

MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE held in the EAGLESHAM HOUSE, MOUNTPLEASANT ROAD, ROTHESAY on TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2013

Present: Councillor Bruce Marshall (Chair)

Councillor Gordon Blair	Councillor Len Scoullar
Councillor Michael Breslin	Councillor Isobel Strong
Councillor Alex McNaughton	Councillor Dick Walsh
Councillor James McQueen	

Jane Fowler, Head of Improvement and HR
Jim Smith, Head of Amenity Services
Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Tom Murphy, Amenity Services Manager
David Clements, IOD Programme Manager
Jayne Lawrence-Winch, Area Manager (Operations)
Liz Marion, Social Economy Development Officer
Caroline Sheen, Estates Surveyor
Alison McIlroy, Service Officer, Grounds and Horticulture
Mark Calder, Communications Officer
John Lawson, Rothesay Joint Campus
Liz Campbell, Rothesay Joint Campus
Daniel & Megan, Head Boy & Girl, Rothesay Academy
Mark Johnstone
Iain McNaughton, Sandbank Community Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Robert Macintyre and Cleland Sneddon, Executive Director of Community Services.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

(a) BUTE AND COWAL SPECIAL AREA COMMITTEE - 24 SEPTEMBER 2013

The Minutes of the Bute and Cowal Special Area Committee meeting held on 24 September 2013 were approved as a correct record.

(b) BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE - 1 OCTOBER 2013

The Minutes of the Bute and Cowal Area Committee meeting held on 1 October 2013 were approved as a correct record.

(c) **DUNOON CHORD PROJECT BOARD - 4 OCTOBER 2013**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Dunoon CHORD Project Board held on 4 October 2013 were noted.

(d) **COWAL GAMES PARTNERSHIP - 4 OCTOBER 2013**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Cowal Games Partnership held on 4 October 2013 were noted.

(e) **COWAL TRANSPORT FORUM - 18 OCTOBER 2013**

The Minutes of the Cowal Transport Forum meeting held on the 18 October 2013 were noted.

(f) **BUTE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 25 OCTOBER 2013**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Bute Community Safety Forum held on the 25 October 2013 were noted.

(g) **COWAL COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 4 NOVEMBER 2013**

The Minutes of the Cowal Community Safety Forum meeting held on the 4 November 2013 were noted.

(h) **DUNOON CHORD PROJECT BOARD - 12 NOVEMBER 2013**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Dunoon CHORD Project Board held on the 12 November 2013 were noted.

4. ROTHESAY JOINT CAMPUS

John Lawson and Liz Campbell from Rothesay Joint Campus presented to the Members an achievement report on the achievements of the school for the year 2012/13. Daniel and Megan provided additional information for the students perspective and answered questions from Members.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and formally congratulated the Head Teacher and the school for their achievements.

(Ref: Report by the Head Teacher of Rothesay Academy dated 3 December 2013, submitted).

5. AREA PLAN SCORECARDS

The Committee gave consideration to the Area Scorecard detailing exceptional performance for Financial Quarter 2 2013-14 (July-September 2013).

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the report.

(Ref: Report by Improvement and Organisational Development Programme Manager, dated 4 December 2013, submitted).

6. SOA PROGRESS REPORT

The Head of Improvement and HR spoke on the SOA that the Council had endorsed in June 2013. She advised a 3 year improvement plan had been drawn up, spoke regarding the themes which make up the SOA as well as outlining the process for taking forward area based engagement events.

Decision

Noted the update provided by the Head of Improvement and HR.

7. THIRD SECTOR GRANTS

A report providing members with details of recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants to third sector organisations for Bute and Cowal was considered in relation to the outstanding balance of £14,570.

Decision

The Committee agreed to award grants as follows:-

Ref No	Organisation	Total Project Costs	Amount Requested	Decision
3.1	Blairmore Village Trust	£4,580	£2,030	£1,717
3.2	Carr Gomm	£2,460	£1,320	£1,046
3.3	Cowal Community Care Forum	£4,532	£2,000	£1,700
3.4	Cowal Red Squirrel Group	£275	£137.50	£137
3.5	FATHOMS	£4,987	£2,493	£2,120
3.6	Interloch Transport	£11,096	£3,364	£2,760
3.7	Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop	£780	£620	£332
3.8	PACCT (People and Agencies of Cowal Coming Together)	£2,196	£1,296	£550
3.9	Port Bannatyne Golf Club	£5,750	£2,750	£2,208
3.10	Project Play Park	£4,980	£2,490	£2,000

(Ref: Report by the Community Development Manager dated 8 November 2013 – submitted)

8. BUTE AND COWAL HEADSTONES

A report providing the Committee with a policy document and an update on works undertaken on memorials in Bute and Cowal, was considered.

Decision

1. Noted the content of the policy document and an update on works planned and completed; and
2. Recommended that the policy be placed before the full Council for approval.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 12 November 2013, submitted)

9. ROADS REVENUE BUDGET - FQ2

A report following on from the report presented at the August Area Committee, which provided information on road maintenance revenue activities being delivered in 2013/14, was considered.

The report details the current level of expenditure of the Roads Operations Revenue Budget.

Decision

The Committee noted the report.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 8 November 2013, submitted).

Councillor Blair left the meeting at this point.

10. HIGH ROAD NORTH FROM WHITES BRAE, BLAIRMORE

A report providing details of a request from frontagers of the High Road North from Whites Brae for a financial contribution for necessary upgrading works to the road was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed that without prejudice to the generality of the agreed Council policy for bringing unadopted roads up to adoptive standard, to direct the Head of Roads and Amenity Services to find £1,000 from within the Bute and Cowal Revenue Budget in respect of making a donation towards this project.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 19 November 2013, submitted)

11. AMENITY SERVICE SAVINGS

A report proposing a service delivery model for 2014/15 which was developed following a Member Workshop, was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed the service delivery model as detailed in the submitted report be taken to the Council for approval with a report coming back to the Area committee thereafter.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated November 2013, submitted)

12. CARE INSPECTORATE REPORT

The Area Manager (Operations) spoke on the Care Inspectorate report for learning disability day services.

Decision

Noted the update provided by the Area Manager (Operations)

Councillor Scoullar left the meeting at this point.

13. OLDER PEOPLES CARE AT HOME SERVICE UPDATE

A report updating the Committee on the findings of the 2nd quarterly evaluation of the Care at Home provision within the Bute and Cowal area, following the externalisation of services on 21st January 2013, was considered.

The report has been broken down to show the progress and joint working that has been put into place to ensure that a high quality service is provided, as it is recognised that this service is provided to vulnerable individuals, predominately by lone workers, in the home environment.

Members discussed the detail of the report and highlighted a number of issues in regards issues of recruitment and retention of staff and the capacity of care providers to deliver high quality services at all times. Concerns regarding the adherence of providers to contracted conditions of service for staff were also discussed.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and asked that an investigation into contract compliance as per the Council's procedures be carried out by the service into conditions of service for staff and the recruitment and retention of staff by contracted care providers, and that the Policy Lead for Adult Services be included in those discussions.

(Ref: Report by the Area Manager. Adult Care dated 3 December 2013, submitted).

14. MARQUIS OF BUTE SILVER WEDDING DOWRY FUND

A report providing Members with information regarding an application which has been made to the Marquis of Bute's Silver Wedding Dowry Fund, was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed to grant £400.

(Ref: Report by the Area Governance Manager dated 15 November 2013, submitted).

15. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Iain MacNaughton, Sandbank Community Council, requested that the Council should consider insurance cover in light of the memorial proposals for lair holders. He also asked questions in relation to adopted roads to which he was advised by the Head of Roads and Amenity Services that there was no legal onus for the Council to adopt roads and finally he questioned which areas of private land the Council currently maintained. The Streetscene Area Manager responded to this question advising Mr MacNaughton that a list of leased and

private areas was being compiled but would not be available until 2014/15.

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 & 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Governments (Scotland) Act 1973.

16. OFFICE OF THE SCOTTISH CHARITY REGULATOR

A report by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator was considered.

The report gives an Annual Return, Trustees Annual Report, Financial Statements and an Independent Examiners Report for each of the charitable trusts that Argyll and Bute currently administer. It is a legal requirement that each of these charities files these reports before the statutory deadline of 31 December.

Decision

The Committee reviewed and approved the annual accounts for each of the charities for the year ended 31 March 2013 and their filing with OSCR.

(Ref: Report by the Head of Strategic Finance dated 7 November 2013, submitted).

17. DUNOON 5 ASIDE PITCH

A report providing further details to Members with regards to options for operating the five-a-side all weather pitches at Dunoon Stadium, was considered.

Decision

Members agreed to note the contents of the report, agreed that option 5 as detailed at the options appraisal on the report be progressed, and requested that a further report be brought back to the February Area Committee meeting.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 19 November 2013, submitted)

18. GROUND AT BROXWOOD, SANDBANK, DUNOON

A report advising the Committee of a request from Sandbank Community Development Trust to vary their existing lease of ground at Broxwood Sandbank to incorporate further Council land, was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed recommendations 2.1 and 2.2 of the submitted report.

(Ref: Report by Estates Surveyor dated 8 November 2013, submitted).