

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE held
in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on WEDNESDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Present: Councillor Robin Currie (Chair)

Councillor John Armour	Councillor Donald Kelly
Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Donald MacMillan
Councillor Anne Horn	Councillor Alastair Redman

Attending: Shona Barton, Area Committee Manager
Stuart Green, Corporate Support Manager
James Lafferty, Project Officer, Campbeltown
Feargal De Buitleir, CARS Officer
Antonia Baird, Community Development Officer
Douglas Whyte, Team Leader – East
Rick Rijdsijk, Director, Social Value Lab

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Douglas Philand.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Anne Horn declared a non-financial interest in respect of agenda item 8(a) Supporting Communities Fund – Annual Monitoring Report for the 2017/18 Awards by virtue of being on the Committee of PACT MAK. Councillor Horn advised that her involvement was such that she did not require to leave the room and would take part in discussion of this item.

3. MINUTES

The Minute of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee meeting held on 6 June 2018 was approved as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

List of Attendees:

It was noted that Jenni Minto attended the meeting in her capacity of member of the WW100 Islay organisation, and not Islay Community Council. Members agreed that this be amended accordingly.

Page 7, paragraph 3

The words “septic tank” should be replaced with the word “pipeline”.

4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

The Area Committee Manager circulated a briefing note providing answers to questions asked during Public and Councillor Question Time at the previous meeting of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee on 6 June 2018, and

agreed to circulate by email also to allow Members to forward to the relevant Community Councils.

Councillor Horn spoke of numerous complaints she had received in respect of street lighting in Bowmore on Islay; Gigha carpark and Tarbert. She advised of places where there were 6 lights out, and despite having raised the issue before, these remained out. Councillor Horn posed the question as to how long LED lights last, with the Chair, Councillor Currie asking whether it is possible for LED lights to be turned down to reduce brightness.

Councillor Redman concurred with Councillor Horn and advised of issues with street lighting in Charlotte Street, the Maltings and Port Wemyss on Islay. He advised that having spoken with an officer he had been advised that these were on a rolling programme and should be fixed within the next 6 to 8 weeks and suggested that this was not acceptable as ineffective lighting could pose a serious safety issue.

It was agreed that the issues with lighting would be raised with the appropriate officer.

Councillor Redman spoke of the recent insulation and rendering jobs carried out on ACHA housing stock on Islay and advised that while the works were carried out to a high standard, the failure to replace doors and windows meant that there was little benefit from the works. He advised that he had contacted ACHA directly in this regard and had been told that the replacement of doors and windows were on the programme of works to be completed next year. Councillor Redman enquired as to whether there was anything that the Area Committee could do to expedite the process. The Chair advised that the Chief Executive of ACHA was scheduled to provide an annual update at the next meeting of the Area Committee in December and that Councillor Redman may wish to raise his concerns with Mr McGregor directly then.

Councillor Kelly expressed his concern at the number of times he had raised the issue of odour emanating from pipelines at Meadowburn in Campbeltown. He advised that he was still receiving complaints from the same constituents about this issue and asked the Area Committee to consider escalating the issue to the Council, with a view to persuading Scottish Water to take appropriate remedial action. Following discussion on the possible solutions the Area Committee Manager agreed to escalate the issue to the Director of Corporate Affairs, Scottish Water and to the appropriate Policy Lead.

Councillor Armour raised the issue of promised works on the mains pipe which runs from Machrihanish to Campbeltown and spoke of a number of bursts over a five year period. He asked whether it would be possible to get a timescale for the works given that funding had been secured to remedy the issues. The Area Committee Manager agreed to raise this matter in the letter to the Director of Corporate Affairs, Scottish Water. Councillor Armour also asked about the TRO in Campbeltown and when this was going to be finalised, it was agreed that this question would be raised with the Head of Roads and Amenity Services.

Discussion took place in respect of a number of issues on the A83, particularly the resurfacing works required at Westport; the crossing points in Campbeltown town centre; road resurfacing in Southend; chips left in various carparks across the ward 1 and 2 areas and the removal of the "No overnight parking" sign at Keills carpark.

Councillor Armour advised that through discussions with George Fiddes of Transport Scotland he was aware that resurfacing works at Westport were scheduled to begin in October 2018. The Area Committee Manager agreed to raise the remaining issues with Mr Fiddes and with the Head of Roads and Amenity Services.

The Chair requested that the Area Committee Manager provide a briefing note outlining any responses and circulate to Members by email.

5. LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW - FEEDBACK FROM THE BIG LISTEN EVENTS IN MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS

The Committee gave consideration to a report which set out the key themes and comments captured during events run by the Chief Executive in Campbeltown, Lochgilphead, Islay and Jura as well as the online webchat session. The feedback from the sessions will be used to inform the Council's response to the Scottish Government's local governance review consultation, which will be considered by the Council at its meeting on 27 September 2018.

Discussion took place in respect of the level of participation at the events; public awareness and understanding of the Review and the difficulties faced in ensuring that all age groups and backgrounds are fairly represented.

The following link provides a short film which gave an insight to the sessions
https://youtu.be/M9TOi0lhs_o

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee:

1. agreed to note the content of the paper, the views expressed by local communities in relation to the local governance review consultation and provided feedback, as outlined above, in relation to the consultation; and
2. agreed to note that an overarching report which will contain a draft response to the Scottish Government consultation "Democracy Matters" will be submitted for consideration by the Council on the 27 September 2018.

(Reference: Report by Business Manager, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

6. CARE IN KINTYRE AND TRANSFORMATION

The Area Committee Manager advised that due to other work commitments the representative for the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) had been unable to attend, but had advised that the HSCP are progressing with a programme of transformational change in respect of the following services:-

1. Children's Services
2. Care Homes and Housing
3. Learning Disability Services
4. Community Model of Care
5. Mental Health Services
6. Primary Care Services
7. Hospital Services
8. Corporate Services

A draft of the care home and housing document, which is being led by Linda Currie, AHP lead for Argyll and Bute, was circulated for information.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee requested that an invite be extended to a representative from the HSCP to attend a future meeting of the Committee to provide further detail in respect of the transformational change programme.

7. AREA SCORECARD

The Committee gave consideration to a report presenting the Area Report and Scorecard for Financial Quarter 1 2018-19 (April-June 2018) illustrating the agreed performance measures, noting that the request from the last meeting of the Committee, for detail including the times and locations to be added to the Parking Penalty Notices information had been addressed by the responsible officer.

Discussion took place on a number of issues including the percentage of Community Council's with emergency plans; street lighting maintenance; cleanliness monitoring systems and staff absences. The Area Committee Manager agreed to feedback the issues raised to the Performance Management and Improvement Officer.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee:

1. agreed to note the performance presented on the Scorecard and supporting commentary;
2. agreed to the current level of data for PPNs and to contact the named responsible officer (Keith Tennant) with specific requests regarding further statistical information and background on the PPNs issued within the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands area;
3. agreed to note that work is ongoing and to respond to Sonya Thomas with requests or comments regarding the layout and format of the Report and Scorecard; and
4. agreed that Members should highlight specific issues and any further questions to the Area Committee Manager with a view to ensuring that appropriate officers would be in attendance at the next meeting of the Committee.

(Reference: Report by Performance and Improvement Officer, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

8. SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND

(a) Annual Monitoring Report for the 2017/18 Awards

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing monitoring information on the grants distributed through the Supporting Communities Fund 2017/18.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee:-

1. noted the positive contribution of the grants to community projects, detailed in section 4.1 and the attached table, within the report; and
2. noted the return of unspent funds in paragraph 4.4 of the report and agreed that these can be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2019/20.

(Reference: Report by Community Planning Manager, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

(b) Supporting Communities Fund 2018/19 Pilot Project

The Committee gave consideration to a presentation by Rick Rijdsdijk, Director, Social Value Lab on the evaluation of the SCF Participatory Budgeting Pilot.

Decision:

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the presentation and thanked Mr Rijdsdijk for the information provided.

(Reference: Presentation by Rick Rijdsdijk, Director, Social Value Lab, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

9. THE STRATEGIC HOUSING FUND AND THE STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing an update on the Strategic Housing Fund (SHF) expenditure since the start of the current Local Housing Strategy (LHS) in 2016 in relation to the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands area and which also gave details on the future commitments up to the end of the current LHS in 2021.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by Team Leader, East, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

10. ISLAY AND JURA ROAD TRAFFIC SPEEDS - BRIEFING NOTE

The Area Committee noted that there was no officer in attendance to speak to the briefing note.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee:

1. agreed to continue consideration of the item until the next meeting on 5 December 2018 when officers will be required to attend; and
2. requested that the Area Committee Manager liaise with the Traffic and Development Manager with a view to including information on the position on advisory signs in Craighouse where the speed limit is 60mph, in the report for the next meeting.

(Reference: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

11. INVERARAY CARS PROJECT

The Committee gave consideration to a report providing a review of the Inveraray Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS). Members noted that the project was completed on 31 March 2018 within budget and with all outputs met and that all funding had been secured from Historic Environment Scotland (HES).

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee:

1. welcomed the improvements that have been achieved through this project; and
2. recorded their appreciation to Historic Environment Scotland, Argyll Community Housing Association, the Inveraray CARS joint owners association, design teams and the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme Officer and his team.

(Reference: Report by Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) Officer, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

Councillor Donald MacMillan left the meeting at 12.43pm.

12. GM DUNCAN AND ANDREW GREENLEES TRUST

The Committee gave consideration to a report setting out the current arrangements for distribution of the GM Duncan bequest and the Andrew Greenlees Trust. Members noted that these arrangements required to be updated.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Customer Services in consultation with Ward 1 Members to amend the current application form and the criteria for award, taking into account recent changes to benefit amounts, whilst ensuring that the terms of the Bequest and Trust are met.

(Reference: Report by Area Committee Manager, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

13. CAMPBELTOWN CARS GRANT RECOMMENDATION REQUEST AND PROGRESS REPORT FOR PROJECT

(a) Report by Project Officer, Campbeltown

The Committee gave consideration to a report recommending grant awards for two building repair projects and which provided an update on the progress of the Campbeltown Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) Round 6.

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee noted the progress that has been made on the Campbeltown CARS Round 6 and agreed to award CARS grant funding up to:-

- a) £117,224.97 to the owners of 44 Main Street for repairs to the building; and
- b) £149,037.66 to the owners of 3 Longrow South.

(Reference: Report by Project Officer, Campbeltown, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

14. CAMPBELTOWN TOWN CENTRE

The Committee gave consideration to a report outlining future plans for Campbeltown town centre following the completion of the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS).

Decision:

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee:

- 1. noted the content of the report; and
- 2. requested that a report from the Area Action Property Group on the number of buildings within the town centre considered to be in a critical state be brought to the next meeting of the Area Committee for consideration.

(Reference: Report by Project Officer, Campbeltown, dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)

15. MAKI WORK PLAN

The Committee gave consideration to the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Workplan for September 2018.

Decision:

The Area Committee noted the Workplan.

(Reference: Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Workplan dated 5 September 2018, submitted.)