Update from:- Blairmore Village Trust & Blairmore Hall Trust Prepared for Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group (4th Feb 2020)

1. Joint Statement of Intent

For a number of years, community developments in Blairmore have been blighted with difficulties in forming a collaborative approach, to the development of community owned assets (land and buildings). Following support from **A&B TSI** in the Spring of 2019, the two Trusts with overlapping responsibilities have more recently been able to forge a positive pathway. This has resulted in the creation of a **Joint Statement of Intent** (attached). We are all delighted to have made this breakthrough, and are now making great strides forward.

Each of the two Trusts have major strategic developments, which are inter-linked.* As part of the new Joint Strategy Meetings we have agreed to combine the planning of those developments and take a co-ordinated approach to **community engagement**, progressing in a united way.

*BVT is progressing the outcome of the Charette process in 2014, including the creation of self-catering holiday lets, public toilets, car and coach parking and Blairmore Gardens. With the aid of grant funding from LLTNP, the architects design options are imminent; to be further consulted on.

*BHT has a need to upgrade and expand the facilities at Blairmore Hall, including accessibility, kitchen, toilets, heating, lighting etc. There is a concern about the long-term future of the Hall, which has listed status, if this work is not carried out in a timely fashion.

2. Place Standard

Following a period of research, the group has decided to utilise the **Place Standard** toolkit to help address the engagement and dialogue needed across the community of Blairmore. Those who use these local facilities will also be included.

In December we made a simultaneous approach to **Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park** and **A&BC Community Planning & Development**, to request guidance and expertise to assist us in the use of the Place Standard. In response, this has led to the offer of support from two officers from the Park (Fiona Jackson & Kirsty Sweeney, Community Planning). And although it wasn't possible for anyone from the A&BC team to directly assist; their efforts through Sharon MacDonald, resulted in the offer of support from Sam Whitmore, Senior Health Improvement Officer with **NHS Scotland**.

Through dialogue, it was recommended that we form a small **Steering Group** to plan the implementation of the Place Standard. This group will hold its first meeting on **24**th **February 2020** and will include two members from each Trust and the NHS and Park advisers. It is hoped that we will make rapid progress, and be in a position to start the process of engagement during the Spring.

3. Year of Coasts and Water 2020 (YCW2020)

As a community, Blairmore will be engaging in series of events throughout the summer and Autumn to celebrate YCW2020. Integral to our celebrations will be the **165**th **anniversary of Blairmore Pier** in July. PS Waverley is due to return to Blairmore in May and will mark our start of the YCW2020 events; building up to the pier's **165**th anniversary at the end of July. This will culminate in Waverley's final visit of the season in October. This programme of events will be undertaken jointly and will aim to include as many other groups and agencies as can be encouraged.

Joint Statement of Intent

between

Blairmore Hall Trust Scottish Registered Charity SC043493

and

Blairmore Village Trust Community Interest Company SC326190

1. Introduction

Blairmore Hall Trust (BHT) and Blairmore Village Trust (BVT) are individually responsible for neighbouring sites within Blairmore, both of which are managed as assets available for the benefit of the community.

It is considered beneficial for the two organisations to work more closely together to maximise the benefit delivered to the community which both serve.

While recognising that the overall objectives of BHT and BVT have much in common, they have each travelled a different route to arrive at this point. The different organisational structures and legal status of the two Trusts reflects the different nature of each organisation. Under the existing structure, each organisation remains independently responsible for the day to day management of their own affairs.

Through co-operation, we are committed to developing an integrated strategy for future development.

2. Undertaking

- 1. The two organisations will meet quarterly as a minimum. This will take the form of Joint Strategy Meetings (JSM). Terms of Reference will be developed at the inaugural meeting.
- 2. The two organisations will share financial information. They will determine use of resources and co-ordinate activity relating to strategic projects as agreed at the Joint Strategy Meetings.
- 3. All external communications regarding joint discussions and activities must be by prior mutual agreement.

3. Development

This document was initially developed at a meeting of Blairmore Hall Trust and Blairmore Village Trust held on Sunday 15th September 2019. Following a further period of reflection and consideration, this final version was presented to a joint meeting of both Trusts on 3rd November 2019 and endorsed by all as set out below.

4. Declaration of Acceptance

On 3rd November 2019, we the undersigned, being the full and complete Committee/Board have duly considered, agreed and endorsed the spirit and content of this 'Joint Statement of Intent'; we offer our individual and collective commitment to use our best endeavours to ensure its implementation in the spirit intended. This commitment will remain valid until altered at a Joint Strategy Meeting.

Blairmore Hall Trust Jean Christie	Blairmore Village Trust
Florence Fletcher	Laura Farina
	Agnes Harvey
Jim King	Gordon Holm
Pat Lynn	Margaret Le May Malcolm Le May
Catherine Rae	
Sue Rule	Catherine Rae
Victor Sandall	Anne Stephenson
Brian Shewry	Anne Stephenson
Barry Thomson	
Emily Wallace	