

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE & THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE held in
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, CAMPBELTOWN
on WEDNESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2008**

Present: Councillor Donald MacMillan (Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Robin Currie
Councillor Alison Hay	Councillor Anne Horn
Councillor Donald Kelly	Councillor John McAlpine
Councillor Dougie Philand	Councillor John Semple

Attending: Alison Younger, Area Corporate Services Manager
Katie Taylor, Area Committee Assistant
Richard Kerr, Area Team Leader, Planning
Stewart Turner, Head of Roads and Amenity Services
Stewart Clark, Contracts Manager, Operational Services
Neil Brown, Network and Environment Manager
Judy Orr, Head of ICT and Financial Services
David Logan, QIO Special Projects
James Oxbrow, Halcrow
Ian McMillan, Scottish Water
Donald McPhee, Scottish Water

Councillor Donald MacMillan presented Elizabeth Kelly with a quaich to mark her retirement from Argyll and Bute Council after 45 years. He thanked Elizabeth for her hard work and dedication and wished her all the best for her retirement.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Colville declared an interest in Item 8(d) Staffing in Tarbert Office as he is a Director of ACHA.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2008

The minutes of the meeting of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee held on 8 October 2008 were approved as a correct record.

Arising therefrom it was noted that the road at Dunglass Bridge, Item 10 of the minute, will be open for vehicular access prior to Christmas, although there may be some periodic closures in the new year.

4. CAMPBELTOWN WATER / FLOODING ISSUES - PRESENTATION BY HALCROW

The Head of Roads and Amenity Services explained to the Committee that Campbeltown has a long history of flooding and introduced James Oxbrow, Project Manager for Halcrow.

James gave a presentation of the Halcrow flooding study and the Committee considered a report outlining the findings of the Campbeltown Flood Prevention Study carried out by the Halcrow Group Ltd.

Decision

The Committee:

1. noted the contents of the report and acknowledged that the report prepared for Argyll and Bute Council by Halcrow on Campbeltown's flooding issues contributes significantly to the research works on this very important matter,
2. considered the proposed capital projects in relation to Millknowe, Balegreggan and the Roding, dependent on available finance from the Council and also confirmation of responsibility to undertake the work at the Roding
3. noted that, at a future point, the Committee will consider these works in relation to other necessary capital works throughout Argyll and Bute.

(Reference: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 28 October 2009, submitted).

5. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Currie reported that the Gigha ferry is still encountering some problems and asked what was being done to remedy this. It was noted that the dredger is working at the ferry terminal this week and a report will be submitted to the December Area Committee.

Councillor McAlpine raised the issue of an individual who is currently trying to negotiate with a Council department over the price of a water connection. The Chair informed Councillor McAlpine that he has sought advice on this matter and had determined it was not for discussion at the Area Committee.

Councillor Philand reported that he had been approached by a member of the public and advised that the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have just returned from a tour of duty in Iraq and asked if Argyll and Bute Council would mark their safe return. It was agreed the Area Corporate Services Manager would investigate this.

Councillor Kelly asked that the Area Committee receive regular bi-monthly update of Defence Estates Machrihanish from Jane Fowler. It was agreed to request this for the December meeting of the Area Committee.

6. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- (a) **CHANGE OF USE APPLICATION, 07/02136/COU, CWP PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT, HAMILTON BROTHERS LTD, 11 ROADING, CAMPBELTOWN**

07/02136/COU

CWP Property Development and Investment. Change of use. Change of use of buildings and land to Class 1 non-food retail. Hamilton Brothers Ltd, 11 Roding, Campbeltown.

Decision

The Committee agreed that planning permission be refused as development contrary to the provisions of the Development Plan for the reasons outlined in the report by the Head of Planning dated 20 October 2008.

(Reference: Report by Head of Planning dated 20 October 2008, submitted).

- (b) **DELEGATED DECISIONS**

The Head of Planning had submitted a list of delegated decisions taken since the last meeting of the Area Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted the delegated decisions taken by Development Services since the last meeting of the Area Committee.

(Reference: Report by Head of Planning dated 15 October 2008, submitted).

7. OPERATIONAL SERVICES

- (a) **PEDESTRIAN BARRIERS ON A83 - VERBAL UPDATE**

It was reported that there is no current update on the pedestrian barriers on A83.

Decision

It was agreed that an update would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee.

- (b) **CAMPBELTOWN PARKING**

The Committee considered a report detailing the outcome of the Campbeltown Parking Survey and recommended the next steps.

Decision

The Committee agreed -

1. to the setting up of a Working Group, as detailed in the report, to

- further examine parking issues in Campbeltown and;
2. to oversee the design and implementation of a parking strategy for Campbeltown.

(Reference: Report, submitted).

8. EXEMPT ITEMS

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public for the following items of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 9, 13 and 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

(a) SALE OF FORMER GLENBREAKERIE SCHOOL AND SCHOOL HOUSE

At its meeting on 8 October 2008 the Committee gave consideration to a report by the Director of Corporate Services regarding the sale of the former school and schoolhouse at Glenbreckerie. The Committee requested further background information on the matter, which has now been provided, to allow further consideration of this report.

Decision

The Committee noted the recommendation and instructed the Director of Corporate Services to accept the offer as detailed.

(Reference: Report by Director of Corporate Services dated 16 October 2008, submitted).

(b) LOCHGILPHEAD JOINT CAMPUS ROOF REPAIRS UPDATE

The Committee considered a report updating them on the current position in regard to the permanent repair of the roof above the Sports / MASC area of Lochgilphead Joint Campus and the delivery of the P.E. curriculum within the school.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and the availability of Special Projects Officer, David Logan, to attend any Parent Council or Community Council meeting if requested by these groups.

(Reference: Report by QIO Special Projects, submitted).

(c) ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

The Head of Planning submitted a report detailing the progress of outstanding enforcement investigations, including received or closed investigations for the period July to September 2008, together with older outstanding cases.

Decision

The Committee noted the quarterly report on outstanding enforcement investigations by the Head of Planning.

(Reference: Report by Head of Planning dated 2 October 2008, submitted)

Councillor Colville, having declared an interest in this item, left the meeting at this point.

(d) STAFFING IN TARBERT OFFICE

As a result of the new Customer Service Centre, there is a need to remove the benefits Service from the Tarbert area office and to transfer the staff to Lochgilphead. The Committee considered a report detailing this.

Decision

The Committee agreed to invite the Head of Democratic Services and Governance to the next meeting of the Area Committee to provide further information on whether Tarbert could be designated as a frontline office.

(Reference: Report by Head of ICT and Financial Services dated 15 October 2008, submitted).