

MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES LOCAL AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held in the MCCAIG SUITE, CORRAN HALLS, OBAN on WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2011

Present: Councillor Duncan MacIntyre (Chair)
Kenneth Macdonald, Area Manager, Customer Services, ABC
Jane Gillies, Governance & Law Assistant
Morag Goodfellow, HIE - Service Department Manager
Duncan Martin, Community Council Representative
Laura MacDonald, Community Development Officer, ABC
Eleanor MacKinnon, Third Sector Partnership / AVA
Jolyon Gritten, Access Manager, Development & Infrastructure, ABC
Roderick McCuish, Councillor, Ward 4
Julie McLeish, Strathclyde Police
Mary-Jean Devon, Councillor, Ward 4
Elaine Robertson, Councillor, Ward 5
David Whiteoak, Argyll & Bute CHP
Lesley McInnes, RSL's

Attending: Euan Paterson, Press
Rita Campbell, Press
Cecil Ritchie – Item 11 only

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated on behalf of:
Douglas Hendry
Councillor Donald MacDonald
Councillor Neil Mackay
Councillor Gordon Chalmers
Iain MacDonald

2. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of Oban Lorn & the Isles Local Area Community Planning Group held on 12th January 2011 were approved as a correct record.

3. PRESENTATION ON CORE PATHS PLAN CONSULTATION

Sybil Johnston advised on progress with the core paths plan consultation which ends in early April. Tracks, minor roads, trunk roads, lines of walking are all being looked at. It is hoped to set up a charitable trust to access funding, and look to communities taking ownership of paths. A drop-in session was held in Oban to publicise the plan and encourage comments to be submitted to the Scottish Office online service

4. AREA COMMUNITY PLAN

The Local Area Community Planning Group noted the progress which has been made by partners in financial year 2010/11 in delivering the agreed Local Community Plan for Oban, Lorn and the Isles, and considered whether any amendments to the plan may be required. Area Manager, Customer Services, to update and amend as necessary and submit to the

May LACPG meeting for further consideration.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT - PROGRESS REPORT

Laura MacDonald reported on feedback from the BCE training day, where participants were asked where they would like to see the LACPG – many feeling it should be a decision making group between partners. Others felt the community needed a greater understanding of community planning. Themed meeting and video conferencing were highlighted as ways of reaching wider inclusion.

6. PRESENTATION BY WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Leslie MacInnes gave a presentation on progress to date with the Dunbeg development, part of a huge economic development for the area. A bid for Scottish Government funding to be submitted by 31st May. Funding to be investigated for Phase 2.

7. UPDATE ON PROPOSAL FOR HOSPITAL RE-DESIGN

David Whiteoak, Locality Manager, updated the Group on measures to be taken to improve clinical effectiveness of the service and to reduce costs. A review has been carried out highlighting under-capacity in resource utilisation – too many beds for usage. 1 ward can be closed and still provide the same service, which would help sustainability. A newsletter was tabled for further information and circulation (attached).

He then updated the Group on dental services at the hospital. Due to changes in factors, (1).hospital re-design will create space; 2. maximum utilisation of space in existing buildings and (3) increased realisation of greater control of capital allocation to the NHS; it will be less expensive to locate dental services in the hospital and there would be better integration with some hospital services, i.e. x-ray. There would be a new dedicated entrance and space for additional car parking can be made.

Discussions are ongoing regarding hospice type care, with palliative care given along with other patients.

8. ADULT LEARNING DISABILITY CONSULTATION - UPDATE

No update available

9. UPDATE REPORT ON RATIONALISATION/PARTNERSHIP LINKAGES TO LACPG

The Group noted the progress which has been made, and agreed that this item should remain a standing item for consideration at future meetings of the Group.

10. DEMONSTRATION OF NEW COUNCIL WEBSITE

Continued to the next meeting

11. ROAD SAFETY

Mr Ritchie spoke to the Group on his involvement on the “Pass Plus” test for 17 to 25 year olds. He asked the Councillors and members of the Group to take a driving assessment and requested finance to allow every young person passing their driving test to take the Pass Plus test, saying this would reduce accidents on the roads which could save up to £43.5m.

It was arranged that June Graham, Road Safety Officer would meet with Mr Ritchie to take his ideas forward. A report from June to be brought to the next meeting.