

**Minutes of the HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP meeting  
held in the GIBSON HALL, GARELOCHHEAD  
on THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2019 at 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT**

<b>Laura Cameron (Vice Chair)</b>	
Mandy Crosslaw, Garelochhead Community Council	Nicola Reaney, Argyll & Bute Council
Theresa Correia, Scottish Enterprise	Barbara Warren, Helensburgh Community Council
Councillor Lorna Douglas, Argyll & Bute Council	Morevain Martin, Garelochhead Station Trust
Christine Woods, Helensburgh Community Council	Sephton MacQuire, Dunbritton Housing Association
Mary Gray, Garelochhead Community Council	Samantha Somers, Argyll & Bute Council
Craig McNally, Health and Social Care Partnership	Roddy MacNeill, Police Scotland
Tom O'Brien-Barden, Rosneath and Clynder Community Council	Colin Crichton, Live Argyll
Allan Comrie, SPT	Eileen Kay, Argyll & Bute Council
Ryan Thomson, Helensburgh Youth Forum	Steph Thomas, Argyll & Bute Council
<b>In attendance:</b> Marion Archard, Public David Archard, Public Zoe Walsh, Park Mobility Hugh Young, Park Mobility Andrew Galloway, Helensburgh Advertiser	

**WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from :-

Stuart McLean, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Chair  
Councillor Ellen Morton

Laura Cameron welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

**1. MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP HELD ON THE 7TH FEBRUARY 2019 (Pages**

The minutes were approved.

**2. CPP FULL PARTNERSHIP**

Samantha Somers, Community Planning Officer gave an update to the group on the CPP Full Partnership held in the newly refurbished Queens Hall, Dunoon on 28 March 2019. Due to the CPP Full Partnership event there was no CPP Management Committee meeting held in March.

Instead of distributing a paper update on the event a video montage was shown, created by the Community Planning Team with photos from the event. Each ACPG chair gave a presentation on the day, which was well received. Community groups were also well represented at the event and the event was facilitated on the day by the Head Boy and Head Girl from Dunoon Grammar School who also gave the key note address. Pupils from Dunoon Grammar also provided some catering on the day and provided musical entertainment during lunch.

Sephton MacQuire noted to the group that it had been a great event, with the pupils giving a great performance on the day.

### **3. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING ACTION PLAN**

Samantha Somers explained that the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2017 required all ACPGs to produce locality plans. Helensburgh and Lomond has completed this process by looking at the Place Standard Tool in 2017 and creating area actions for 3 years. The Place Standard consultation is currently live again and will formulate actions for the next three years. All groups are encouraged to complete the survey which can be found on the Consultations page of the council website. If any groups need support or information on this they can contact Samantha Somers or Kirsty Moyes, Community Development Officer for Helensburgh & Lomond. It was noted that Helensburgh Community Council are producing their own community-led action plan and that the Community Planning team have asked to work with them to prevent any duplication of approach.

Updates on actions were given, noting that 3 are not on track, 6 are on track and 1 is complete. The actions not on track are (i) Working with the Local Community regarding the retail and local business offering in Helensburgh. There had been confusion on who is leading this action as and what the focus of the work should be, (ii) Kilcreggan speed detection equipment. There has been no response from the council department that deals with this to find out when this has been programmed in to the timetable. It is a council road (not BEAR) therefore council equipment needs to be used. Police Scotland have worked with areas in the past to provide, and this may be a way forward if the council are unable to provide within a reasonable timeframe, (iii) Arrochar. Concern from community as to who is leading on this and where the action came from. The Chair and Vice Chair are holding a meeting with the local community on 21 May to try and resolve the outstanding issues.

### **4. COMMUNITY FOCUS**

**Garelochhead Station Trust** – A presentation was given by Morevain Martin giving the background of the trust and current activities. Initially, the Kilmarnock Station Trust approached them to see if there was any desire to use the unused station buildings in Garelochhead. Community consultation events were held on potential usage of the station. One of the main findings noted that veterans and veterans' spouses formed a large part of those responding to the consultation. There is a large Naval Base nearby yet no military support in the village. A needs analysis was then carried out by Morevain and the responses showed that while the station building is lovely, there is nothing to do inside when trains are stopped there.

Kilmarnock Station was noted as good example as it has electric bikes, a restaurant and a sewing group available at their station (which is much bigger) and is used to deliver many services to the community.

As noted, there are not services or feed in to the Naval Base from local villages. The nearest veterans project is in Dumbarton, which only operates 3 half days per week and is primarily focussed as a museum and collecting artefacts. The nearest Royal British Legion is in Clydebank or Paisley. There is no local support for veterans. The Mental Health Report on the Armed Forces from the House of Commons states that in 2018, 71 serving personnel or veterans took their own life. The report highlights that mental health support available to personnel, veterans and families is failing. There is a definite need in communities to support, and address, that need. The Trust has negotiated with the NHS to deliver an ASIST suicide prevention course in July – the response to which was so great that the course registration was full by May 2019. Additional meditation and relaxation groups are scheduled for June and the first 6 week mindfulness course has recently completed - this course was full and the feedback was excellent showing it had made a huge difference to those who attended. The trust are happy to work with other veterans groups and have visited and worked in partnership the War Blind Centre in Paisley. The Trust offer activities for veterans and their families such as the Brunch Club – where veterans can talk and are offered support in an open environment.

Future plans for the Trust include offering services to those about to leave the military and they have been working with Learning Development Centre in Faslane to offer a 12 week course for those about to leave, targeting them and their families. Skills offered will include relaxation, basic cookery and basic budgeting (like paying and registering for council tax). The Trust are also working with the Citizens Advice Bureau to provide additional support.

Veterans have skills that the wider community can benefit from and the group is not just for veterans as a wide range of ages are supported (veterans and family members aged from 10 – 94 are currently being supported). For more information Morevain can be contacted on [morevain@ksrht.org](mailto:morevain@ksrht.org) or 07541 777559.

Morevain offered and open invitation to the group to attend the Trusts D-Day celebration which starts at 1030 in the Gibson Hall on 6 June. There is also a new mindfulness course starting on 22 May and 2 “heart start” courses are being held on 16 May (one at 7pm) which all are welcome to attend, as well as coming along to one of the Tuesday Brunch sessions to see what goes on.

Craig McNally from the Argyll & Bute Alcohol and Drug Partnership asked Morevain to look at how they can link in and work with the group going forward. The Vice Chair thanked Morevain for her presentation.

**Park Mobility** - Hugh Young from Park Mobility gave a presentation on how access to mobility scooters was introduced in Kelvingrove Park to tackle barriers faced by the disabled in accessing park areas. Inspiration for the idea came from the Canary Islands which offers free use of electric mobility scooters. As not everyone has the ability to purchase, charge or store an electric scooter, the group looks to provide free use of electric mobility scooters in areas that may have previously been inaccessible to the disabled. The service is free to use, with just a membership or day pass required. Young people have been engaged in other areas to help

them learn transferable skills to make them more employable, socially aware and increase communication skills. The service therefore supports the community elderly and young people.

The group are keep to try to roll this out in Helensburgh and the surrounding areas (noting that as Council funding is limited to support this, it would need to be self-sustaining). Scooters would allow those with limited mobility to access areas like the Helensburgh sea front and Hermitage Park. The group are looking to Sustrans and National Lottery for potential funding support. They are also investigating a potential community asset transfer (at early stages) for the Helensburgh Pier head toilets, adding turnstile access to collect funds and possible shell fish bar. They would also look to local businesses to sponsor scooters and potentially provide employment opportunities for the youth supporting the service.

Whilst attendees on the whole felt this scheme could have a great positive impact in the area there were concerns raised regarding pavement suitability in some areas (Clynder) and access to charging points. The group advised that the intention would be to have charging points manned to assist users and they could look to see if existing electric car charging points could be utilised. The group have also approached the Hermitage Park Development Officer.

It was noted that Buchlivie and Pitlochry have turnstile toilets which are owned by community groups which are used to sustain activities in the area. They could be approached to assist the Park Mobility scheme expand in Helensburgh area.

Colin Crichton from LiveArgyll is happy to discuss further with Park Mobility to see what actions can be taken forward. They noted that their apprentices could potentially be involved moving forward.

### **Updates from Community Groups within the H&L area**

Garelochhead Community Council – Have not met for some time but have a meeting scheduled in w/c 13 May. No update on actions available.

Helensburgh Community Council – Helensburgh has no Community Emergency Plan and this is being pursued. The CC has engaged with Susan Donnelly, Civil Contingencies Manager. It should be noted that this is a community-led emergency plan and that statutory agencies have appropriate plans in place. Samantha advised that Ready Scotland have household guides on how to prepare for emergencies. These could all be used to create a specific H&L plan. Helensburgh CC asked for this matter to be added to the Action Plan. It was also noted that the Vision for Helensburgh Group (VFHG) has some crossover with Making Places however the VFHG are looking for a much wider response group. Once they have the responses the results will be shared.

Rosneath & Clynder Community Council – Noted issues and concern regarding trying to encourage new people in the community to join the Community council and participate in activities and achieving aims. It was noted that the Community Council were looking at becoming more active in social media and using Facebook or advertising more. It was noted that there is no youth engagement at present with the CC. Some local concerns were the need for more play areas, speeding, the state of roads to Kilcreggan and Garelochhead and the management on green

spaces, the latter of which it is felt the council and housing associations are not doing as much as is required as wild areas are developing that need control and footpaths are in a poor state (noting the paths in Clynder are especially bad). Graveyard management has also been raised with the council. Progress is beginning to be made in some areas.

Sephton MacQuarrie noted that the Dunbritton grounds should be up to date. Tom O'Brien-Barden asked to speak with Sephton privately after the meeting regarding some specific grounds issues.

Succoth Housing Association – Sephton MacQuarrie advised the group that the official opening of this development was 2 weeks ago.

**5. ARGYLL AND BUTE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2013-2023: LINKS TO OUTCOME 5 (PEOPLE LIVE ACTIVE, HEALTHIER AND INDEPENDENT LIVES) AND OUTCOME 6 (PEOPLE LIVE IN SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES)**

Health and Wellbeing Annual Update - Craig McNally, Health and Social Care Partnership gave an update on the Health and Wellbeing Network and its links to the CPP. It was noted that there was currently a survey live looking at how best to link Community Planning to the Health and Wellbeing Networks and all were encouraged to respond.

Sephton asked whether Argyll and Bute Care and Repair have been approached to join the local Health and Wellbeing Network. Samantha said that she would pass on the contact details to the local Health and Wellbeing Network coordinator.

Police Scotland Update - Roddy MacNeill advised that it is business as usual in the area. Police representatives are trying to get out to as many community council meetings as possible, resource dependant. There has been joint input with MoD Police to community councils to discuss issues regarding use of drones and no fly zones in the area.

There is a new traffic plan to implement next year in Luss regarding parking and the group were advised about an ongoing operation which is a multi-agency approach in the national parks concentrating on Luss and the A82.

Police Service Youth Volunteers will have their passing out parade in a couple of weeks. They have events planned for the summer including a parade into the H&L Highland Games on 1 June and attending the Saltine Cup at Gleneagles. The youth are enjoying their involvement.

Speeding locations – many have been identified in the area and officers are being trained to address this. The speed detection van has been deployed in Cardross and Arrochar, however this can only be deployed based on crash statistics so it is difficult to direct this to specific areas on demand. There have been community speed watch enquiries from Rosneath and Cardross. The equipment needed has to be purchased by the local community yet it cannot guarantee income through collection of fines. The Police speed gun is being deployed in the area when resources allow. The dual carriageway at Hermitage Academy, Cardross and Arrochar were identified as known speeding hotspots.

Friends of Hermitage Park have contacted the Police to provide a presence in the park to deter youth gatherings. Police know that Hermitage Park is a problem area and a plan is in place for the police to be there as much as they can. The local police are very busy as they are first responders in the area. The police advised that they do use social media to advise the community of any traffic issues and that they could look to use the same channels to advise when police will be present in specific areas to act as a deterrent. Police may tie in with ACHA to advise residents that it can affect tenancy if children of tenants are identified in poor youth behaviour.

Neighbourhood watch – Helensburgh use social media to update issue to residents. They continue to tie in with Trading Standards, Dumbarton and have recently completed spot-checks on paperwork for building services provided in the area. An article is to be put in the local paper this week regarding this. Rural Watch can be used to alert residents to specific threats in their area and all were encouraged to sign up to it.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Update – as there was no representative from Fire and Rescue available their update will be provided at a later meeting.

## **7. PARTNER UPDATES**

Modern Apprentices – The youth forum raised over £1000 participating in the Glasgow Kiltwalk. 10 young people walked from Clydebank to Balloch. They plan to use this money to provide 3 different Fire Skills week long courses. The course allows young people to experience what life as a firefighter is like and to learn outside a school setting. Building confidence and skills. 12 young people attended the first course in May 19. They are continuing the youth volunteer work by gardening in Hermitage Park and at Robin House and by helping out at the Helensburgh Foodbank. Morevain Martin said the youth forum made such a difference at the Foodbank volunteer day and passed on great thanks from the Foodbank.

Helensburgh & Lomond Community Learning – H&L will have 2 full time community learning workers and one half post for literacy. There will no longer be separate adult and youth service, and the posts will work across all ages. This is an exciting time with opportunities to expand work across community groups for learning and development. Eileen Kay is happy to chat with the Rosneath & Clynder CC to assist them in engaging youth in that area.

SPT – Allan Comrie advised that the Strathclyde transport consultation has now completed. If there are any local matters arising in the draft strategy he will feed this back to the group. He advised the group that HI-TRANS had been approached regarding the feasibility of creating a rail stop near the Naval Base at Faslane. It was noted that the study is at a very early stage and only looking at the existing rail network, number of possible users, potential site of station and traffic management.

## **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019 from 1000 in the Osprey Suite of the Commodore Hotel.