes, how the community will benefit from a new Comm. Centre, what support we need, how to donate and how our money will be spent.</p> <p>P.S. Waverley visit to island raised in excess of £600 between donations, handing out leaflets and selling t-shirt/t-towels. Huge community support and donations in kind. Article in Oban Times and Press and Journal.</p> <p>Next fundraising event being organised for July 14th annual garden party.</p>
Recycling group		On-going	Bag for life design ordered 1000 bags to sell which will potentially raise in excess of £2000 for the group looking at using some seed corn money to match fund with grab trust money.

Looking into removing old vehicles that are too expensive to send off island. There fore they are left at various points on the island. In contact with car take back who will remove vehicles still in tact for free, now looking for local contractor to actually remove them.

Play Park	To seek up to £20,000 to £30'000 funding to purchase safe equipment, and lay protective ground matting.	Spring 2008	<p>Looking to apply for funding from 'awards for all', 'Scottish Community Foundation', 'McRobert Trust' and 'children in need'</p> <p>Various fundraising events throughout year in hope to raise in excess of £4,000 main event being the ½ marathon being held on Coll in late August.</p> <p>Fiona Kennedy and Moira MacIntyre (members of Coll community) have just walked 95 miles of West Highland Way raising £1,800 to be split between Play park and Coll senior's social club.</p>
Renewables	Investigate sources to provide a sustainable income (community wind turbine)	On-going	Working with HICEC to conduct initial scoping study and feasibility study.
Village Improvements	Looking into putting down safe footpaths to school/amenities, at present people have to walk on narrow grass verge with deep ditch on either side. Impossible for elderly and buggies, and not safe	On-going	<p>Initial thought of applying to A&BC safe routes to school may not be possible, received e-mail from roads department stating that because of the costs involved and the small number of pupils who walk it, it is unlikely to be addressed in the short term.</p> <p>With direction from funding partners will look into Paths for all, and Green spaces for possible funding.</p>

Please indicate any projects past, present and future and outline amount, if any, of funding approved and the amount of funding spent

Project Title	Funding Approved	Funding Spent
Printing Community centre leaflets	£300	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£

Please list below any pending media coverage or recent media coverage providing a details of who provided the media coverage – if possible

Media Coverage	Details of media coverage	Contact details
Oban Times/Press and Journal	P.S Waverly visit to Coll Raising over £600 for Coll Community Centre	
Oban Times/Press and Journal	Fiona Kennedy and Moira sponsored walk 95	

miles of West Highland Way raising £1800 for
the Coll seniors social club and playground

List any local links that you would want to see on the Initiative at the edge website:

Any other information

Date Sent:
Date Returned:
Date Logged:

This page is intentionally left blank