

**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE held in the CORRAN
HALLS, OBAN
on WEDNESDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2014**

Present: Councillor Roddy McCuish (Chair)

Councillor Elaine Robertson	Councillor Iain A MacDonald
Councillor Neil MacIntyre	Councillor Alistair MacDougall

Attending: Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development and Strategic
Transportation
Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager
Stewart Clark, Roads Performance Manager
Stuart McCracken, Amenity Performance Manager
Moya Ingram, Strategic Transportation Manager
Hugh Blake, Asset Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Mary-Jean Devon and Duncan MacIntyre.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Elaine Robertson declared a non financial interest in relation to Kerrera STAG which was dealt with at item 6 of this Minute because her husband is a factor of Dunollie Estate.

3. MINUTES

(a) OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE - 14 AUGUST 2014

The Minutes of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee held on 14th August 2014 were approved as a correct record.

(b) OBAN COMMON GOOD FUND - 15 AUGUST 2014 (FOR NOTING)

The Minutes of the Oban Common Good Fund held on 15th August 2014 were noted.

(c) OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 27 AUGUST 2014 (FOR NOTING)

The Minutes of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Safety Forum held on 27th August 2014 were noted.

(d) OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES SPECIAL AREA COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Minutes of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Special Area Committee were approved as a correct record.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Fiona Campbell-Smith asked the Committee what benefit there has been to the area by not selling Kilbowie to Bombadil Publishing? She advised that this would have been a great chance for employment for the area and investment and to bring more people to the town. She also asked why consideration by the Area Committee of the matter of the former Rockfield School was taken in private session. The Chair advised that Kilbowie and former Rockfield School were taken as exempt items and therefore it could not be discussed in public session.

Colin Campbell asked the Committee a question in relation to when the school was functioning and asked if Argyll and Bute Council were responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the School. He also asks why the huts have still not been removed to date.

The Area Governance Manager agreed to find out the following information and forward details onto Fiona Campbell-Smith and Colin Campbell:

1. Information in relation to why Kilbowie and Former Rockfield School were taken in private session at previous Area Committee meetings;
2. To contact the Head of Facility Services to get details on the situation in relation to dry rot in former Rockfield School and what has been done to date to prevent this from spreading;
3. Information on the Council's policy on how the Council maintains its assets.

The public felt that the Area Committee could be better advertised on Oban FM and Facebook and would be better attended by the public if the meetings were in the evening or on a Saturday.

5. ROADS REVENUE BUDGET 2014 TO 2015 - FQ1

A report providing Members with the information on road maintenance revenue activities being delivered in 2014/15 was considered.

The Roads Performance Manager spoke about the missing section on the A848 which was a query raised by Councillor MacDougall, he advised that there was a lack of funding for this large scheme and they are currently no further forward but the next stage would be to go out to consultation if a funding source could be identified.

Decision

The Committee noted the report and information provided.

(Ref: Report by Roads Performance Manager dated 15th September 2014, submitted).

Councillor Elaine Robertson having declared a non financial interest in Kerrera STAG

left the room and took no part in the discussion of this item.

6. KERRERA STAG

A report updating the Committee on Kerrera STAG and detailing the stage 1 and 2 applications to the Coastal Communities Fund, was considered.

Decision

The Committee noted that IKDT would no longer be progressing with a stage 2 application to the Coastal Community Fund and agreed to support Roads and Amenity Services in assisting with a topographical survey to progress the design of the road.

(Ref: Report by Strategic Transportation Manager dated 24th September 2014, submitted).

7. LETTER FROM OBAN HIGH SCHOOL PIPE BAND

The Committee considered a letter from Oban High School Pipe Band looking for an endorsement from the Area Committee for a letter to be issued to organisations seeking for funding for their trip to New York in April 2015.

Decision

The Committee agreed to endorse the letter from Oban High School Pipe Band in order for them to seek funding.

(Ref: Letter from Oban High School Pipe Band dated 1st October 2014, submitted).

8. SCOTTISH RURAL PARLIAMENT LIAISON GROUP - NOMINATION

A report updating the Committee in regards to membership of the Scottish Rural Parliament Liaison Group and inviting them to nominate an elected Member to serve on the Group was considered.

Decision

The Committee nominated Councillor Roddy McCuish to serve on the Scottish Rural Parliament Liaison Group.

(Ref: Report by Area Committee Manager dated 1st October 2014, submitted).

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8 & 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

9. GLENFORSA AIRFIELD - OFFERS FOR LEASE

A report advising the Committee of the two offers received in respect of Glenforsa Airfield which was recently advertised for lease, was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed the recommendations at paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Asset Manager dated 26th September 2014, submitted).