

**MINUTES of MEETING of FORWARD DUNOON AND COWAL GROUP held in the
CUSTOMER SERVICES OFFICE, 22 HILL STREET, DUNOON
on MONDAY, 11 AUGUST 2014**

Present: Councillor Bruce Marshall (Chair)

Councillor Michael Breslin
Councillor Gordon Blair
Shirley MacLeod, Argyll & Bute Council
Ailsa Cunningham, Argyll & Bute Council
David Adams McGilp, Visit Scotland
Colin Moulson, PA23 BID

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Councillor Alex McNaughton
Councillor Jimmy McQueen
Brian Close, Argyll and Bute Council
Catriona Craig, Cowal Marketing Group

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Forward Dunoon & Cowal Group of 14th April 2014 were approved as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) BURGH HALL UPDATE

The Chair provided a detailed update in regard to Dunoon Burgh Hall. He advised that since his last report in April, Dunoon Burgh Hall has made huge strides in the quest for funding to renovate the entire building and have achieved funding commitments of £1.834M to date with the projected capital cost of the project being £1.878M.

The breakdown in committed funds is:

- £575K – Heritage Lottery Fund
- £465K – Creative Scotland
- £250K – John McAslan Family Trust
- £244K – Historic Scotland
- £200K – Highlands and Islands Enterprise

- £100K – Monument Trust

The Chair advised that Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust will be applying for planning permission shortly then going out to tender with the expectation to commence work on the building towards the end of the year.

He advised that the Trust are holding an event in the Queen's Hall on Saturday 25th October 2014 and this is a fundraiser and get together of the residents of Dunoon and Cowal to celebrate the Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust success to date. He advised that a 17 piece band called Capital Big Band will be in attendance with two female vocalists and it will be a vintage themed event.

The Chair reminded the Group that Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust are holding a film festival between the Hall and Studio 1 on 12th to 14th September.

4. PA23 BID

Colin Moulson from PA23 BID gave a presentation to the Group on the overview of BIDs to date.

He spoke about the events programme for the year which includes a 'Ladies/Girls' Day Out which is scheduled to take place on 2nd November at Hunters Quay Holiday Village, 'Come and Try-athalon' on 8th or 15th November and Dunoon Dazzles which is scheduled for Saturday 29th November.

He updated the Group the new website which he has created called 'Dunoon Presents' and advised of the positive media coverage which he has from Reporting Scotland, Radio Scotland, the Scottish Sun, Radio Clyde and the Dunoon Observer for advertising all events.

Colin advised that he hopes to get a Commonwealth Medallist across to Dunoon and that he has taken on Sunset Ceremony where there will be music from the Vatersay Boys and Brian Wilson, Drum Major will be in attendance. He suggested advertising this event in the Greenock Telegraph to encourage more people to come across the water.

5. AOCB

Tourism Issues

The Group had a discussion about the tourism issues they have in the Bute and Cowal area and how they want to bring more people into the town. David Adams McGilp agreed to talk to communication and marketing at Caledonian McBrayne and get leaflets for the ferries and make people more aware of the Dunoon to Gourock foot passenger ferry.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Forward Dunoon and Cowal meeting will be held on

Monday 10th November 2014 at 2pm in the Customer Services Office, 22 Hill Street, Dunoon.

The Group agreed to set a date at the next meeting for shop owners to clean the front of their shops in the spring next year.

