

**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE held in the
CORRAN HALLS, OBAN
on WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2017**

Present: Councillor Roddy McCuish (Chair)

Councillor Elaine Robertson	Councillor Kieron Green
Councillor Mary-Jean Devon	Councillor Neil MacIntyre
Councillor Alistair MacDougall	

Attending: Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services
Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager
Ross McLaughlin, Property Development Manager
Annie MacLeod, Locality Manager
Julie Fairbrass, GRAB Trust

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors McKenzie and MacLean.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

(a) Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee - 9th December 2016

The minute of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee held on 9th December 2016 was approved as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

- at item 3(a) on page 1 to remove 'COSLA guidance' and replace with 'Scottish Government, COSLA, CCPS and Scottish Care agreement titled Guidance to Support Delivery of the Living Wage Commitment to Care at Home and Housing Support'; and
- at paragraph 4 on page 2 to remove 'street' and replace with 'civic'.

(b) Special Oban Common Good Fund - 20th January 2017 (for noting)

The minute of the Special Oban Common Good Fund held on 20th January 2017 was noted.

4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Mr Leady questioned the position regarding issues raised at the previous Committee meeting, noting that he had received no response to date. He advised of drainage issues which are of particular concern in icy conditions, and of a pothole. The Head of Roads and Amenity Services agreed to respond to Mr Leady within two weeks.

Councillor Devon advised of a meeting regarding provision of bins to be held on Thursday 9th February with the Head of Roads and Amenity Services, the four Ward Councillors, the Chair of Oban Community Council, and Soroba residents.

5. GRAB TRUST UPDATE

Julie Fairbrass of the GRAB Trust gave a verbal update to the Committee on what the GRAB project is involved in and advised where they feel they could help the community with the support of the Council and local housing associations.

She updated the Committee on the grants they can offer from the beaches and litter project, advising that this is a fully funded project which has £1,100 left for this financial year and £7,000 for the next financial year.

Decision

The Committee noted the information provided and thanked Julie for coming along.

(Ref: Verbal update by Julie Fairbrass, GRAB Trust dated 8th February 2017, submitted).

6. LOCALITY PLANNING UPDATE

Annie MacLeod, Locality Planning Manager gave a verbal update to the Committee on the three Locality Planning Groups in Oban, Lorn, advising that Oban is looking at improving their community care centre and Mull is looking at recruitment and retention of the GP service.

She advised there is a lot to be proud of in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area to date in Home Care with the new centre up and running in Port Appin with eleven in the team. She confirmed that there has been further development in Mull with staffing as they have previously struggled but feel that a film produced to help bring people to the area has been beneficial.

Decision

The Committee noted the information provided and thanked Ms Macleod for attending.

(Ref: Verbal update by Locality Planning Manager dated 8th February 2017, submitted).

7. NEW SCHOOLS REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT - OBAN HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

A report providing the Committee with progress on the Council's Schools Redevelopment Project in partnership with hubNorth Scotland Ltd (hubNorth) to build a new secondary school in Oban, was considered.

It was noted that this project is two weeks ahead of schedule and a local electrical company won a contract for work in the school.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Report by School Redevelopment Project Manager dated 13th January 2017, submitted).

8. GRASS CUTTING - PROPOSED CHANGES

The Committee considered a report setting out some of the representations received following one of the Service Choices policies RAMS01i (Reduce/Stop Grass Cuts).

The report also seeks approval to amend the previously approved policy and to revert to cutting all areas previously maintained but at a reduced frequency that can be accommodated within the available budget.

Decision

The Committee approved the amended grass cutting proposals detailed in the report.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated January 2017, submitted).

The Council resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the press and public for the following 3 items of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8&9 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

E1 9. KERRERA SCHOOL HOUSE

The Committee considered report advising the Committee of a request regarding the lease of the former Kerrera School.

Decision

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

(Ref: Report by Property Development Manager dated 21st December 2016, submitted).

E1 10. GANAVAN UPDATE

The Committee considered a report from the Property Development Manager, providing an update on the Ganavan Carpark lease.

Decision

The Committee agreed the recommendations in the report.

(Ref: Report by Property Development Manager dated 16th January 2017, submitted).

E1 11. LISMORE SCHOOL HOUSE

The Committee considered a report from the Property Development Manager on the proposed lease of Lismore Schoolhouse.

Decision

The Committee agreed the recommendations at 3.1 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Property Development Manager dated 11th January 2017, submitted).