

Management Committee

Date: 11 March 2020

Agenda Item:



Area Community Planning Groups

1. Purpose

This paper presents key matters arising during the Area Community Planning Group meetings held in February 2020. These meetings looked at a range of local and strategic matters in respect of the outcomes within the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan.

2. Recommendations

The Management Committee is asked to:

- a) note the Highlights detailed at 4.0,
- b) consider the request by the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Community Planning Group for support in enhancing the reliability of the Video Conferencing/Lync equipment,
- c) note that a multi-agency meeting, led by the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, would be held within Oban, Lorn and the Isles to discuss the increase in drug related challenges for young people,
- d) consider what assistance can be provided to encourage representatives from the MOD to attend the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group; and
- e) note that concerns were raised during the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group regarding the parking charges in Arrochar and the potential for the negative economic effect this could have on the area.

3.0 Background

There are four Area Community Planning Groups, one in each of the Council's administrative areas (Bute and Cowal; Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands;

Helensburgh and Lomond; and Oban Lorn and the Isles). In accordance with decisions made by the Management Committee in June 2017 the groups are supported by staff from the community planning and community development team in all areas, with administrative and governance support for meetings provided by the Committee Services team in Bute and Cowal, Mid Argyll, Kintyre & the Islands and Oban Lorn & The Isles, and by Scottish Fire and Rescue and Police Scotland in Helensburgh and Lomond.

Area Community Planning Groups meet quarterly to discuss issues of importance relevant to the delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) at a local level.

4.0 Highlights

All groups considered:

- Governance Arrangements.
- The Area Community Planning Action Plan – Tracker.
- CPP Management Committee Update.
- Results of Place Standard Analysis and Engagement.

Highlights from specific meetings were as follows:

Bute & Cowal

The Group welcomed Dunoon Presents to the meeting. Yolanda Shoemake tabled a calendar of events for 2020 and highlighted to the Group that some of the events for this year had been extended such as the Dunoon Dazzles Winterfest which would now be held over 2 days. She also explained how they were using the geography of the area to its advantage by offering events in cycling, fishing, quad biking, mountain biking, running and triathlons.

In response to the presentation by Ms Shoemake the Group agreed, when considering the Action Plan Tracker, to re-profile BC04 which relates to local businesses reaching out to markets, from not on track to on track.

John Weir, Bute Business Improvement District (BID), explained to the Group that the BID application was at the consultation stage with 128 businesses on Bute having received questionnaires and that the current return rate of questionnaires was 70%. He said that after receiving a high response rate, they now have 12 very committed and determined people selected to take the BID forward.

Mr Weir explained that he hoped that pontoons and moorings would be installed which would 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 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 reported that it is hoped that the land required would be secured by the end of the year. The CPG confirmed that they supported the aims and objectives of the Project.

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. 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.

In relation to the Action Plan update, the Group agreed that BC02 which relates to growth in passenger vessel movements/cruise ship tender accommodation, should continue to be classed as 'not on track'. The Group also agreed to re-profile BC06, which related to work around Rothesay Pavilion charity, and BC07, which relates to the development of a brand narrative for Bute to 'on track'; and agreed to remove Dunoon Community Council from BC01.

Helensburgh & Lomond

Norman McNally from Helensburgh Community Council gave an interesting presentation on the findings of the "Vision for Helensburgh" community consultation which will form the basis for their community-led action plan. The Vision for Helensburgh group are now looking to put together a presentation/stand on their findings to present to the communities of Helensburgh and the wider area.

Loch Long Jetty Association gave an update on their progress to date and the group noted the positive success of their hard work in getting a recreational pontoon installed and operational in 2018 and the wider work that the Association do with local school children and environmentally. The group heard about the challenges they are facing with trying to get a tour boat established due to having no dedicated parking spaces.

Arrochar, Tarbet and Ardlui Community Development Trust gave an update on their plans for an asset transfer with land to develop parking, and work with SSE to divert walking paths and install bridges where pylons would meet the paths. It was noted that they were developing a flyer on paths, access routes and activities in the local

area for the wider public. Concerns were raised about the cost of parking being prohibitive to visitors and the impact of cars parking inappropriately in Succoth.

The group welcomed new members from the Naval Service Family and People Support who attended for the first time. Scottish Enterprise gave an update on the Rural Growth Deal and its potential impact for the Helensburgh and Lomond area.

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands

The meeting was held in the Council Chambers, Lochgilphead with a video conference link in place with the Burnet Building, Campbeltown.

Again there were issues with the Video Conferencing equipment with those who were attending the meeting in Campbeltown unable to hear or see those who were in the room in Lochgilphead. Attendees in Campbeltown missed around the first 45 minutes of the meeting and had to leave the meeting at 12.30 because of the closure of the Burnet Building to the public.

The Group expressed their dissatisfaction with the Video Conferencing arrangements and that the Campbeltown attendees were unable to stay until the conclusion of the meeting – missing the crucial partner updates. The Committee Manager agreed to investigate options for allowing attendees to remain in VC venues and to look at what can be done in terms of the reliability of the equipment. It was also agreed that the agenda would be managed to ensure that “Partner Updates” are taken earlier in the meeting and that there is a manageable amount of business.

The issue of reliability with Video Conferencing/Lync equipment is a recurring theme for the MAKI Group, as is the restriction on the use of venues which have lunchtime closing. The Committee Manager will look to identify solutions which will assist with the continued operation of the meetings, but the Group would appreciate any assistance that the Management Committee may be able to offer to facilitate this.

There were a number of interesting presentations on the agenda, including from Scottish Natural Heritage, South Kintyre Development Trust, Clyde Fisherman’s Association and Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation. All the presentations were well received and provided a lot of useful information for the Group.

John Rennie (Balfour Beatty) and Kelly Scott (SSE) were in attendance and gave a brief presentation on the ongoing project to replace pylons from Inveraray to Crossaig. It was agreed that regular updates would be provided on the progress of the project and it was noted that there would be a boost for the local area as a result.

Anthony Standing, Skills Development Scotland gave an update on apprenticeships in the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands area and provided figures relating specifically to the area. This update was well received by the Group.

In relation to the Action Plan update, it was noted that MAKI04 which relates to the transport and connectivity survey on Islay, continues to be classed as not on track. The Community Planning Officer agreed to seek an update from Highlands and Islands Enterprise in relation to this action.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles

Items of note from the meeting were the presentations from the Dove Centre and their work in supporting those affected by life-limiting illness and also from the Council regarding the aims of the Strategic Development Framework.

Under Partner Updates, the Chief Executive of ACHA, Alistair MacGregor, commented that he had observed a marked increase in drug related challenges for young people in the last year in Oban and was calling on the group for support for a stakeholder meeting to be arranged, with power to make decisions.

The Group were supportive of this action and wish to highlight to Management Committee that a multi-agency meeting would be led by the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. It is hoped that key partners will participate in this discussion and that initiatives which could tap into the resources to tackle addition recently announced by Scottish Government could be developed that Oban would be happy to pilot.

4.1 Further Actions

It is requested that the Management Committee note the report and that a multi-agency meeting would be held within Oban, Lorn and the Isles to discuss the increase in drug related challenges for young people. The Management Committee are also asked to consider the concerns raised by the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands CPG regarding the unreliability of the Video Conferencing/Lync equipment, what assistance can be provided to encourage representatives from the MOD to attend the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group and note the potential negative economic effect that parking charges in Arrochar were having in the area.

5.0 Implications

Strategic Implications	Meetings of the Area Community Planning Group held in February covered various Outcomes.
Consultations	No prior circulation of this report.
Resources	No direct resource implications however consideration of the issues raised and following courses of action may have a knock on effect on finance and/or staff resource
Prevention	Contributes to the prevention agenda

Equalities	Contributes toward reducing inequalities
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For More Information:

Stuart McLean, Committee Manager, stuart.mclean@argyll-bute.gov.uk

References: n/a

Appendices: n/a