MINUTES of MEETING of ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD on THURSDAY, 7 JUNE 2018

Present: Councillor Roderick McCuish (Chair)

Councillor John Armour Councillor Aileen Morton
Councillor Gordon Blair Councillor Ellen Morton
Councillor Bobby Good Councillor Gary Mulvaney
Councillor David Kinniburgh Councillor Alastair Redman

Councillor Donald MacMillan Councillor Alan Reid

Councillor Jean Moffat Councillor Andrew Vennard

Attending: Pippa Milne, Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services

Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services

Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation

Patricia O'Neill, Central Governance Manager

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jim Findlay, Donald Kelly and Sir Jamie McGrigor.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee held on 8 March 2018 were approved as a correct record.

Councillors Bobby Good, David Kinniburgh, Donald MacMillan, Aileen Morton and Gary Mulvaney joined the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

4. ARGYLL AND BUTE ECONOMIC FORUM UPDATE

The Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation advised that the Chair of the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum, Nicholas Ferguson CBE, had been unable to attend the meeting and therefore presented the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum update report to the Committee on his behalf. The report was a further and final update report following on from the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum Report 2016.

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee –

1. Noted the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum Follow Up Report 2018 as attached at appendix one to the submitted report.

2. Agreed to write to Nicholas Ferguson CBE, Chair of the Economic Forum, to thank him and the Argyll and Bute Economic Forum for their input during the life of the Forum.

(Reference: Report by Chief Executive dated 8 May 2018, submitted)

5. ARGYLL AND BUTE BUSINESS GROUP - AN EVOLUTION OF THE ARGYLL AND BUTE BUSINESS FORUM

The Committee gave consideration to a report which set out the rationale for the development of a new business group to bring together leaders of all key sectors within the region to collaborate on inclusive growth. It was intended that the new group would supersede the existing Argyll and Bute Economic Forum.

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee –

- 1. Noted the content of the report.
- 2. Agreed to the principle of the establishment of the Argyll and Bute Business Group to improve engagement with businesses to promote inclusive economic growth.

(Reference: Report by Chief Executive dated 8 May 2018, submitted)

6. DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT FQ4 2017-18

The Committee gave consideration to a report which presented Members with the Development and Infrastructure Services departmental performance report with associated scorecard for performance in Financial Quarter Four 2017-18 (January to March 2018).

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee noted the Development and Infrastructure Services departmental performance report with associated scorecard for performance in Financial Quarter Four 2017-18 (January to March 2018).

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated May 2018, submitted)

7. SERVICE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS - DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

The Committee considered a report which presented them with the Service Annual Performance Reviews for Development and Infrastructure Services for 2017/18.

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee endorsed the Service Annual Performance Reviews for Development and Infrastructure Services 2017/18 as presented.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated May 2018, submitted)

8. WASTE COLLECTION CALENDARS

Consideration was given to a report which laid out plans for the cessation of printing and distribution of waste collection calendars and to move to an online system for the publication of collection calendars.

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee approved that –

- 1. The 2018 calendars will state that this will be the last year for printed calendars to be issued with the saving proposals being put forward as part of the budget process in February 2019.
- Alternative arrangements for households with no internet access would be put in place with individuals being able to request colour paper copies of the calendar for their address.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated May 2018, submitted)

Councillor Donald MacMillan left the meeting at this point.

9. TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS AND REGENERATION - ARGYLL AND THE ISLES CULTURE, HERITAGE AND ARTS (CHARTS) PLACE PARTNERSHIP

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided an introduction to the work stream of Culture, Heritage and Arts (CHArts) and progress to date.

Decision

The Environment Development and Infrastructure Committee endorsed the findings of the report and the work done to develop the creative industries in Argyll and Bute.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated 7 June 2018, submitted)

10. TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS & REGENERATION TEAM - LARGE SCALE PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report which updated the Committee on the progress in delivering larger scale project work by the Transformation Project and Regeneration

Team. The report focused mainly on those projects that were externally funded and reported on key issues that would impact on the successful delivery of the projects.

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee noted the current progress with the projects as detailed within the submitted report; and the verbal update given by the Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Committee dated April 2018, submitted)

11. NATIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report which advised that Transport Scotland were undertaking a review of the National Transport Strategy. The report advised that there would be a wide engagement programme across Scotland to ensure that all transport users have the opportunity to feed into the review process. A formal public consultation on the draft strategy would take place in early 2019 with a view to publishing the new strategy in July 2019.

Decision

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee approved –

- 1. Appendix 1 as the top transport priorities for Argyll and Bute to support economic growth and social inclusion subject to updating it to include reference to increasing the resilience and capacity of ferries right across the network.
- Appendix 1 to be used and referred to in pursuing support from the Minister of Transport and to feed into the response to the consultation on the National Transport Strategy 2.
- 3. That officers continue to gather evidence to support the case for additional investment in our transport connectivity to meet the needs of our communities both now, and into the future and that this would be reported back to Committee as appropriate.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated May 2018, submitted)

12. FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE

A report which provided Members with an update on the financial position of the reserves earmarked in 2016 for festive lighting was before the Committee for noting.

Decision

The Environment, development and Infrastructure Committee –

1. Noted the financial position.

 Noted that engagement continues on the basis of the outline heads of terms approved at the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee in March and that a subsequent update would come forward to the next meeting of the Committee.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director – Development and Infrastructure Services dated May 2018, Submitted)

13. ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee work plan as at June 2018 was before the Committee for noting.

Decision

The Committee noted the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee work plan as at June 2018.

(Reference: Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee work plan as at June 2018, submitted)