

Management Committee

Date: 8 December 2021

Agenda Item:



Area Community Planning Groups – November 2021 Meetings

1. Purpose

This paper presents key matters arising during the Area Community Planning Group meetings that were held virtually in November 2021.

2. Recommendations

The Management Committee is asked to:

- a) note the Highlights detailed at section 4 of the report;
- b) note the position with relation to the various Chair and Vice-Chair roles which remain vacant as outlined at section 4.2; and
- c) give consideration and make suggestion in relation to the vacant Chair and Vice Chair roles in MAKI and H&L.

3. 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).

All meetings were held on a virtual basis using Microsoft Teams. Prior to the meetings discussion took place with the 4 Area Chairs/Vice Chairs and a standard agenda template was agreed. There was good attendance at all 4 meetings by a variety of partners.

4. Highlights

All groups considered:

- CPP Management Committee Update

- Climate Change
- Community Learning Partnership Plan

Nicola Hackett from Live Argyll presented to all 4 Groups and provided an update on the Partnership Plan.

- Skills Development Scotland – Data Set for Young People in Argyll and Bute

Susan MacRae from Skills Development Scotland provided a presentation on the school leaver destinations for 16 to 19 year olds across Argyll and Bute.

Highlights from specific meetings were as follows:

Bute & Cowal

Fiona Samuel from Rothesay Boys Brigade provided the Group with a very interesting presentation on the work that they have been undertaking within the local community.

The Group held a productive discussion on Covid-19 and long-term community resilience. They heard from Anne Campbell (Dunoon Area Alliance) who suggested that the Group consider the model set up by Bute Resilience Group and seek their views on how their volunteer training and links with the emergency services had prepared them for the challenges faced during the pandemic.

Sue Wallis also highlighted the Volunteer Cowal South West Organisation which was a group of about 65 volunteers who were mainly involved in delivering prescriptions from the GP Surgery to patients.

It was agreed that there would be a discussion on long-term community resilience at a future meeting.

In regard to climate change it was noted that Bute would be featured as island of the month by the Scottish Island Federation due to its response to climate change. Discussion also took place on how festivals and events, such as bonfire night, can be supported whilst ensuring any carbon issues are recognised.

Helensburgh & Lomond

The Group heard a number of interesting updates from partners. Duncan MacLachlan provided information on the work that has been undertaken by Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust and the Friends of Loch Lomond with

specific reference to the Two Lochs Visitor Management Project. It was noted that this project had been well received and had assisted in the management of visitors in the area. The addition of toilet facilities, the employment of seasonal visitor wardens and the production of information signage were all highlighted. The work involved in this project was commended by the Group.

For the Community Focus item, the Group heard from Emma Henderson who provided information on Cove Park which had been founded in 1999 and had since housed thousands of resident artists. She provided an overview of the facilities available for artists in the residency centre and the ways in which artists could attend on a funded or self-funded basis.

The Group considered the appointment of a Chair and a Vice-Chair to the Group. Unfortunately there were no nominations made and it was agreed to continue the appointments to the next meeting of the Group.

Feedback was also received in relation to the scheduling of the Climate Change Working Group meetings which had clashed with the date of the H&L ACPG. It was agreed that this would be raised with the Working Group Chair.

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands

The meeting was well attended and heard a number of updates from partners. Caitlin Quinn from SSE was in attendance and gave an update on progress on the Inveraray to Crossaig Reinforcement project.

Neil MacFarlane from Transport Scotland provided an update on the current works being undertaken. Concerns regarding road safety issues at the junction of Aqualibrium Avenue and Burnbank Street in Campbeltown were raised by a number of attendees and Neil agreed to look into the issues when he visited Campbeltown in the coming weeks.

Inspector Collins, Police Scotland advised on measures that the Police have been undertaking in relation to a number of recent vehicle thefts. He provided advice to the Group in regard to measures which they could implement within their own properties to cut down on risk of theft.

There were a couple of new partners in attendance, namely Jeni West and Donald McNeill from Forestry and Land Scotland and Jen Broadhurst from Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). They provided useful information on their respective organisations and it was noted that CAB were currently undertaking a recruitment drive for volunteers.

The Community Focus item at this meeting was a presentation from Jamie Joyce, Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust on the ACT Now Project in Mid Argyll. Jamie provided an overview of the project with it being confirmed that it was hoped that Tarbert and Inveraray both featured in future plans for the Project.

Ness Wright, Architecture and Design Scotland was in attendance and provided a presentation on the Climate Action Towns Project. Campbeltown has been selected as one of the locations for the project, with some exciting work being undertaken.

The Group considered the appointment of a Vice-Chair following the resignation of the previous appointee. Unfortunately there were no nominations received for the position and it was agreed to carry the item forward to the next meeting.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles

The Group considered the appointment of a Vice-Chair following the resignation of Rachel Lawlor. It was agreed that Councillor Elaine Robertson would take on the role for the next 2 meetings, with the hope that a replacement can be appointed after that time.

In regard to the appointment of a representative to sit on the Climate Change Working Group, Laura Corbe from Oban Community Council was nominated to represent the Oban Lorn and the Isles Area CPG at these meetings.

There were some informative partner updates received including from Crossroads North Argyll, Argyll TSI, North Argyll Carers Centre and Hope Kitchen where partners were encouraged to notify the group of any vulnerable people who may benefit from one of the Christmas hampers.

The Group also received a report on the affordable housing supply and demand in the OLI area.

4.1 Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

There are a number of Chair and Vice Chair roles which remain vacant in 2 of the Area Community Planning Groups. The Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG currently has no Chair or Vice Chair and the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands ACPG has no Vice Chair. Officers have tried to give as much information about the time commitment and the roles to attendees in order to stimulate interest, and have made contact with community representatives to make them aware of the vacancies. Unfortunately this has not been successful. It would be of great assistance if the Management Committee could highlight the roles to their staff who attend the meetings in the hope that a partner organisation may step in to take on a position.

4.2 Further Actions

It is requested that the Management Committee note the report and the successful meetings held in November 2021.

The Management Committee is asked to note that:-

- (a) The appointment of Councillor Elaine Robertson as the Vice-Chair for the OLI ACPG for the next two meetings;
- (b) The appointment of a Vice-Chair for the MAKI ACPG has been continued to the November meeting;
- (c) The appointment of a Chair and a Vice-Chair for the Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG has been continued to the November meeting.

5.0 Implications

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| Strategic Implications | Meetings of the Area Community Planning Group held in August 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 |

For More Information:

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References: n/a