1. APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were intimated by:-

Cllr Robin Currie
Cllr McAlpine
Cllr McIntyre
Aileen MacLennan
Iain McGlashan
Mary Kennedy
Dhonna McCallum
Darlene Russell
Michael Russell MSP
Jamie McGrigor
Phil Hinchcliff
2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - 15 APRIL 2011

The Minute of the last meeting were approved as a true record. Proposed by Susan Paterson and seconded by Jane Mayo.

Matters arising:-

The Chair advised attendees that responses to the two letters sent on behalf of the group - re: the former Macrihanish base would be re-circulated with the Minutes.

3. INFRASTRUCTURE

(a) SKYKON - ISHABEL BREMNER

Ishabel Bremner advised that the new company who had taken over from Skykon were – Wind Tower Limited. She informed the forum that Wind Tower Ltd had signed a project brief and would be undertaking work on existing orders. The company had received funding amounting to 3.9 million from ERDF.

David Roger stated that a meeting had been convened between Wind Tower Ltd and the existing workforce and the outcome was extremely positive. A new Business model was being devised and would be implemented.

Councillor Kelly voiced his concerns in regards completion of work on Longrow Road. The Chair replied that funding had been set aside from the CHORD project for this remedial work.

(b) MACHRIHANISH MOD SITE - ABC, IAN WARDROP

Ian Wardrop reported that the submission from MACC for charity status had been accepted. He stated that the MOD had appointed a new negotiator – Alex Neil – and that a quarter of the MACC submission had still to be negotiated and completed. If these discussions were not agreed, then it was possible that they could escalate to a ministerial level.

Ian informed forum that negotiations were still on-going with the MOD to resolve the water/sewage issues at the site. Alan Reid enquired if Scottish Water were involved in the issue. Ian replied that Scottish Water were currently investigating some of the issues. Alan Reid advised that he would update the Minister on this.

Ishabel Bremner advised of further LEADER support for the project.
(c) **CAMPBELTOWN AIRPORT - HIA LTD, DEFENCE ESTATES**
  
  John Lamont, HIA Ltd, advised on the latest figures – there was an increase of 31% on passenger figures. In regards aircraft movements, this was up by 26.7%.

  It was agreed that John Lamont and Janette Jansson, General Manager – Machrihanish Dunes Golf Club would meet to discuss the possibility of increased flights tailored to meet the needs of golfers visiting the area.

  John advised that the some of the runway lighting at the airport had had to be replaced with a portable system. However, this met with the regulatory standards and did not impact onto flight schedules.

  Maryanne Stewart voiced her concerns in regards flights being late and the need for a dependable air service. John advised that Loganair were responsible for service delivery.

  **Action:** Theresa McLetchie would invite a representative from Loganair to the KIWG meeting scheduled for August.

(d) **SCOTTISH WATER/SOUND OF KINTYRE**

  David Roger reported that Scottish Water were undertaking a study in the area to find a comprehensive solution to local water issues. He envisaged that the study would be completed by the end of July and, thereafter, costs for remedial work would be ascertained.

4. **TRANSPORT**

(a) **LINKAGES OUT OF KINTYRE**

  Councillor Semple reported that he had raised the issue of Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) at the last MAKI Area Committee meeting. He would advise KIWG members of any update.

(b) **A83 - JULIAN GREEN**

  There was no update received from the Roads Section.

(c) **WINTER MAINTENANCE**

5. **SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT**

(a) **BUSINESS GATEWAY - MARY KENNEDY**

  Ishabel Bremner reported that initially course attendance in Campbeltown was excellent, then the trend was for numbers to fall off. However, she stated that workshops would still go ahead. Councillor Semple stated that video conferencing would be an advantageous format for delivering courses across the area. Susan Paterson stated that travel issues were an important factor in local people attending courses. Ishabel Bremner reported on the limited
VC facilities in the area which would restrict this initiative.

Susan enquired on the procedure for small, local businesses to get onto Argyll and Butë’s list of preferred contractors. The Chair replied that there were new procurement laws which legislated this.

(b) HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE
The report detailed the financial assistance given to businesses, community groups and other organisations in the local area.

(c) TAILORED TRAINING - ARGyll COLLEGE
Councillor Semple requested that the Principal of Argyll College be invited to the next KIWG meeting to advise on the college strategy on VC usage. He suggested that it would be pertinent for Business Gateway to schedule a meeting with the College prior to the KIWG meeting.

Action: Theresa McLetchie would invite Mike Breslin to the August meeting

(d) AGRICULTURE - DOUGIE MCCORMICK NFU / SANDY PIRIE
There was no update received.

6. PLANNING AND PLACE - TOWN CENTRE AND WATERFRONT
Stuart Green reported on the forthcoming launch of Malin Waters scheduled for 13 July. He was aware that local traders closed on a Wednesday, but assured the forum that the Town Centre manager had alerted traders of the event.

Howard Davis enquired on the status of the proposed marina in light of the recent decision to remove funding. The Chair replied that a new study was proposed to determine the future of the marina. Janette Jansson agreed that the marina was a key project and would make a positive impact on the local area.

The Chair thanked Stuart for all his hard work and effort in creating this unique event.

(a) CHORD PROJECT

**Townscape Heritage Initiative**

- Social Enterprise Team are supporting the SKDT and CCC with the development of the Town Hall. Big Lottery funding has been secured to appoint a Development worker for a 6 month period, we are currently awaiting the outcome of LEADER funding to allow the post to be advertised. A Growing Community Assets Lottery application will be submitted to fund the shortfall in the refurbishment costs;
- Work commenced at the Old Schoolhouse on 16th May 2011. The
main contractor is local firm McKinven and Colville;
• Work commenced at the Royal Hotel on 21st March 2011, THI contribution is £30,000, total project costs are £2.8M;
• Significant progress has been made with the target tenements on Main Street (27-31 and 60);
• A Dangerous Building Notice has been served on the property at 50-52 Main Street / 2 Cross Street;
• A further 5 shopfronts have been refurbished bringing the overall total to 17. Further small grant works have also been carried out;
• Public realm proposals are currently being developed in conjunction with the Kinloch Road Regeneration team (see below);
• Further training events have been held including a series of specialised courses for community groups; and
• The THI web pages on the Council website have been refreshed - this includes text and images of grant related works.

Campbeltown Berthing Facility

• Hyder Consulting Ltd in consortia with DTZ were successful in securing the contract;
• The consultants are already heavily engaged with a range of stakeholders to explore those key points set out by the board in December 2010;
• A workshop is scheduled for 28 June. This will include presentations by the consultants on latest options to date; and
• The consultants will be presenting their final (draft) report to the CHORD board meeting in August.

Kinloch Road Regeneration

Depot Remediation
• Demolition and cut back complete;
• Hydrocarbon removal now underway;
• Discussions with ACHA regarding handover stage ongoing; and
• Press release being issued to update the public on this element of the work (reports of diesel / petrol smells around the site have been received which will be addressed through this excavation work).

ACHA Funding (and land transfer)
• Legal agreement now progressing to sign off – target date of 30 June following sign off of updated planning permission expected 22 June; and
• Funding (both CHORD and Strategic Housing Fund) and land transfer tied into one agreement.

Public Realm
• 2 positive meetings held between Royal Hotel, THI and KRR teams, agreement between the teams on surfacing materials around the hotel now being explored; and
• Discussions taking place re: landscaped area at bus station - proposals being drafted.
Land Adjacent to the Council Depot

• Remains on hold, as agreed, until remediation is complete.

(b) TOWN HALL UPDATE
There was no update received.

(c) TOWN CENTRE MANAGER - AILEEN MACLENNAN
There was a report from the Town Centre manager updating on local issues.

7. INWARD INVESTMENTS - KEY FACTORS

(a) KINTYRE PRODUCT / TOURISM AND MARKETING
David Rodger advised that work was ongoing with the Royal Hotel.

(b) KINTYRE WAY - OWEN PAISLEY
Owen Paisley, Kintyre Way ranger, gave a verbal update to the forum. He reported that approximately 2000 people had been on the route last year. This generated an income of between 300-500k for the local community. Predominantly walkers were older and tended to favour accommodation in local B & B's and small hotels. There was capacity to encourage more walkers to the area.

He detailed the extent of his work remit – this included maintenance, repairs and liaising with local land owners. Owen was also closely involved in the direct marketing of the Kintyre Way, and expanded on the need to generate more funding.

The Chair thanked Owen for his informative talk and provided information on the Business Improvement Districts Scotland (BIDS) scheme which he felt would be ideal for the Kintyre Way. John Bakes confirmed that he would inform the other directors on the Kintyre Way board of this potential opportunity for further funding.

It was agreed that an invite would be proffered to Ian Davison Porter, BIDS Director to attend the August meeting.

Ishabel Bremner informed Owen that LEADER may be able to match fund any additional funding he managed to obtain.

Details of an excellent presentation given by – Heart of Argyll – in Tarbert were provided. It was agreed that an invitation would be initiated for a representative to attend the KIWG meeting in October.

(c) ENERGY (RENEWABLES) - ISHABEL BREMNER

• Executive Summary of REAP produced – available for download from web site, see: http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-
The Development Projects and Renewables team has been working on renewables pages on web site and would welcome feedback on how useful it is, see http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/renewable-energy-action-plan

Developed Renewable Interactive Map - now live and on web site. Search facility by area and renewable type – feedback welcome http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/renewable-energy

Working with the Council’s GIS team to further develop the interactive map to include details of community benefit associated with commercial on shore wind development and then link through to individual trusts/community councils and details of community projects supported by individual funds – 7 operational wind farms in Argyll all with associated funds – amounts to over £100,000 annually going to communities. All information will go onto web site and map. Also looking to link into Community Energy Scotland web site and toolkit and grant/loan info that they have relating to assisting communities development their own renewable projects.

Approval by Scottish Government (SG) of consent for Islay Tidal Device – 10 mw – (10 x 1mw tidal devices on the seabed in the Sound of Islay). Hope to be operational by 2013. World leading project, funding still to be secured.

Second meeting of Argyll and Bute Renewable Alliance (ABRA) was held in Inveraray on Wednesday – ABRA is a strategic alliance made up of SG, HIE, Argyll and Bute Council, Marine Scotland, The Crown Estate, Skills Development Scotland, key developers and transmission operator SSE. Key focus of the meeting was transmission, work of HIE Renewable Team (Audrey McIver attended and presented – Audrey is Head of Renewables Team) and discussion regarding ports and harbour infrastructure and future needs of industry re off shore wind and marine (wave and tidal). Next meeting is October 2011. Please note, further to the KIWG meeting Ishabel Bremner checked the issue with regard to community engagement. ABRA has established community engagement through the Local Area Community Planning Groups.

Attended All Energy event in Aberdeen on 17/18 May. Stand with HIE under the banner of Argyll and Isles. Enabled the Development Projects and Renewables team to promote the area where Machrihanish in conjunction with the nearby Campbeltown Harbour is identified as one of the key manufacturing sites in the National Renewables Infrastructure Plan - NRIP.

National Renewable Infrastructure West Coast Cluster brochure being produced by Scottish Enterprise – Council has been working with HIE and feeding into this to ensure promotion of Campbeltown/Machrihanish. Material will be used at off shore wind event in Liverpool in the next few weeks – a representative from HIE hopes to attend this event.
The Development Projects and Renewables team will be attending ALIenergy Renewable Energy Show on 16 August which will focus on householders and businesses benefiting from Feed in Tariffs (FIT) and Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

8. LOCAL AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING (LACPG)
Stephen Doogan stated that, as yet, nothing had been formalised in regards the MAKI LACPG.

9. A.O.B.
Susan Paterson highlighted the difficulties in regards the consultation for the Local Development Plan.

Maryanne had disseminated information through local voluntary agencies.

Stuart Green reported in regards the Main Issues Report, that the main point of contact was Fergus Murray and the deadline for response was – 18 July 2011.

The link to the report is attached:-

http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/moderngov/Published/C00000376/M00004614/A100058759/MIRFinalFinalFinalReportdistilled110411.pdf

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 12.25p.m.