

**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE held in the CORRAN
HALLS, OBAN
on WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

Present: Councillor Alistair MacDougall (Chair)

Councillor Elaine Robertson
Councillor Fred Hall

Councillor Roderick McCuish
Councillor Duncan MacIntyre

Also present: Councillor Dougie Philand

Attending: Jane Fowler, Head of Improvement and HR
Malcolm MacFadyen, Head of Facility Services
Jim Robb, Head of Adult Care
Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services
Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
David Clements, Improvement and Organisational Development Programme
Manager
Shaun Paul Davidson, Area Manager – Adult Care
Margaret Fyne, Community Development Manager
Tom Murphy, Streetscene Area Manager
Fergus Murray, Development Policy Manager
Graham Whitefield, GIS Manager
Margaret Burnip, Monitoring Officer
Stuart McCracken, Service Development Officer
Louise Lawson, Depute Head, Oban High School
Alison MacDonald, Depute Head, Oban High School
Cameron Underwood, Oban High School Pupil
Beth McArthur, Oban High School Pupil
Michael Strathern, Oban High School Pupil
Fiona MacLean, Oban High School Pupil
Pat Tyrell, NHS Highland
Neil MacIntyre, Oban Community Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated from Councillor Devon, Councillor Glen-Lee, Councillor Macdonald and Sally Loudon.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Robertson declared a non financial interest in relation to the report on the Scottish Ferries Plan and Kerrera Stag and Road which is dealt with at item 11 of this Minute because her husband is factor of Dunollie Estate. As this was only a verbal update, she remained within the room during the update.

3. PRESENTATION OF QUAICH

It was noted that Mr McInnes was attending a funeral and therefore had intimated that he would not be attending this meeting.

Decision

The Committee agreed to postpone the presentation of the Quaich to the February Area Committee Meeting.

4. MINUTES

(a) OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE - 9 OCTOBER 2013

The minutes of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee held on 9 October 2013 were approved as a correct record.

(b) OBAN CHORD PROJECT BOARD - 22 OCTOBER 2013 (FOR NOTING)

The minutes of the Oban CHORD Project Board held on 22 October 2013 were noted.

(c) OBAN COMMON GOOD FUND - 8 NOVEMBER 2013 (FOR NOTING)

The minutes of the Oban Common Good Fund of 8 November 2013 were noted.

(d) OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 25 NOVEMBER 2013 (FOR NOTING)

The Minutes of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Safety Forum meeting held on 25 November 2013 were noted.

5. OBAN HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

Louise Lawson, Depute Head, Oban High School, presented the School's Achievement Report, highlighting the main points of interest which included the positive number of appeals which had been successful, the school roll, the additional support work for S4 pupils that the school was particularly pleasing as this had been an area for development and new benchmarking requirements which would be more meaningful. Mrs Lawson then tabled a School Leader Destination Report which she also spoke to.

Alison MacDonald, Depute Head, Oban High School, spoke about the nurturing environment at the school, the different forms of achievements, in addition to academic achievements, which were promoted in the school and the extra curriculum activities available to pupils.

Cameron Underwood and Beth McArthur, who were both Clan Leaders at the High School, spoke about their experiences as Clan Leader and the social and leadership skills they had developed as a result of the position.

Michael Strathern and Fiona MacLean spoke about their experiences as Champion of the pupils group and extra curricular activities respectively.

Decision

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the representatives of Oban High School for their informative presentation of the School's achievement report and the Committee noted the terms of the said report and report documenting school leaver destinations which had been tabled.

(Ref: Oban High School Achievement Report 2013, submitted and School Leaver Destination Report, tabled)

6. AREA SCORECARD

A report presenting the Area Scorecard for financial quarter 2 of 2013-14 (July to September 2013) for the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area was considered and the Improvement and Organisational Development Programme Manager spoke in reference to the exceptions.

Decision

The Committee noted the exceptional performance presented on the scorecard.

(Ref: Report by Improvement and Organisational Development Programme Manager dated 11 December 2013, submitted)

7. ROSS OF MULL AND IONA DOCTORS

The Area Governance Manager advised that Derek Leslie of NHS Highland had been invited to attend the meeting but had submitted his apologies. He had provided an update on the situation which was read out by the Area Governance Manager which indicated that formal withdrawal of the earlier resignation had been received and that there would be a meeting in January 2014 in Bunessan Hall involving stakeholders.

Decision

To note that the matter was being progressed and that following a meeting planned for January, there may be a further report on this issue.

8. MULL PROGRESSIVE CARE CENTRE

A report updating the Committee about the purpose and costs of the facility and addressing concerns raised by the community in relation to the progressive care facility was considered.

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the report and the reassurances given regarding inherited tenancy which was highly unlikely when the requirement for succession was that the property be the persons main home and permanent residence.

(Ref: Joint Report by Head of Adult Care, Chief Executive of West Highland Housing Association and Chief Officer of Argyll and Bute CHP dated 20 November 2013, submitted)

9. QUARTERLY EVALUATION OF HOME CARE PROVISION IN OBAN LORN AND THE ISLES

The Committee gave consideration to a report updating them on them on the findings of the second quarterly evaluation of the Care at Home provision within the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area following the externalisation of the service on 21st January 2013.

Decision

The Committee noted the remit of the Procurement and Commissioning Team together with the Homecare Procurement Officers was to ensure best value, contract compliance, quality of services and customer satisfaction which would assist the commissioning of quality care at home services.

(Ref: Report by Area Adult Care Manager, dated 11 December 2013, submitted)

10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Neil MacIntyre of Oban Community Council queried what action was being taken in the area to address the significant issue of dog fouling and why no fines were being issued locally.

The Council's Streetscene Area Manager advised that there were wardens being brought in from other areas and patrols would be stepped up. He encouraged reporting of incidents from the public which would allow his service to follow up the complaint. This could include any routine for dog walking or type of dog etc and the caller could remain anonymous.

Councillor McCuish asked what was being done to publicise the phone line and suggested that the phone number could be on the Warden's van. The Streetscene Area Manager advised he would take this suggestion onboard.

11. SCOTTISH FERRIES PLAN AND KERRERA STAG

The Development Policy Manager gave a brief verbal update on the Ferries Plan and Kerrera STAG advising that options and a business case were being progressed and that a report would be brought to the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Special Area Committee meeting in January.

Decision

The Committee noted the verbal update and that a further report would be brought back to the Special Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee on 15 January 2014.

12. ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS AT OBAN RAILWAY STATION

The Area Governance Manager advised that representatives of Scotrail had been invited to the meeting but had declined the invitation although had submitted an email responding to the issues raised which was then conveyed to the Committee.

Decision

The Committee expressed their dissatisfaction with the response provided and instructed the Council's Head of Governance and Law to pursue all legal means within the Disability Discrimination Act to ensure a by-law in respect of the parking bays be progressed by Scotrail on the basis that this would be a more appropriate form of dissuading parking rather than a barrier which caused obstruction for emergency vehicles; prevented use of disabled parking bays and disruption to commercial refuse collection.

13. AMENITY SERVICES SAVINGS

The Committee was invited to consider the proposals for a service delivery model for 2014/15, developed following a Member Workshop, a report to the August Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee and a stakeholder engagement meeting.

Decision

The Area Committee agreed that the service delivery model detailed within paragraph 3.4 of the submitted report which would achieve savings of £62,087.

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

14. ROADS REVENUE BUDGET - FQ2

A report which detailed the current level of expenditure of the Roads and Operations Revenue budget was considered.

Decision

The Committee Noted the submitted report.

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

15. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING - TOBERMORY, ISLE OF MULL

A report identifying issues arising with street naming in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in Tobermory, together with the consultation carried out with residents within the affected 3 streets was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed to the introduction of 3 new street names in Tobermory as follows:

1. The public road from Back Brae to the entrance at Oakfield and Bad-Daraich House be named Oakfield Road.
2. The private lane from the entrance to Oakfield and Bad-Daraich House to Tanera be named Bad Daraich Lane.

3. The public road from Western Road at Ach Na Circe to Strongarbh House be named Strongarbh Road.

(Ref: Report by Executive Director of Development & Infrastructure dated 14 November 2013, submitted)

16. SOA PROGRESS REPORT

The Head of Improvement and HR spoke to the Committee about the progress made towards completion of the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). She advised of the objective of the plan which was to grow the population and create economic success. The Head of Improvement and HR also discussed the 6 themes of the SOA and the delivery plans in place to take the plan forward and achieve completion of the SOA by the end of February 2014.

Decision

The Committee noted the progress being made with the Single Outcome Agreement and the plans in place to complete the plan by the end of February 2014.

17. AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING ENGAGEMENT EVENT

The Committee received an update from the Head of Improvement and HR and the Community Development Manager regarding the agreement of Community Planning Partnership to postpone the area engagement event which was to allow more time to gather more detailed information. The Committee were advised that the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Planning Group would be asked at their meeting, taking place later in the day to agree to a date in February 2014 for the event to take place.

Decision

Noted the updated provided by the Head of Improvement and HR and Community Development Manager.

18. OBAN CHORD UPDATE

The Area Governance Manager advised that the Oban Regeneration Project Manager was unable to attend the Area Committee meeting due to a conflicting meeting. She advised that the report presented was an update of the workshop held on 22 October 2014 which all members of the Area Committee had attended and which was for noting and reminded members of a previous decision by the Area Committee that an update be brought to the Area Committee following each Oban CHORD Project Board meeting. The report which was before members fulfilled that request.

Decision

The Committee resolved that as the update contained information which extended beyond the Workshop on 22 October 2014 and which raised questions for response by the Oban Regeneration Project Manager, they would continue consideration of the report to the Special Area Committee meeting being held on

15 January 2014 at which time the Oban Regeneration Project Manager was expected to attend.

(Ref: Report by Head of Economic Development dated 15 November 2013, submitted)

19. NEW OBAN HIGH SCHOOL

A report which updates the Committee on the work undertaken and the process for engagement with the local community was considered.

Decision

The Committee noted:

1. The detail of the recently completed public consultation exercise on the preferred site for the new Oban High School; and
2. The arrangements for reporting the result of the consultation exercise undertaken in accordance with the timescale set out in Paragraph 3.5 and Appendix 1 of the submitted report.

(Ref: Report by Executive Director of Customer Services dated 11 December 2013, submitted)

20. SCHOOL TRANSPORT AND FIRST SCOTRAIL ENHANCED GLASGOW RAIL SERVICE

A report setting out the position following the decision to transport some pupils within the Dalmally corridor to school by train to Oban High School using the enhanced Glasgow-Oban rail service was before the Committee for consideration.

Decision

The committee noted the up to date position.

(Ref: Report by the Head of Facility Services dated 11 December 2013, submitted)

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for the following 3 items of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6, 9 and 9 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

21. OSCR (OFFICE OF THE SCOTTISH CHARITY REGULATOR): REQUIREMENTS FOR ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL TRUST FUNDS

A report inviting the Committee to consider and approve the charitable trusts which the Council administers was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the annual accounts for each of the charities for the year ended 31 March 2013 and to these accounts being filed with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator)

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

22. SITE AT FORMER DUNBEG VILLAGE HALL

The Committee was invited to consider a report about the site at the former Dunbeg Village Hall.

Decision

The Committee asked that the Head of Facility Services take further advice on the sale of the hall and that the Customer Services Department consult with the Community Council and advise them that the site is up for sale, and that a further update report outlining the results of these consultation is brought to the February Area Committee.

(Ref: Report by Executive Director of Customer Services dated 30 October 2013, submitted)

23. ROCKFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL: UPDATE ON FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Committee heard from the Head of Facility Services in relation to the status of the feasibility study at Rockfield Primary School.

Decision

The Committee noted the verbal update from the Head of Facility Services.