

**MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held in the  
TIMBER PIER BUILDING, DUNOON  
on TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2020**

**Present:** Cathleen Russell, Colglen Community Council (Chair)  
Willie Lynch, Dunoon Community Council (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Bobby Good - Argyll and Bute Council  
Councillor Jim Anderson - Argyll and Bute Council  
Councillor Jean Moffat - Argyll and Bute Council  
Stuart McLean - Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council  
Samantha Somers - Community Planning Officer, Argyll and Bute Council  
Chief Inspector Douglas Wilson - Police Scotland  
Rodden Shaw – Rural Watch Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
Lorna Whyte – Area Manager – Bute & Cowal, Live Argyll  
Jim McLuckie – Colglen Community Council  
Kirsty Reid – Strachur Community Council  
Iain McNaughton – Sandbank Community Council  
Maggie Clark - Health Improvement Lead, Health & Social Care Partnership  
Sharon Macdonald – Community Development Officer  
John Weir - Bute Business Improvement District  
Gail Lawrence – Dunoon Observer  
Agnes Harvey - Blairmore Village Trust  
Catherine Ray – Blairemore Community Council  
Yolanda Shoemake – Dunoon Presents  
Gavin Dick – Dunoon Project

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

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

The Community Planning Officer sought and received confirmation from the Group that they consented for Group photographs to be taken for marketing purposes.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Audrey Forrest and Councillor Jim Findlay.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**3. MINUTES**

**(a) Meeting of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group held on Tuesday 5 November 2019**

The minute of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group meeting held on Tuesday 5 November 2019 was approved as a correct record.

**4. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

**(a) Annual Update of Terms of Reference, Membership and Future Meeting Dates**

The Group considered a report which asked them to confirm the governance

arrangements of the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group (Area CPG) specifically the Terms of Reference, membership and future meeting dates.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. considered and adopted the Terms of Reference as submitted in the report (Appendix 1) and agreed that these be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure their ongoing currency and appropriateness for the work of the Area CPG as it develops over time;
2. considered and agreed the membership of the group as submitted in the report (Appendix 2) subject to further nominations being submitted following a social media campaign;
3. agreed that the membership of the group be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure currency and appropriateness for the work of the group as it develops over time; and
4. agreed the meeting schedule and dates submitted the report.

(Reference: Report by Governance Manager, dated 4 February 2020, submitted)

## **5. ARGYLL AND BUTE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2013-2023 - OUTCOME 1 (THE ECONOMY IS DIVERSE AND THRIVING)**

### **(a) Dunoon Presents - Quarterly Project Progress Report and 2020 Event Dates**

The Group gave consideration to a report which documented the progress of various activities hosted by Dunoon Presents. In addition to this Yolanda Shoemake tabled a calendar of events for 2020. Ms Shoemake highlighted to the Group that some of the events for this year have been extended such as the Dunoon Dazzles Winterfest which is now held over 2 days and how they are using the geography of the area to its advantage by offering events in cycling, fishing, quad biking, mountain biking, running and triathlons. They also are aiming to get children involved in events they are perhaps not in a position to do otherwise such as sailing.

Discussion focused around how the Police Youth Volunteers are available to marshal events and how to promote school engagement which fits in with the health and wellbeing agenda of the Health and Social Care Partnership.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. considered and noted the information provided; and
2. invited Dunoon Presents to return to a future meeting to update the Group.

(Reference: Report by Yolanda Shoemake, dated 19 December 2019, submitted and tabled)

(b) **Bute Business Improvement District**

The Group gave consideration to a presentation from John Weir, Bute Business Improvement District (BID).

Mr Weir explained to the Group that the BID application was at the consultation stage with 128 businesses on Bute having received questionnaires, 71 of which were sent to people living off Bute who have businesses based there. The current return rate of questionnaires was 70% (the BID response rate is ordinarily between 35-40%).

He said that after receiving a high response rate to those invited to join the BID group, they now have 12 very committed and determined people selected to take the BID forward.

Mr Weir explained that he is hopeful that pontoons and moorings will be installed which will help attract the yachting fraternity. He explained that talks were underway with Majestic Line and the Hebridean Princess around usage of the pontoons with the possibility of coaches to meet and greet people offering tours. The Group noted that the website [www.isleofbutebid.co.uk](http://www.isleofbutebid.co.uk) was a work in progress.

Discussion focused around travel connectivity and how the 'brand' for Bute could be explored through improved marketing.

**Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. thanked Mr Weir for the informative presentation and noted the information provided in the presentation; and
2. invited Bute BID to return to a future meeting to update the Group.

(Reference: presentation by John Weir, Bute Business Improvement District, dated 4 February 2020)

(c) **Dunoon Project**

The Group gave consideration to a tabled report from Gavin Dick outlining the vision of the Dunoon Project and how it aims to attract visitors, create employment and boost the wider local economy by owning and managing the Corlarach Forest.

Mr Dick spoke to the report and the Group noted that the next drop-in event will be held on 25 February 2020 and it is hoped that the land will be purchased by the end of the year.

Discussion focused on how Dunoon Community Council support the project and how the Group would encourage other community councils to write to Helen Dick to offer their support also.

**Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. thanked Mr Dick for the informative presentation and noted the information provided in the presentation;
2. support the aims and objectives of the Dunoon Project to attract visitors, create employment and boost the wider local economy; and
3. invited the Dunoon Project to return to a future meeting of the Group to provide an update.

(Reference: Report by Gavin Dick, Dunoon Project, dated 20 January 2020, tabled)

## **6. ARGYLL AND BUTE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2013 - 2023 - OUTCOME 5 (PEOPLE LIVE ACTIVE, HEALTHIER AND MORE INDEPENDENT LIVES)**

### **(a) Outcome 5 - Progress Report**

Consideration was given by the Group to a report which provided an update about Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) health and wellbeing activity during 2019. The progress update was in relation to Outcome 5 of Argyll and Bute's Community Plan which aims to enable people to lead active, healthier and independent lives.

Maggie Clark, Health Improvement Lead, HSCP tabled a Living Well Strategy Summary leaflet which provided a general approach to living well via self-management.

Discussion focused on the current lack of support groups in the Cowal area for Cancer patients and how it is aimed to be addressed in the 5 year action plan and how the timings of HSCP public meetings need to consider availability of people in employment.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. noted the contents of the report; and
2. agreed local actions to be delivered under the new outcome 5 actions.

(Reference: Report by Alison McGrory, Health Improvement Principal, Argyll and Bute HSCP, dated 4 February 2020, submitted and tabled)

At this point in the meeting the Chair ruled and the Group agreed to take item 7 (b) - Partner's Update (Live Argyll) out of sequence in order to assist the early departure of attendees who had a significant distance to travel.

## **7. PARTNERS UPDATE**

### **(a) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Cowal, Isle of Bute and Dunoon - FQ3: 1 October 2019 to 15 December 2019**

A report highlighting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) FQ3 review of

local performance within Cowal, Isle of Bute and Dunoon for 2019-20 was considered by the Group.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group reviewed and noted the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by Watch Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, submitted)

## **(b) Opportunity for verbal updates by Community Planning Partners**

### **Live Argyll**

Lorna Whyte updated the Group on the significant activities of Live Argyll which included that staff training in cancer rehabilitation has been completed; ordinance survey maps have been purchased to promote map reading and route planning skills; Bookbug is now open at weekends; Rothesay pool has a swimathon coming up; commencement of leisure staff training and teaching coaching skills; halls are open to events for all ages groups; working with active school coordinators apprenticeships for leisure and sport work are available; talks are in place with community groups to discuss how care home and shelter housing users can access leisure facilities; leisure memberships are up 90% from 2018-2019 as they are more affordable and the investment in new equipment has seen gym usage up over 50%; and Library book issues are above the national average.

### **Police Scotland**

Douglas Wilson, Chief Inspector, Police Scotland explained to the Group that the contact call handling assessment was up and running in the area which had highlighted that Officer attendance was not always required. Positive feedback had been received particularly around diary appointments for non-urgent calls. He highlighted that speeding was still an issue and the Group noted Simon Shanks is the new inspector hoping to start at the end of February.

## **8. COMMUNITY FOCUS**

### **(a) Blairmore Village Trust**

The Group gave consideration to a report tabled by Agnes Harvey, Blairmore Village Trust noting that the Blairmore Hall Trust and Blairmore Village Trust have now formalised a collaborative way of working.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group thanked Ms Harvey for the informative presentation and noted the information provided in the presentation.

(Reference: Report by Agnes Harvey, Blairmore Village Trust, dated 4 February 2020, tabled)

### **(b) Loch Lomond and Cowal Way**

The Group gave consideration to a presentation from Jim McLuckie, Loch Lomond and Cowal Way. Mr McLuckie explained that Colglen Community was a small but widely spread community which faces many geographical difficulties yet despite this they have run several successful projects such as Warmer Colglen (which was a home heating survey), Greener Colglen (which saw the installation of polly-tunnels) and they are currently considering a renewable energy project and exploring options as to how to improve broadband. On a larger scale Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust took out a loan to purchase Stronafian Forrest and then leased part of the forest for 99 years to pay back the loan.

The Group heard that the Loch Lomond and Cowal Way (LLCW) runs from Portavadie to Inverlus covering 5 communities and their respective community councils and development trusts. Mr McLuckie explained how the Colglen Community Council were able to secure funding of £700K from the Coastal Communities Fund which allowed them to employ a Ranger and a Marketing Manager for 4 years. Their contracts have now expired as the funding has run-out but the Ranger remain employed via contract.

Mr McLuckie showed photographs to the Group of the LLCW explaining that it is 57 miles in total and showcased the upgrade path. He explained that using people counters they discovered that the LLCW had brought £500,000 into the Cowal economy and that they hope to add to this by offering tour guides and to link up with a luggage handling business in Strachur.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group thanked Mr McLuckie for the informative presentation and noted the information provided in the presentation.

(Reference: presentation by Jim McLuckie, Loch Lomond and Cowal Way, dated 4 February 2020)

## **9. HIGHLIGHTS FROM COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Group considered a briefing note which related to the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee held on Wednesday 4 December 2019 where issues raised by the Area Community Planning Group Chairs was considered.

### **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Community Planning Manager dated 4 February 2020, submitted)

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

### **(a) Area Community Planning Action Plan Tracker**

The Community Planning Officer outlined the engagement plan for the next iteration of the tracker and took the Group through the progress of actions currently identified on the Area Community Planning Action Plan tracker.

## **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. noted the information provided;
2. agreed to keep BC02 classed as 'not on track';
3. agreed to reclassify BC04, BC06 and BC07 as 'on track'; and
4. agreed to remove Dunoon Community Council from BC01.

(Reference: Report by Area Community Planning Manager, dated 4 February 2020, submitted)

### **(b) Results of Place Standard Analysis and Engagement**

The Community Planning Officer updated the Group on the results of the Place Standard Analysis and Engagement Consultation which aimed to gauge an understanding of the place respondents live in with the results feeding into the CPP Management plan and area plans.

The Group noted that a total of 1548 responses had been received which is triple the number of response from the previous exercise and that the analysis and suggested actions for improvement under each outcome would be available to the public by the end of February 2020.

The main issues for the Bute and Cowal area were discovered to be;

1. issues surrounding employment in the local area;
2. public transport; and
3. influence and sense of control.

The Group noted that the CPP Management Committee plan to look at the actions identified in March and to host a half day workshop with partners in May (date to be confirmed).

## **Decision**

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group noted the information provided.

(Reference: Verbal update by Community Planning Officer dated 4 February 2020)

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group would take place at 10.00am on Tuesday 5 May 2020 at Eaglesham House, Rothesay.