MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL KINTYRE & ISLAY AREA COMMITTEE held in the TOWN HALL, CAMPBELTOWN on WEDNESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2004

Present: Councillor Alastair McKinlay(Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville Councillor Robin Currie
Councillor John Findlay Councillor Alison Hay
Councillor Donald Kelly Councillor Donnie MacMillan
Councillor John McAlpine Councillor Bruce Robertson

Attending: Deirdre Forsyth, Area Corporate Services Manager
Richard Kerr, Senior Development Control Officer
Donnie McLeod, Roads and Amenity Services Manager
Bill Geddes, Statutory Plans Manager
Yvonne Willan, Area Housing Manager
Felicity Kelly, Community Education
Inspector David Sutherland, Strathclyde Police

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. URGENT ITEM

The Chairman ruled, and the Committee agreed, in terms of Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 in terms of Standing Order 3.2.2, that item 18, a report from GRAB Trust on the Seaside Awards Status granted to Machrihanish Beach, which was not specified in the Agenda, should be considered in view of the need for the local people in Campbeltown to be given this information at the earliest possible opportunity.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hay declared an interest in Item 18 the report from the GRAB Trust and Councillor Colville declared an interest in respect of Item 17 the Windfarm Trust in view of his Chairmanship of Alienergy.

4. MINUTES

(a) MINUTES OF MEETING OF 8 SEPTEMBER 2004

The minutes of the meeting of 8 September 2004 were approved.

(b) MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6 OCTOBER 2004

The minutes of the meeting of 6 October 2004 were approved.
Item 3c British telecom consultation.

As arising from consideration of this item it was reported that responses from Community Councils had been passed to British Telecom prior to the extended consultation date of 22 October 2004 on behalf of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Area Committee.

(c) MINUTES OF INFORMAL HEARING DATED 20 OCTOBER 2004

The minutes of the informal hearing dated 20 October 2004 were approved.

5. MEMBERS CONTACTS

A list of contact persons for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Councillors was circulated.

Decision

1. It was Noted that under Community Service, Yvonne Williams should read Yvonne Willan.

2. It was noted that for local Roads and Amenity purposes, Islay Councillors should contact Dave Ferrier, Kintyre Councillors should contact Ian Fawcett and Mid Argyll Councillors should contact Stewart Clark.

3. It was agreed that all of those on the list should be advised that Members will regard them as the contact persons and they would be expected to reply directly to Members.

4. Concerns were raised that sometimes the named person and the deputy are both on holiday at the same time and it was agreed that this would be raised as an issue with the Directors.

5. It was agreed to ask Angus Smith for an update on Social Work Services in the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay area for the next meeting and particularly with reference to supporting people and occupational therapy service.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Willie Durance of Campbeltown Community Council asked what work was being carried out on Main Street because he had understood that any proposals would be discussed with the Community Council prior to commencement.

Donnie McLeod advised that a crossing point with lights was being put in place and this was in response to requests from the local Members and the Community Council.

Willie Durance advised that he was happy to know that it was a crossing that was being installed.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered and dealt with the applications for planning permission as detailed below.
1. **04/00057/OUT**
Alma Leisure Ltd. Outline. Residential and commercial development, Craobh Haven.

Councillors MacMillan, McAlpine and Currie took no part in the decision making process in regard to this item because they had not been present at the hearing on 20 October 2004.

**Decision**

That the amended layout be approved, subject to the conditions set out in the original report, and with the rewording of condition 8 as follows, in order to allow some flexibility in the precise positioning of the emergency access on the internal loop road, as discussed at the informal hearing; subject to the drawing numbers referred to in the suggested conditions being updated to reflect the amended drawing numbers.

8. **The internal road system shall be constructed to Roads Authority adoption standards and shall be a road over which the public has a right of access in terms of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. The distributor road shall compose a 5.5m wide carriageway with a footway along one side. The road system shall be laid out in accordance with the layout details indicated, or any subsequent amendments thereto agreed in advance in writing by the Council as Planning Authority in consultation with the Area Roads Manager. An emergency access designed to inhibit the continuous circulation of traffic round the development site, along with appropriate turning facilities for vehicles, shall be implemented in a location to be agreed, in accordance with a detailed design to be approved in writing in advance by the Council as Planning Authority in consultation with the Area Roads Manager.**

2. **04/00795/DET**

**Decision**

That planning permission be approved as a ‘minor departure’ to the provisions of the development plan, subject to the standard time limit condition and reasons and the conditions and reasons contained in the report by head of Planning dated 18 October 2004.

8. **DELEGATED DECISIONS**

The Committee noted the decisions issued by the Director of Development Services dated 13 October 2004.

9. **MAJOR TRANSPORT ISSUES**

A list of major transport projects was submitted for discussion by Members.
**Decision**

1. It was agreed that Campbeltown promenade was an important Capital project for the Council but was not a major transport project. It was agreed to request inclusion of Campbeltown promenade improvements in the Capital programme.

2. It was agreed to include improvements to the A83 as a major transport project on the list.

3. It was agreed to include rail link from Dalmally via Inveraray to Lochgilphead as a major transport project.

4. It was agreed that this list would be passed to the Policy Development Group on Transport for consideration.

5. It was agreed that a discussion on the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Strategic Priorities would be put on the agenda for the December meeting.

10. **JOINT REPORT FROM ROADS AND AMENITY SERVICES MANAGER AND STRATHCLYDE POLICE**

Traffic Inspector David Sutherland reported on crashes in the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay area. There has been an overall reduction of casualties from 2004 after a higher rate in 2003. He also gave some information on specific sites such as the one at Craobh Haven, but it appeared from his report that many are not reported because the members referred to at the last meeting do not show up in the statistics.

He advised that he is working with BEAR on the accident prevention plan for A83 and this should help some of these particular spots.

Various issues were raised by Members, including slippery roads, number of cars following a slow moving vehicle or a commercial vehicle and the campaigns proposed for the next few months.

The issue of vegetation growth and signage has also been raised by Inspector Sutherland with BEAR.

11. **SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP**

Felicity Kelly provided information on the proposals for the Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP). She advised that there would now only be 4 within the whole of Argyll and Bute, one of which would be in the was Dalintober/Millknowe area of Campbeltown with additional areas including Main Street and Longrow.

80% of the funding will be used in these 4 areas and the remaining 20% will be used thematically to assist economically inactive and people of low income, vulnerable families and children, young people and older people.

Transitional funding will apply to Soroba which has now been dropped as a SIP area until March 2006 and the Better Neighbourhood Services fund will also continue until March 2006. However, Community Development will continue to support the areas which were recognised by the Community Planning Partnership as the most deprived communities, including Islay South and East Kintyre.
Decision

Felicity was thanked for her report which was of interest to the Members and agreed that further reports would be provided at appropriate times.

12. MINUTES OF KINTYRE INITIATIVE WORKING GROUP DATED 23 AUGUST 2004

There was submitted and noted minutes of Islay and Jura Liaison Group dated 23 August 2004.

13. MINUTES OF MID ARGYLL PARTNERSHIP DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 2004

The minutes of the Mid Argyll Partnership dated 14 September 2004 were noted.

As arising therefrom, Councillor Hay advised that she was keen that officers attended these meetings which are part of the decentralisation process approved by the Council.

Decision

It was agreed that officers should attend the meetings to discuss matters of strategic importance, and that members of the public and members of the groups should be reminded to get in touch directly with officers for minor issues to be attended to quickly.

14. ARGYLL AND BUTE LOCAL PLAN - REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ISSUES RAISED DURING CONSULTATION PROCESS

This report identified the main general and localised issues that arose following the publication of the Consultative Draft Local Plan and set out the next key milestone for the production of the Local Plan.

Decision

1. The Committee noted both the general and localised issues raised by the Consultative Draft Local Plan and the proposed response from the Policy Unit to enable the preparation of the Finalised Draft Local Plan.

2. The Committee noted the next key milestones in the production of the Argyll and Bute Local Plan.

3. The Committee noted that officers will be going out to meet members and the public during the course of the next few months.

(Reference – Report by Head of Planning Services dated 3 November 2004)

15. OFCOM - EFFECT OF TETRA MASTS ON TELEVISION RECEPTION

A letter from Ofcom was received in regard to the various points raised by the Area Committee in their September meeting.

Decision

It was agreed to refer this letter along with previous correspondence to the Council in
order that it can be dealt with on an Argyll wide basis.

16. LOW ASKOMIL, CAMPBELTOWN

A report regarding issues about the name of the street commonly known as Low Askomil was discussed.

**Decision**

1. The Committee agreed that letters should be sent to all residents of both Low Askomil and High Askomil advising them of the situation and seeking their views on whether it was necessary for the name of the streets to be changed formally or whether it would be sufficient to confirm the names which have been agreed over many years.

2. Further information should be sought from the Archivist to find out the historical basis for the names and any changes which may have taken place informally.

(Reference – Report by Area Corporate Services Manager dated 3 November 2004)

17. WINDFARM TRUST

A report describing new renewable projects coming to the area and the basis of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Windfarm Trusts existence was discussed.

**Decision**

1. It was agreed to change the name of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay Windfarm Trust to the Argyll and Bute Windfarm and Renewables Trust.

2. It was agreed to ask for a further report on proposed wording to enable future windfarm funding to be given to those communities whose areas are affected visually by windfarms (a) in order that the Committee could decide whether or not they wish to make these amendments and (b) to enable grants to be given outwith the Windfarm Trust area if it could be demonstrated that this was for the benefit of residents who lived within the area.

3. It was agreed to confirm to East and West Kintyre Community Councils that it is possible for them to support projects which are also supported by the Council.

(Reference – Report by Area Corporate Services Manager dated 3 November 2004)

18. GRAB

A letter from the GRAB Trust regarding the Machrihanish Beach was circulated and the quality of water information was discussed.

**Decision**

It was agreed to express pleasure that Machrihanish Beach has been awarded Seaside Award Status and to commend appropriate publicity for this beach.

(Reference – Report by GRAB TRUST dated 17 September, 2004)
19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nancie Smith, Chair of Campbeltown Community Council, asked a question about the requirement to separate surface water from sewage. She had been advised by Scottish Water that this was the Council’s responsibility.

Decision

She was advised that the surface water within the current sewage system is the responsibility of Scottish Water and that there are ongoing discussions between Scottish Water and Argyll and Bute Council to resolve this matter at the earliest possible opportunity.