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MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE held in CRAIGNURE VILLAGE HALL, MULL on WEDNESDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2018

Present: Councillor Elaine Robertson (Chair)

Councillor Mary-Jean Devon
Councillor Kieron Green
Councillor Jim Lynch

Councillor Roderick McCuish
Councillor Sir Jamie McGrigor

Attending: Stuart McLean, Area Committee Manager
Stuart Green, Corporate Support Manager
Laura MacDonald, Community Development Officer
Rick Rijdsdijk, Social Value Lab

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated by Councillor Andrew Vennard.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Elaine Robertson declared a non-financial interest at item 10. Public Trust Funds Kilmore and Kilbride Fund citing her husband is a trustee of Friends of Kilbride.

4. MINUTES

(a) Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee 13th June 2018

The minute of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee held on the 13th June 2018 was approved as a correct record.

The Area Committee Manager informed the Committee that the remaining Oban Civic furniture had sold at auction. The proceeds would go to the Oban Common Good Fund.

(b) Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Planning Group 16th August 2018

The minute of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Planning Group held on 16th August 2018 was noted.

(c) **Oban Common Good Fund 30th August 2018**

The minute of the Oban Common Good Fund held on the 30th August 2018 was noted.

5. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Mull - Parking

Billy McClymont raised concerns regarding ongoing parking issues on Mull, he explained that there wasn't a sufficient amount of parking, tourists were having to park in unsuitable places, there was congestion at ferry times, the car park at Craignure needs cleared as there are abandoned vehicles/caravans currently sited on it, and the main street in Tobermory had no parking enforcement..

Andrena Duffin also raised concerns around parking particularly the number of coaches that can be on the island at any one time and the lack of suitable places to put them.

Brian Swinbanks provided the Committee with a copy of a report - 'Managing vehicles in and around Tobermory' for their information

Tobermoray Harbour - Railings

Brian Swinbanks informed the Committee that the railings at Tobermoray Harbour were over 100 years old and in a severe state of disrepair.

The Committee noted that the railings did require attention and that the formation of a community and council partnership could be a means of securing the necessary funding to upgrade the railings.

The Committee asked that their disappointment at the lack of attendance by a Roads representative be noted.

The Chair informed the committee the due to an ongoing restructure of the service there was a lack of personnel available to attend the meeting.

Councillor Devon provided the Committee with photographic evidence of the railings.

Brian Swinbanks provided the committee with a copy of a report 'Tobermory Storm Surge Flood Defence and Seawall Railings' for their information.

Strategic Investment for Regional Growth - Phase 6

Brian Swinbanks asked whether Phase Six of the Strategic Investment for Regional Growth was in the strategic plan. He also provided the Committee with a copy of a report 'Phase 6' for their information.

Councillor Robertson responded that there was now an officer seconded to work on the strategic framework but the Committee would seek clarification regarding the status of phase 6 from the responsible service and respond to Mr Swinbanks.

Lorry Parking

Elizabeth Ferguson raised concerns regarding the lack of suitable parking for commercial traffic and the impact this could have on commercial activity on Mull. The current lorry park is unsuitable, however removing it from commercial use would have a significant detrimental impact on the area.

Councillor McCuish explained that parking proposals were still at the consultation stage and that the results would be considered by Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee.

Broadband

Fiona Brown informed the Committee of the on-going issues regarding sourcing fibre broadband for some parts of Mull. Mrs Brown extended a public meeting invitation to the Area Committee for the 3rd October 2018 where discussions would take place regarding feasibility and funding for non-Scottish Government broadband schemes that were currently available.

The Area Committee noted the update and invitation to the meeting and also noted that Argyll and Bute Council could not support any shortfall in funding if the community were to invest in a private scheme.

Ferries

Naomi Knight raised concerns with the Committee regarding the current winter ferry timetable not meeting the needs of commercial premises and residents of Mull. Elizabeth Ferguson further explained the restraints around increasing the winter timetable which was mainly due to the unsuitability of the pier to moor a ferry their six nights a week.

The Area Committee acknowledged the impact the winter timetable had on the local community.

Health and Social Care Partnership

Billy McClymont expressed disappointment at the lack of officer representation from the Health and Social Care partnership. It was noted that an officer was due to attend but had submitted apologies that morning due to ill health.

The Committee noted that a recruitment process for a clinical lead in Mull was ongoing, with the expectation of someone in post by the end of October and that a recruitment process was also ongoing for a dentist position on the island.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Islands Area Committee:

1. Noted all information provided.
2. Noted that a parking consultation process was currently being undertaken.

3. Agreed to raise with officers the number of abandoned vehicles on Mull and the lack of enforcement action thereof.
4. Agreed to raise concerns around the Tobermory Harbour railings with officers.
5. Agreed to request a copy of the inspection report regarding the railings at Tobermory Harbour and circulate it to relevant community groups.
6. Agreed to raise with appropriate officers the condition of the Craignure Lorry Park and the feasibility of it being re-tarred to the appropriate thickness for commercial vehicles and lined as appropriate; and
7. Agreed to request a written update from the Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Manager and circulate to relevant community groups.

6. LOCALITY MANAGER INTRODUCTION AND UPDATE

Morven Gemill the new Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Manager had submitted apologies to the meeting that morning, therefore no update was provided and this item would now go to the December Area Committee meeting.

7. LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW - FEEDBACK FROM THE BIG LISTEN EVENTS IN OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES

The Committee considered a report and video by the Business Manager which set out the background, key themes and comments captured at the Big Listen events in Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

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.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee:-

1. Agreed to note the content of the paper and the view expressed by local communities in relation to the local governance review consultation.
2. Agreed to note that an overarching report setting out the key themes drawn from all the engagement events would be submitted to the Council on the 27th September 2018 to inform member's discussion.
3. Agreed to note that that a final response to the Scottish Government consultation Local Governance Review, taking into consideration members feedback in September, would be submitted to the Full Council on 29th November 2018 for its consideration and approval before submission to the Scottish Government before the deadline of 14 December 2018.

(Ref: Report by Business Manager, dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

8. PERFORMANCE REVIEW - AREA SCORECARD

The Committee considered a report on the Area Scorecard for financial quarter 1 of 2018-2019.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee:-

1. Noted the performance presented on the scorecard and supporting commentary; and
2. Agreed to note that work was ongoing and to respond to the Performance Management and Improvement Officer with requests or comments regarding the layout and format of the Report and Scorecard.

(Ref: Report by Performance and Improvement Officer dated 12th September 2018, submitted).

9. SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND

(a) Monitoring of Support Communities Fund 2017/2018

The Committee considered a report that provided monitoring information on the grants distributed through the Supporting Communities Fund 2017/2018.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee:-

1. Noted the positive contribution of the grants to community projects, detailed in the report.
2. Noted the return of unspent funds totalling £750 from 1st Oban Boys Brigade; and
3. Agreed the carry forward £2,550 allocated to Appin Community Development Trust.

(Ref: Report and video by Business Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

(b) Evaluation of the Supporting Communities Fund Participatory Budgeting Pilot

The Committee considered 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 Rijsdijk for the information provided.

(Ref: Presentation by Social Value Lab dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

10. APPOINTMENT TO THE CATHERINE MCCAIG TRUST

The Committee considered the appointment of an Elected Member to be one of the three Council representatives on the Catherine McCaig Trust.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee agreed to contact the Catherine McCaig Trust advising them that the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee were not in a position to appoint a third Council representatives at this time.

(Ref: Report by Area Committee Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

11. NEW SCHOOLS REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT OBAN HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

The Committee considered a progress update report on the Council's Schools Redevelopment Project in partnership with hubNorth Scotland Ltd to build a new secondary school in Oban.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Report by Special Projects & Quality Improvement Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

12. MULL PARKING

The Committee considered a briefing note which provided further information and timescales on the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process with particular regard to the Mull off-street parking TRO.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Briefing note by Traffic and Development Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

13. GANAVAN CAR PARK AND SURROUNDING AREA

The Committee considered a briefing note that highlighted the work being undertaken to address concerns that were raised by the Area Committee in relation to Ganavan Car Park and the surrounding amenity area.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Briefing note by Traffic and Development Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

14. OBAN HARBOUR UPDATE

The Committee considered a briefing note and appended report that detailed the decision of Harbour Board at its meeting on 6th September 2018 concerning the ongoing discussions around establishing a harbour authority.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the briefing note and appended report.

(Ref: Briefing note by Marine Operations Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

15. LORN ARC UPDATE REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

The Committee considered a report on the progress of the Oban Airport Business Park development and Kirk Road, Dunbeg road upgrade within the Lorn Arc programme.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Report by Head of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

16. AREA COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

The Committee considered the Oban, Lorn and the Isles workplan for September 2018 to June 2019 inclusive.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the Oban, Lorn and the Isles workplan.

(Ref: Oban, Lorn and the Isles Workplan dated 12th September 2018, submitted).

The Chair ruled, and the Committee agreed to vary the order of business and consider the report by the Senior Solicitor as the last item during the public session.

Councillor Robertson having declared a non-financial interest left the room and took no part in the discussion of item 10. Public Trust Funds Kilmore and Kilbride Fund. Councillor McCuish took the Chair.

17. PUBLIC TRUST FUNDS KILMORE AND KILBRIDE FUND

The Committee considered a report advising Members of a request to transfer funds held in respect of grass cutting at Kilmore and Kilbride cemetery by Friends of Kilmore, a registered charity.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee:

1. Considered and noted the contents of the report and;
2. Agreed to recommend to full council that a resolution be made to transfer funds held in respect of Kilmore and Kilbride to Friends of Kilmore.

(Ref: Report by Senior Solicitor date 12th September 2018, submitted)

Councillor Robertson returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public for the following items of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 4, 6, 8 & 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

18. FORMER KERRERA PRIMARY SCHOOL PROPOSED SALE TO ISLE OF KERRERA DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The Committee considered a report which detailed a proposal to sell the former Kerrera Primary School to Isle of Kerrera Development Trust.

Decision

The Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the report and that a report would be considered at full Council on the 27th September 2018.

(Ref: Report by Special Projects & Quality Improvement Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

19. EXTENSION OF LEASE AT 43 STEVENSON STREET, OBAN TO BID4OBAN

The Committee considered a report requesting an extension of a lease at 43 Stevenson Street, Oban.

Decision

The Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted the contents of the report and that a report would be considered at full Council on the 27th September 2018.

(Ref: Report by Special Projects & Quality Improvement Manager dated 12th September 2018, submitted)

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