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MINUTES of MEETING of KINTYRE INITIATIVE WORKING GROUP held in the TOWN HALL, MAIN STREET, CAMPBELTOWN on FRIDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2013

Present:

	(Chair)
	Councillor Rory Colville
Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor Anne Horn
Councillor John Semple	
Melissa Stewart	Argyll and Bute Council
Jane Mayo	Campbeltown Community Business Ltd
Ann Gallacher	Argyll and Bute Employability Team
Susan Paterson	KFCC, PPF
Julian Green	Argyll and Bute Council
John Lamont	HIAL
Alan Reid, MP	
Stuart Green	Argyll and Bute Council
David Roberts	HIE
Pauline Houston	PA Jamie McGrigor, MSP

1. APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the meeting at 10.00a.m. and adjourned to allow attendees to arrive, due to the late change in venue, which had been necessary due to damage to the Town Hall.

The meeting commenced at 10.15a.m. and the Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were intimated by:-

Dhonna McCallum – Argyll College
Darlene Russell – Argyll College
Ishabel Bremner – Argyll and Bute Council
Donald Melville – Business Gateway
Jamie McGrigor, MSP
Michael Russell, MSP
Maryanne Stewart
Harvard Davis
Jim Martin

2. MINUTES

The Minute of the previous meeting held on 30 August, 2013 was approved as a true record. They were moved by Jane Mayo and seconded by Councillor Anne Horn.

Councillor Currie reiterated that he had requested HIE to provide advice and assistance in the Carradale area. Councillor Horn stated that she had also raised that East Kintyre Community Council be involved in any

discussions on this issue.

The Chair replied that he would write on behalf of the KIWG to HIE requesting they make contact to help address this issue.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Melissa Stewart advised that following the MAKI Area Committee meeting held on 2 October 2013, it had been agreed that nominations for Chair of the KIWG would be open to the 6 local Ward 1 and Ward 2 Members and that determination of these appointments had been referred back to the KIWG.

Susan Paterson proposed that Councillor Colville be re-appointed as Chair and this was seconded by Jane Mayo. No other nominations were forthcoming. Councillor Colville accepted the nomination as Chair of the Group and was so appointed.

Councillor Colville proposed that Jim Martin retain the position of Vice-Chair and this was seconded by Ann Gallacher. In the absence of Jim Martin at the meeting, Councillor Colville accepted the Vice-Chair on his behalf.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no Matters Arising.

5. FUTURE INITIATIVES

(a) STRENGTHENING LINKS WITH NORTHERN IRELAND

The Chair raises the issue of forging closer connections with Northern Ireland and Eire advising of the Policy in place that the Council would not support either financially or in terms of officer time, any additional twinning links.

The group gave discussion to this issue and the existing cultural links between Kintyre and Antrim were detailed. They gave consideration to the possibility of opportunities for smaller organisations and companies to build on this and identify the potential for the development of future opportunities and links. Councillor Semple advised the group of a previous passenger survey which had been undertaken. He could produce this information if required.

Stuart Green stated that the Sailwest project had ended, but the partners involved in the project were still there. He reported on the possibility of ERDF for future projects. However, there would be less funding from ERDF and the criteria would be more stringent.

The group agreed

1. That Stuart Green would liaise with Kevin Baker, Library Development Officer with a view to taking a proposal to the Cultural Forum.

2. That this item would remain on the KIWG Agenda for further consideration.

6. INFRASTRUCTURE AND INWARD INVESTMENTS

(a) FERRY - UPDATE

Councillor Semple, Chair of the Ferry Sub-Group, updated the Group on recent meetings held with both Transport Scotland and CalMac Marketing team. He had received a draft revised timetable and this would be given further review and discussion at the Ferry Sub-Group meeting later that day.

Stuart Green advised the group on the final passenger figures for the Campbeltown - Ardrossan ferry route. These were:-

Passengers -	7484
Cars -	1226

Councillor Semple advised that the Ferry Sub-Group would also review these figures to ascertain any trends resulting from them. He reported that CalMac were not keen to release the actual passenger figures for the Brodick-Ardrossan crossing to non-stakeholders.

Decision

The Group agreed that a letter would be sent to CalMac on behalf of the KIWG requesting the Brodick-Ardrossan figures.

(b) CAMPBELTOWN AIRPORT

John Lamont reported that overall the passenger figures were down by -4.5%. However this month had shown a slight increase. The same for flights which were overall -6.7%; but again for this month they were up.

He detailed the final passenger numbers for the Sunday flights over the 16 week period of operation. These were:-

147 passengers flying into Campbeltown
174 passengers flying from Campbeltown.

In addition, lots of the local community were utilising the service. In regards the 'out of hours' service, this was not being widely used.

Councillor Currie enquired on the possibility of seats being reduced by Logan Air if flights were not fully booked. John Lamont replied that advance bookings could result in a price reduction and that no seats were reserved for patient transfers; all seats were on a first come, first served basis.

Decision

That a letter would be sent to Logan Air requesting attendance of a

Customer Service Representative at a future KIWG meeting to provide a general update on the purposes of passenger travel.

(c) **ROAD ISSUES - INCLUDING UPDATE ON A83**

Julian Green advised that he was attending on behalf of the Roads Performance Manager and tabled a Roads Update report. He updated the group on previous issues which had been raised:-

Moss Road - A survey had been arranged. He requested that Jim Martin provide the detail of the 'bad corner' that he had previously alluded to.

Stewart Road - removal of wall was a decision undertaken by the land-owner.

Parking in Tayinloan - a meeting had been arranged on 31 October for further discussion on this issue.

He reported on work being undertaken by SSE at Crossaig. SSE were being pro-active in endeavouring to evaluate the amount of material being delivered to the site and were trying to ensure that no vehicles over 7.5 tonnes would be utilised.

Councillor Currie raised concerns on road issues in the Carradale area. Julian Green stated that he would review these and update accordingly.

Further discussion ensued in regards the latest landslip at the Rest and Be Thankful and the survey which was undertaken in 2005 which identified further tranches of remedial work necessary. A further issue raised was the lack of information on public transport at the time of the landslip which the Chair undertook to investigate.

Decision

That a letter would be written to the Transport Minister on behalf of the KIWG referring to the 2005 survey and requesting that the tranches of work identified to be the most at risk areas be finalised.

(d) **CHORD**

Stuart Green reported on the successful Town Hall bid which had been awarded £1million from the Big Lottery Growing Community Assets fund. Two of the SKDT Directors would be taking control of a small team which would be dedicated to the refurbishment. The timescale for commencement was approximately May/June for the Design team and he envisaged that the project would reach finalisation by 2015. A Town Hall manager had been appointed for a 5 year period to help drive the project forward.

He advised that the project at 13-15 Kirk Street was nearing completion and plans were being made to extend the THI. Stuart continued that the Berthing Facility Full Business case was progressing and the next stage would be the actual construction

drawings. The project when completed would hopefully bring economic benefit to Campbeltown.

(e) **RENEWABLES: UPDATE COUR/HUNTERSTON GRID CONNECTION**

Melissa Stewart advised the group of the forthcoming Mid Argyll Partnership (MAP) meeting in December. The meeting would take the form of a Renewables Workshop and in attendance would be representatives from HIE, Planning and Economic Development team. The Chair advised the group that he would write to the Chair of MAP requesting an open invitation be extended to the KIWG to attend this event on 11 December.

Stuart Green reported on a further event being held in Tarbert on 6 November.

Susan Paterson highlighted an example of local communities working together and detailed meetings between the local community in Southend and SSE. An Emergency Plan had been compiled and plans were being progressed to hold an event either late Spring/early Summer which would bring together the local community and all emergency partners. The venue would possibly be MACC and the point of contact was Mo MacDougall. Susan continued that SSE were also endeavouring to find ways of updating communication in the local area to address any emergencies which may occur in the future.

Decision

That KIWG would make contact with MACC and assist in pulling the event together.

(f) **BROADBAND AND MOBILE PHONE ISSUES**

There was no update for the group. However, David Roberts advised that contracts had been agreed for Next Generation Broadband and he would bring along a more detailed map to the next KIWG meeting to update the group.

Stuart Green advised the group of a new Website which provided detailed information on issues for rural settlements:-

<http://www.scotlandsuperfast.com>

Decision

The group requested that an invitation be made to Campbell Cameron to attend a future KIWG meeting with an update.

(g) **CLYDE FISHERMENS ASSOCIATION**

There was no update received from the Association. The Chair requested that this item be retained on the Agenda.

7. BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

(a) HIGHLAND AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE (HIE)

The Chair introduced David Roberts to the group and requested that David provide regular Broadband information.

David thanked the Chair and detailed a recent Press release from Wind Towers advising that production on towers was now down from 14 weeks to 4.

Councillor Currie reiterated his request for HIE to provide help and advice in the Carradale area. David affirmed that this request would be enacted upon and confirmed that this area was on HIE's agenda. He also advised Councillor Currie of a recent contract awarded in Carradale for accommodation for the workers carrying out works for SSE...

The group agreed:

That the Carradale issue would be included on the Agenda for the next KIWG meeting in December.

(b) BUSINESS GATEWAY

Donald Melville had submitted his apologies but a short report had been submitted updating the group.

Decision:

The group noted the report.

(c) ARGYLL COLLEGE

There was no update from Argyll College.

8. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(a) MACHRIHANISH COMMUNITY FACILITY

There was no update from Machrihanish Community Facility.

(b) KINTYRE WAY

Susan Paterson reported on the possibility of landscape partnership on the Kintyre Way, following a recent meeting held with representatives from other organisations. The only issue being that the ruling dictated that the area in question was 200 sq. km; however, there was a possibility of using 2 different areas and 2 groups. The Chair stated that this was an exciting project and requested the date of the next meeting.

Councillor Horn advised the group that the first apprentice appointed to the Kintyre Way project has now been in post for 6 months and adverts had been placed for a 2nd apprentice.

(c) REPORT FROM THE PICTURE HOUSE

Jane Mayo reported on the progress of the application to the Heritage Lottery fund and she envisaged submission for the 2nd round would be in September, 2014. If successful, the grant of 800k would assist greatly towards the project costs of 2.5 million. She extended her thanks to HIE for their help and advice. Jane highlighted the fragile state of the Picture House and the struggle with the expensive running costs.

She updated the group of a special night being held on 25 October - Mental Health Arts and Film Festival - money raised would go towards the Community Garden. She advised that they were trying to hold more community events and informed the Group of the intention to show live performances of plays from the National Theatre.

(d) UPDATE - ARGYLL AND BUTE - CULTURE, HERITAGE AND ARTS ASSEMBLY

Jane updated the group of a recent meeting with the appointed consultant and a recent electronic survey which detailed the rich variety of offerings in the Kintyre area. The next stage was to compile this information into a practical form.

Stuart Green suggested making contact with Kevin Baker to enable more formative plans to be put into place. Jane advised that the consultants were compiling a strategy to help synchronisation with local organisations and take this issue forward effectively.

(e) SOUTH KINTYRE DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE

This issue was discussed under Item 6 (d).

9. MAKI COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

(a) MAKI CPP PLANNING EVENT - 12 NOVEMBER IN TARBERT

The Chair advised that group that the event planned for 12 November had been postponed.

(b) MAKI COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP - MEETING DATE

The next MAKI CPG meeting was scheduled for:-

4 December, 2013 – 2.00p.m.

The venue for the meeting would be the Town Hall, Campbeltown.

10. A.O.B.

The Chair advised the group of a recent letter received by Jamie McGrigor, MSO from Alex Neil, MSP – Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing. The letter was in regards the provision of beds at

Campbeltown Hospital and stated that NHS Highland had not made any formal decision to reduce the number of beds available.

Councillor Horn advised of the upcoming Tarbert Book Festival on 23 and 24 November, 2013 and highlighted some of the events that would be taking place.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was scheduled for:-

Friday, 13 December, 2013

10.00a.m. – Town Hall, Campbeltown.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and thanked the group for the informative updates received.

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