

**MINUTES of MEETING of KINTYRE INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP held in the ROOM 2, THE
COMMUNITY CENTRE, CAMPBELTOWN
on FRIDAY, 26 JUNE 2015**

Present: Councillor Rory Colville (Chair)

Councillor Robin Currie Councillor John Armour
Councillor Anne Horn (from item 6
onwards)

Attending: Melissa Stewart, Area Governance Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Antonia Baird, Community Dev. Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Donald Melville, Business Advisor, Argyll and Bute Council
Susan Paterson, KFCC, KPPF and Shopper-Aide
Margaret Wallace, Argyll Voluntary Action
Dhonna McCallum, Argyll College
Margaret Pratt, West Kintyre Community Council
Ed Tyler, Beinn Guilean Community Woodland Group
Campbell Fox, Campbeltown Sailing Club

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Jamie McGrigor MSP
Michael Russell MSP
Harvard Davis, Campbeltown Community Business Ltd
Jane Mayo, Campbeltown Community Business Ltd
Grenville Johnston, HIAL
Darlene Russell, Argyll College

The Chair offered congratulations to Brendan O'Hara on his recent election as Argyll and Bute's MP and asked that he be invited to all future meetings of the Kintyre Initiative Partnership.

2. MINUTE OF THE KINTYRE INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP - 27 MARCH 2015

The Minutes of the previous Kintyre Initiative Partnership held on 27th March 2015 were approved as a correct record subject to:-

The amendment on page 8, item 10, Shopper-Aide are only looking for funding for some parts of the project and Dunaverty Hall is currently still being renovated and is not reopened.

The amendment on page 6 to reflect that Business Gateway do give advice to businesses who have a turnover of less than £70k per annum.

3. MINUTE OF THE CAMPBELTOWN FERRY SUB GROUP - 27 APRIL 2015

The Minutes of the previous Campbeltown Ferry Sub Group held on 27th April 2015 were noted.

Councillor John Armour noted his disappointment in the turn out at that last Campbeltown Ferry Sub Group meeting with their being no representative from Transport Scotland and Calmac.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Armour advised that he attended a consultation held by Calmac recently which was poorly attended with only 10 people turning up. He felt that if this consultation was better advertised, there would have been a higher turn out.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT LOCAL

(a) BEINN GHUILEAN COMMUNITY WOODLAND

Ed Tyler from Beinn Ghulean Community Woodland Group gave an update to the group, advising that the group was formed 6 months ago and meet once a month. He advised they are an informal group which doesn't have a constitution but in effort to be considered for the Single Outcome Agreement process, they will be looking at ways to become constituted which will also have the benefit of allowing them to apply for funding. Ed spoke about the acquisition process and support for the project advising that the Group has a Facebook page and there have been numerous articles in the Campbeltown Courier advertising their meetings to get as many people involved as possible.

Ed confirmed that the woodland is well used, that there is a 10 year concept plan and is suitable for mountain biking, wood fuel and timber projects. He outlined the health and wellbeing benefits associated with the project. Ed then requested support to take forward a community ballot.

Decision

The Partnership:

1. Noted the information provided; and
2. Agreed that the Community Development Officer would liaise with the Community Woodland Group to discuss taking the project forward to enable it to be considered for inclusion into the SOA local and to give advice about community engagement in respect of the community ballot.

(b) CAMPBELTOWN SAILING CLUB

Campbell Fox from Campbeltown Sailing Club gave a presentation to the Group.

He spoke about the levels of membership and how this has been broadened to encourage more people into the water, their development plan, their affiliation with the Royal Yachting and Sailing Club, links to Dalintober pier and beach, training and the evolution of the Kintyre Seasports concept. He confirmed they have no budget at the moment but have received a lot of support from local businesses and that the group had applied for lottery funding which would be used to get professional help to help push the project forward.

Decision

The Partnership:

1. Noted the information provided;
2. Agreed to recommend to the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Community Planning Group in August that this project be included in the SOA (Local); and
3. Agreed to keep Campbeltown Sailing Club as an agenda item at each Kintyre Initiative Partnership meeting.

6. KINTYRE AREA DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Community Development Officer gave an update about the Kintyre Area Development Group which had not met since June 2011. She advised the Group that at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Kintyre Area Development Group it was agreed to wind up the group and disperse the remaining funds.

It was confirmed that as the direct source of the funds could not be ascertained and there was no guidance in their Remit and Guidelines, apart from seeking the approval of the Area Committee, it was deemed most appropriate to disburse the remaining funds to an organisation that matches, as far as possible, the remit and geographical area of the Kintyre ADG.

The Community Development Officer had undertaken a survey asking organisations questions to ascertain their capacity to receive the funds and 4 groups were identified from this. Using the distribution list for the ADG as the electorate, a vote took place to establish which of the 4 groups would receive the funds.

Decision

The Group noted that South Kintyre Development Trust (SKDT) was the preferred recipient and that the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee would be asked to agree the transfer of funds to SKDT at their next meeting.

Councillor Anne Horn joined the meeting at this point.

7. DISCUSSION RE OUTCOMES 1 AND 5

The Group had a discussion on outcomes 1 and 5 of the Single Outcome Agreement which are the outcomes being discussed at the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Community Planning Group in August. The Area Governance Officer asked the Group to identify whether there are any agenda items, issues or queries to be taken forward.

Donald Melville suggested that the Beinn Guillean Community Woodland Group should link in with Highlands and the Islands Enterprise. He also suggested that items 1.1.2, 1.1.4 and 1.1.7 of outcome 1 that are all marked as “ongoing” be brought up at the August CPG meeting by way of a report on activities by HIE.

Susan Paterson suggested that the provision of Addiction Recovery Services should be under outcome 5 and not outcome 1.

Councillor Anne Horn raised a concern about the Council's VC equipment. She feels it is a very unreliable system and feels that more partners would attend the meetings if they had a chance to VC. She commented that it wasn't unknown for people to have to abandon meetings because of failures and asked that a report be presented to the next meeting advising what action is being taken. There was also an issue raised that if meetings overrun, people using the council service points have been asked to leave the building during the middle of a VC run meeting.

The Chair suggested that someone come to the next Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Community Planning Group to discuss VC facilities.

Susan Paterson asked that an update on introduction of the Third Sector Interface come to the next CPG meeting in August under outcome 5. She considered that there was a lack of awareness of who or where local groups fed into.

8. UNSECURED POST OFFICE COUNTER SERVICES IN WEST KINTYRE

Margaret Pratt from West Kintyre Community Council raised a concern to the Group on a possible future issue which they are facing in Clachan and other rural areas in Kintyre. She advised that the Post Office Services at Clachan have changed hands and the hours have dropped from 22 to 4 per week. She confirmed that there is no current Post Master appointed at Clachan but they are currently advertising the post as a salaried position.

Margaret advised that Glenbarr Stores and Tayinloan Store are both currently on the market which would leave west Kintyre without a life line service. She feels this is the right time to flag this issue up from the

Community Council and would welcome any suggestions to help this situation as if all stores close, the nearest post office service is 40 miles away, in Tarbert or Campbeltown.

Decision

The Group:

1. Agreed to write to Post Office Counters about this issue;
2. Agreed to write to the Health Service to check that prescriptions are still being delivered to patients by Royal Mail; and
3. Agreed to raise this at the next Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Community Planning Group.

9. PARTNER UPDATES

(a) HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE (HIE)

The Area Governance Officer indicated that HIE no longer want to attend the Kintyre Initiative Partnership meetings given then have undertaken to engage with the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Community Planning Group. The Chair suggested that they still send a written report to each meeting to update the Group on specific activities.

(b) BUSINESS GATEWAY

The partnership considered a status report from Donald Melville of Business Gateway, updating them on the action/project summary for March to May 2015. He advised that Business Gateway press releases have been featured in the sponsored business pages of the Campbeltown Courier in April (Jinty and Baa Needlecraft), March (Kintyre Eggs and Public Sector Procurement assistance), May (Best of the West Festival). He advised he ran 'Meet the Advisor' sessions in Campbeltown on 18th March, 30th April, 8th May, 12th May and 27th May and in Islay over two day sessions on 21st May and 22nd May. He confirmed that Barbara Halliday, Business Advisor has also been in the area supporting several Growth clients.

Donald gave an update to the partnership on the financial quarter 4 impact results for businesses in the Kintyre area.

The Group noted the information provided.

(c) THE PICTURE HOUSE

There was no update from the Picture House so therefore this item was deferred to the September meeting.

(d) SOUTH KINTYRE DEVELOPMENT TRUST (SKDT)

There was no update from South Kintyre Development Trust so

therefore this item was deferred to the September meeting.

(e) ARGYLL COLLEGE

The Group considered a report from Argyll College advising that all their full-time courses have now finished with the exception of the Access to Health and Social Care course which will finish at the end of July.

Argyll College are currently accepting applications for full-time courses starting in September 2015. This can be found on their website at www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk

It was noted that in partnership with Campbeltown Grammar, Argyll College have interviewed a number of pupils for Skills for Work courses which will be starting in August 2015, these courses are Skills for Work Construction, 2 x Skills for Work Engineering and Skills for Work Rural Skills.

The Group were advised that the college continues to work closely with local organisations including Woodlands Resource Centre, Argyll and Bute Council, Skills Direct Scotland etc and that the college will also be working closely with local employers to provide bespoke training for their staff.

The Group noted the information provided.

(f) KINTYRE WAY

There was no update from Kintyre Way so therefore this item was deferred to the September meeting.

(g) ARGYLL VOLUNTARY ACTION (AVA)

Margaret Wallace from Argyll Voluntary Action gave an update to the group. She advised that they are providing ongoing support to Kintyre Seniors' Forum whose numbers continue to grow.

Margaret confirmed that Age Scotland has appointed Ian McVicar to offer community development support to establish Men's Sheds as a community asset.

She advised that Argyll Voluntary Action are closely supporting Kintyre Link Club and Kintyre Food Bank, where we endeavour to refer clients to agencies who are able to provide advice.

The Group noted the information provided.

(h) TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

There was no update from Town Centre Regeneration so therefore this item was deferred to the September meeting.

10. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

It was agreed that Councillor Colville would continue to be the Chair of this partnership until the next meeting on 25th September as the future of the group was currently uncertain.

11. FUTURE OF KINTYRE INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP

The Group had a discussion on the future of this meeting. They felt that since various improvements have been made to Campbeltown, the focus on economic development was perhaps not necessary and with no major issues ongoing, MP/MSPs perhaps feel there is no longer a need to attend. The group also discussed the links to the Area Community Planning Group questioning the necessity for this with the Chair commenting that support was available from the Council while this Group was linking to the SOA but that this may not be the case if the links to the ACPG were severed. They also discussed setting up a Chamber of Commerce, which Councillor Armour advised was underway. While attendance had dropped off at recent meetings, the general feeling was that the Group wanted to and felt it important to continue but some more thought required to be given to future focus.

It was suggested that members of the Group review the distribution list with comments being fed into Danielle Finlay (Danielle.finlay@argyll-bute.gov.uk) and an email be sent to all members of the group asking for suggestions as to improvements that could be made to the format of the meeting which might encourage them to participate. This feedback would be discussed at the meeting on 25th September 2015 when a decision about the future of the Group would be made.

12. AOCB

The Group agreed to include the Community Empowerment Bill and Community Engagement as agenda items at the September meeting.

Susan Paterson updated the Group on the Elderberry Club which has started up in Kintyre through Shopper-Aide which is held twice a week between 12-4pm for older people.

Councillor Anne Horn advised that the Viking Festival is on in Tarbert over the weekend.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Kintyre Initiative Partnership will be held on Friday 25th September 2015 at 10am in the Community Centre, Campbeltown.