

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL PARTNERSHIP held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD, PA31 8RT  
on TUESDAY, 16 AUGUST 2011**

**Present:**

	(Chair)	
	Councillor Alison Hay	
Councillor Anne Horn		Councillor Douglas Philand
Melissa Stewart		Argyll and Bute Council
Heather Clark		Furnace CC
Malcolm Sinclair		Phoenix Project
Aiden Proctor		Scottish Citylink
Audrey Baird		Argyll and Bute Council
Catherine Paterson		Dochas Centre
Ian Y Macintyre		Tarbert & Skipness CC
Louise Logue		AVA
Colin Davidson		Craignish CC
Colin Craig		West Coast Motors
Iain McLeod		ACHA
Martin Balkeen		Strathclyde Police

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were intimated by:-

Councillor Currie  
Councillor MacMillan  
Jeanette Laughton  
Andrea Henderson  
Jane McKenzie  
Jim Frame  
John Downie  
Rod Buchanan  
Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie  
Inspector Alastair Davidson

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 24 MAY 2011**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 May 2011 were approved as a true record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

Jeanette Laughton had sent a written report regarding Ardrishaig and she noted that at the previous meeting she had requested 'No dog signage' on the new front green play area. As yet, this had not been undertaken.

In addition, the outside of the toilet block was still untidy and the painting needed replenished.

Jeanette advised that the directional arrows, disabled bays and white

lining in the Ardrishaig car park have still not been completed. Furthermore, Ragwort is growing on the ground near to the Scottish Water pumping station. The grassed area near the Scottish Water block was also badly needing cutting.

**Action: Theresa McLetchie would liaise with the relevant departments/partners to ascertain the status of these requests.**

#### **4. VILLAGE/ TOWN/AREA PLAN UPDATES INCLUDING**

##### **(a) ARDRISHAIG**

Jeannette Laughton had provided a written report which was distributed to attendees.

##### **(b) TARBERT CONSERVATION AREA**

Ian Macintyre reiterated the need for more affordable housing in the Tarbert area. He reported that a request had been made for the library opening hours to be extended on a Friday night and commented on the local council office which, in his opinion, should be opened to deal with public enquiries.

Other issues which were causing concern were the lack of parking for cars, problems with the parking bay for four buses and the pricing in the local Co-operative which was on average 10% dearer than Lochgilphead.

**Action: The Community Council to discuss the issue of parking and come back to a future meeting with their proposals.**

##### **(c) CRAIGNISH**

Colin Davidson informed the group that the Craignish Community Plan had been finalised and would be available online.

The Chair congratulated Colin on behalf of the group.

#### **5. HOUSING ISSUES**

Iain McLeod from ACHA reported on various projects and renovations which had been undertaken by ACHA in the local area.

Councillor Horn reported on issues which had given cause for concern in regards to responsibility for fire damage caused by ACHA tenants to private neighbours. To date, these issues had not been resolved. Ian McLeod replied that both these issues had been raised and addressed by Alastair McGregor previously on behalf of ACHA. The Group also discussed compensation to damaged buildings while work was being carried out and who was responsible for making good. Iain advised that ACHA would make good as far as possible.

Councillor Philand commended ACHA's handling of a recent difficult case.

**Action: The Chair agreed that a letter be drafted and sent to Alistair McGregor, ACHA Chief Executive regarding both issues.**

## 6. SCOTTISH WATER

Councillor Philand provided information that he had received from Dunadd Community Council in regards the total number of water connections in the Mid Argyll area. He stated the need to ascertain from the Planning Department at Scottish Water the long term plans for the Mid Argyll area given concerns about their infrastructure.

The Chair suggested that Fergus Murray be contacted to gauge the outcome of recent meetings with Scottish Water as the infrastructure capacity would have been discussed in relation to the review of the Local Plan.

**Action: Melissa Stewart to contact Fergus Murray to ascertain what Scottish Water's proposals were in terms of increased connections, particularly in the MAKI area.**

## 7. TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Colin Craig (West Coast Motors) reported on the increased services for the 926 route and the purchase of 5 new coaches with increased passenger capacity. This had resulted in an average rise in numbers of 10% (20% in July). The routine stop in Inveraray had been reduced and this had resulted in a quicker journey time.

He reported that the cuts in local service routes had been a Council decision, outwith the control of West Coast motors. Councillor Horn reiterated that the Executive Committee had approved these cuts to local services and highlighted instances whereby local residents had been inconvenienced and penalised by them. She also advised Colin that she had received complaints in relation to access to the toilets for people with mobility problems. Colin Craig empathised with the difficulty in addressing this and assured the group that notices had been displayed in prominent locations to advise residents of the reduction to the relevant services. He advised that he was aware of the issue with accessing toilets and that this would be addressed by the use of the new coaches which were all on one level.

He advised that it was hoped to resolve an issue with the electronic information displays by September. Monitors would be electronically linked to the buses and would enable controllers to alert passengers to adverse road conditions, changes to ferries, etc.

Councillor Horn enquired on the existing booking system. Colin reported that, overall, this was working well.

Ian McIntyre stated his concerns in regards the A83 Erines-Meall Mhor

stretch. This area of the road was still in disrepair and constituted a Health and Safety issue for drivers.

**Action: The Chair requested that a letter be sent to Transport Scotland on behalf of the Mid Argyll Partnership requesting information on their plans for the coming year and if these plans include works to repair/upgrade the identified stretch of the A83.**

The Chair congratulated the Roads Department on the huge improvement to local roads. Her only concern was the white lining which needed to be restored in some areas of the roads.

## **8. HEALTH/SOCIAL CARE ISSUES**

Audrey Baird advised the group of a forthcoming Health Information day which was scheduled for 9 September.

Councillor Horn reported on various issues surrounding the transportation of patients in the local area. She had raised her concerns with the Scottish Ambulance Service. However, overall these problems had not been resolved.

**Action: The Chair requested that a letter be sent to NHS regarding the concerns of Councillor Horn and seeking to explore options to assist patients attending hospital appointments.**

## **9. COMMUNITY SAFETY**

There was no update in regards Community Safety issues.

## **10. COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

Catherine Paterson gave an update to the group on the Dochas Centre. She detailed the background to the Centre and provided information various projects – both ongoing and envisaged.

The Chair thanked Catherine for her interesting and informative update.

Following on from this, Malcolm Sinclair from the Phoenix Project gave a detailed Powerpoint presentation to the group.

Again, the Chair thanked Malcolm for his time and providing the group with an update.

**Action: Melissa Stewart would contact Hugh Blake to ascertain the marketing timetable for the Clock Lodge building in Lochgilphead and advise Malcolm Sinclair accordingly.**

Councillor Horn stated that the Tarbert Arts and Music Festival was scheduled for 16-18 September. She also reported on the new outdoor gym in Tarbert.

- (a) **NEW APPLICATION FORM - HEALTH IMPROVEMENT GRANTS**  
Audrey Baird reported on the new Health Improvement funding application form and advised that the deadline for receipt of applications was 26 August. She advised that there was still £4,500 available within the fund and asked that the MAP pass this information to any groups who may qualify. If necessary, the deadline could be extended.  
She reported on the Community Action Plan Training Day in Tarbert which had been well attended by Kintyre organisations.

**Action: The Chair requested that details of the grants awarded within the Third Sector Grant Scheme be circulated to members of the Mid Argyll Partnership.**

## **11. AMENITY ISSUES**

- (a) **DATES OF LACPG MEETING - CORRELATION WITH MAP**  
The date of the next LACPG was scheduled for:-

7 September 2011 – 10.00a.m. in the Council Chambers in Lochgilphead.

There would be a VC facility between – Islay/Jura and Colonsay. Unfortunately, Dalriada House was previously booked – so it was not possible to VC from there.

- (b) **COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION AT LACPG MEETINGS**

It was hoped that local Community Councils would continue to attend the LACPG meetings.

## **12. AOB**

There was no other business.

## **13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next MAP meeting would be scheduled for:-

**Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October - 10.00a.m. in the Council Chambers, Lochgilphead**

