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MINUTES of MEETING of HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held in the VICTORIA HALLS, HELENSBURGH on TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2010

Present: Councillor George Freeman (Chair)
Councillor Vivien Dance Councillor Gary Mulvaney
Councillor Daniel Kelly Councillor Andrew Nisbet
Councillor David Kinniburgh Councillor Al Reay
Councillor Ellen Morton (Vice Chair) Councillor James Robb

Attending: Lynn Smillie – Area Corporate Services Manager
Isaac Owens – Helensburgh & Lomond Community Representative
Eileen Wilson – Community Planning Manager
Katrine Wreford – Rosneath & Clynder Community Council
Patrica Pollock Morris – Rhu & Shandon Community Council
John Tacchi – Helensburgh Community Council
Nick Davies – Cove & Kilcreggan Community Council
Dr Patrick Trust – Cardross Community Council
Patrick Farrell – Luss & Arden Community Council
George Watt – Chamber of Commerce
Ishabel Bremner – Economic Development Manager
Inspector Mark Lundie – Strathclyde Police
Geoff Calvert – Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
David McCaughey – Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
Gillian Barclay – Third Sector
Anne Helstrip - NHS

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated from Morevain Martin, Senior Development Officer and Councillor William Petrie.

2. MINUTE OF MEETING 17 NOVEMBER 2009

The Minute of Meeting 17 November 2009 was approved as a correct record.

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Ishabel Bremner, Economic Development Manager, outlined the final draft of the Argyll and Bute Council's Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP) for 2010 – 2013, which was due for approval by the end of March 2010 and would be implemented into the next financial year. The EDAP vision would be focussed on ensuring that Argyll and Bute will be well placed to make well informed contributions and that the plan was centred around the 3 'c's – Competitive, Connected and Collaborative. Ms Bremner explained how these interlinked to form the basis of the framework for economic development.

The importance of focussing on opportunities was highlighted in order to maintain Argyll and Bute as a 'key region' in Europe.

From discussions, concern was raised regarding the description of Helensburgh as a 'Gateway' as it was misleading, and the importance of the waterfront as an asset with major income potential was discussed as a means of attracting visitors to the area.

After much discussion, it was felt that there had been insufficient time for members to fully discuss the paper and in this respect, partners were invited to e-mail their comments and suggestions to Lynn Smillie, Area Corporate Services by the end of the week.

The possibility of issuing the Agenda papers fourteen days prior to the meeting in order that members would be fully briefed, was also considered.

4. CHORD PROJECTS - HELENSBURGH TOWN CENTRE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS: REDEVELOPED WEST BAY ESPLANADE

Councillor Gary Mulvaney, Chairperson, Helensburgh CHORD Project Group, gave a brief outline of the Group's remit, the progress currently being made, and explained how community engagement was a crucial part of the project and that it was important that all the relevant bodies were involved. Various methods of community engagement were being considered.

Councillor Mulvaney informed members how the Traffic Management Scheme would integrate with the developments proposed at the Pier Site. He addressed concerns regarding consultancy fees by advising that the CHORD funding was inclusive of these fees and that the appointment of an independent Consultant would bring confidence that a quality product would be delivered on time and within budget.

5. DEVELOPMENT OF HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP AREA PLAN

Lynn Smillie, Area Corporate Services Manager, outlined four Area Community Planning Outcomes and explained that following recent discussion with SFR and Strathclyde Police, several actions to achieve outcomes had been identified.

Partners agreed the four outcomes, which are :-

- Helensburgh Town Centre has vibrant economic activities
- Enhanced Transportation links with rest of Argyll & Bute, Glasgow conurbation and rest of Scotland
- People feel safe in their homes and communities
- Improved overall health, wellbeing, independence and social inclusion

as a starting point, and for core partners to meet to finalise the draft Community Plan for consideration at the March 2010 LACPG meeting.

6. HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Members noted the contents of a report submitted to the Argyll & Bute Community Planning Partnership Management Committee and it was agreed that the following points be highlighted in the next report.

- Note the level of partners who were unable to attend the first meeting
- Note that the working group to establish priority areas has been difficult to coordinate due to operational priorities by partners and Christmas and New Year.
- Note the discussion on the level of elected member representation on the LACPG.

7. HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY SEMINAR

Partners agreed that the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Seminar should be held before the end of June 2010 and that it should be organised prior to the end of April.

Geoff Calvert advised that the Bute and Cowal event is on 6th March at Dunoon Grammar school and suggested that it might be beneficial for someone to attend this.

Tuesday 18 May was agreed as a suitable date to hold the Helensburgh and Lomond event, with some form of evening session being the preferred option.

Partners were asked to provide feedback and suggestions on this at the March 2010 meeting.

8. PARTNER REPRESENTATION

Partners agreed to continue with the current arrangement and review the situation at a later date.

9. AOCB

a) Young People Representation on the Helensburgh & Lomond Local Area Community Planning Group.

The importance of young people becoming involved in the LACPG was highlighted, and Lynn Smillie agreed to contact Roanna Taylor, Young Scot Co-ordinator to facilitate the Youth Forum to be involved in the LACPG.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 16th March 2010

