

MINUTES of MEETING of HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
held in the
on **TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2013**

Present: Councillor George Freeman (Vice Chair)

Councillor David Kinniburgh Councillor Robert G Macintyre
Councillor Aileen Morton Councillor Ellen Morton
Councillor Richard Trail

Attending: Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Jane Fowler, Head of Improvement and HR
Julie Young, Sustainable Travel Co-ordinator
Roanna Clark, Young Scot/Dialogue Youth Co-ordinator
Arlene Cullum, Social Enterprise Officer
Brenda Sutherland, Development Worker
Audrey Baird, Community Development Officer
Inspector Claire Miller, Police Scotland
Area Commander Eddie Renfrew, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
Sam Campbell, NHS Highland
Linda Skrastin, NHS Highland
David Rae, ACHA
Morevain Martin, Argyll Voluntary Action
Commander Iain Riches, Ministry of Defence
John Tacchi, Helensburgh Community Council
Alastair Macbeth, Helensburgh Study Group

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were intimated from:-

Councillor Maurice Corry
Councillor Vivien Dance
Councillor Gary Mulvaney
Councillor James Robb

Joanna Peebles, Scottish Water
Carol Muir, NHS
Martin Turnbull, Youth Services
Yvonne Litster, ACHA

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013

The Minute of the Meeting of Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group, 10 September 2013 was approved as a correct record.

4. EDUCATION STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT

Shirley MacLeod advised the group that this item would be addressed at the meeting of the group in March 2014.

5. PARTNER UPDATES

(a) POLICE SCOTLAND

Inspector Claire Miller updated the group with regard to the proposed restructuring of resources in Police Scotland. She advised that in October 2013, Mr McEwan wrote to all Community Council's and partner agencies within Argyll and Bute regarding the restructuring of the Chief Inspector and Inspector ranks only, she further advised that although the proposed changes were only at the consultation stage the span of command is Scotland wide and not only Argyll and Bute.

Inspector Miller spoke of the current situation which consists of 4 command areas, 1 within West Dunbartonshire (known as LA Division) and 3 in Argyll and Bute (known as LB Division). She advised that the proposals sought to reduce the 4 areas to 3, with 1 remaining in West Dunbartonshire and 2 in Argyll and Bute. She advised that the new model would see 2 Area Commanders, and 2 Area Inspectors (1 of each in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands, Oban, Lorn and the Isles and 1 of each for South Argyll, Helensburgh and Lomond). She advised of the other methods of support which would be available throughout the area, namely CID, Road Policing etc.

Councillor Freeman requested that a copy of the presentation be forwarded to Shirley MacLeod for dissemination. Inspector Miller advised that she required to check if this would be acceptable but agreed that if it was she would pass to Shirley MacLeod.

Inspector Miller provided updates in respect of Rural Watch, which she confirmed was well progressed and that it was now to be rolled out to the National Park. She advised that the mobile unit had spent a bit of time off the road due to maintenance issues but was now back on. She advised that disorder was down by 20% from last year. She spoke of the Winter Safety Campaigns, which would see additional high viz patrols in the street during the day and in the evening for the festive party season.

Councillors George Freeman and Ellen Morton thanked the Police for their assistance and support over the 2 weekends of the winter festival. They explained that there had been over 5,000 people on each day with minimum disruption.

(b) SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE

The group were updated by Area Commander Eddie Renfrew, who advised that the Local Area Plans had been presented and were now being scrutinized by local authorities which outlined the top 6 activities, and that the Fire Service were currently awaiting comments/feedback with a view to a new plan for 2014/17 coming out for consultation in coming weeks which addresses the priorities and falls in line with the SOA.

He spoke of referrals for the deaf alert programme, he explained that for Argyll and Bute wide there had been 39 referrals from the NHS with only 1 in the Helensburgh and Lomond area. He advised of 79 referrals from Social Work with 25 from the Helensburgh and Lomond area. He explained that there was 50 referrals in Argyll and Bute from the local housing authority, however there were none in the Helensburgh and Lomond area. David Rae spoke of a referral he was aware of in the Kilcreggan area. Mr Renfrew advised that this may not have been recorded as a referral by the local housing authority if Social Work had been involved. Mr Rae advised that he would look in to the matter and pass on the information to ensure it was the same referral.

Mr Renfrew spoke of the Bonfire Campaign which was very successful, he advised that as a service they had not required to attend anything outwith organised events. He spoke of the literature which was coming out in respect of the Winter Safety Campaign. He advised that he would pass to Shirley MacLeod and have them disseminated through the CPP admin.

(c) **SCOTTISH AMBULANCE**

As there was no representation, the Vice Chair agreed that the update on the 1st Responders Initiative would be addressed at the meeting of the group in March 2014.

(d) **NHS HIGHLAND**

As apologies had been submitted from Carol Muir there was no update on the Food and Health – local Food Production and Procurement paper. Shirley MacLeod advised that the paper would be resubmitted at the March 2014 meeting of the group.

Linda Skratsin updated the group in regard to the reshaping of care for older persons. She advised of a recent event held in St Andrews Kirk Hall to aid the development of unscheduled care in the community. She advised that they were currently looking to develop pathways for older persons to remain at home after a fall when there is no requirement for them to remain in hospital. She advised that they were working in tandem with the Scottish Ambulance Service and that the event in the Kirk had been well attended by both the NHS, Scottish Ambulance Service and members of the public.

She addressed the issue of the integrated equipment store which was raised at the last meeting of the group. She advised that this was currently based in Oban, however there was NHS funding available to purchase a property in Lomond Street, Helensburgh. The purchase was to be complete by the end of the financial year, after which time work would be carried out to make the premises suitable and the integrated equipment store would be moved from Oban to Helensburgh.

Sam Campbell spoke to the terms of Mental Wellbeing/Suicide. She advised that 2 people die by suicide in Scotland each day. She

advised that this had been identified as a community issue, as suicide rates generally increase with increasing deprivation and in the current economic climate there had been 762 deaths by suicide in Scotland in 2012. She advised that the national aim of the Choose Life programme had been to reduce death by suicide by 20% to be achieved by 2013.

She advised of the different activities that had been held in the area with a view to highlighting mental health issues, such as Helensburgh's Got Talent and the Walk in My Shoes Tour.

Councillor Freeman advised that he had attended the annual conference in 2012 and found it to be worth while and eye opening. He urged anyone who could, to attend the conference.

(e) **SCOTTISH WATER**

As apologies had been intimated by Joanna Peebles, Regional Community Manager, Shirley MacLeod advised that an update from Scottish Water would be available at the next meeting of the group in March 2014.

(f) **ARGYLL VOLUNTARY ACTION**

The group were updated by Morevainn Martin, who advised that the recent Partnerships with Alzheimers Event "I don't care" held in Hermitage Academy had been a success. She advised that the event was well attended by a variety of different ages within the community and had raised awareness and let the community know of the resources available. She advised of a recent fashion show which had been sponsored by "M and Co" in respect of the "Grey Matters Group" had raised £278, which would go towards the groups Christmas lunch.

The Vice Chair asked if there were any further partner updates.

Roanna Clark updated the group in relation to the Youth Forums. She spoke of up and coming teenagers from the Helensburgh and Lomond area, namely Katie Burke who is the Helensburgh and Lomond member of the Youth Parliament and Liam Butler who is the Chair of the Helensburgh and Lomond Youth Forum. She also advised of the success of the Argyll and Bute Awards Bash which had been held in September. She spoke of the new card scheme which offered rewards for changing lifestyles for the better, with points available for healthy eating etc.

Councillor Freeman asked Ms Clark to provide information regarding Young Scots to Shirley MacLeod to disseminate to the group.

Commander Iain Riches updated the group with regard to recent changes at the MOD base. He advised of future projects to add a further 600 beds, he advised that this was ongoing at present with a view to the first delivery being in 2015 and in 2016 a further project to add another 1,000 beds. He spoke of the married quarters and

updated in regards to future plans and the challenges faced by the MOD in terms of funding for the project.

Councillor Ellen Morton advised that in recent years she felt that she doesn't receive the same information as she used to as a local member. Further discussion was had in this regard with Commander Riches advising that he would invite the 3 local members and invite to attend the next meeting on site.

Councillor Freeman suggested that the MOD be invited to attend the next available Business Day regarding the Maritime Change Programme.

6. ISSUES RAISED BY THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

The group were given a short presentation from Morevainn Martin on the Community Empowerment Bill Consultation. She advised of the Councils and the Third Sector Partnerships responsibilities in taking part in the consultation. She advised that the Council should consult and engage with Communities in identifying and prioritising the outcomes that are to be delivered and ensure community engagement is properly planned, resourced and integrated across partners. She highlighted the closing date for consultation as 24th January 2014 and advised that all partners could go on to the Scottish Government website and follow the link "respond to the consultation online" to have their say.

Alastair Macbeth who attended the meeting on behalf of the Helensburgh Study Group asked the following questions:

1. What steps had been taken by the Council to respond to the document?
2. What steps have the Council taken to consult with local communities? and
3. Can the Council request an extension to the deadline date for the consultation process?

The Vice Chair advised that the Council have not responded to the proposal as yet, he confirmed that the questions raised by Mr Macbeth would be directed to the appropriate person who would provide the answers to both Mr Macbeth and the Community Council's.

Morevainn Martin agreed to forward a copy of the presentation to Shirley MacLeod to be disseminated round the partners.

7. ISSUES RAISED BY COMMUNITY COUNCILS

John Tacchi enquired as to what happened with the Community Resilience Plans. Shirley MacLeod advised that the inaugural meetings of Community Council's should have addressed these issues, Mrs MacLeod advised that she would contact John Tacchi directly in this regard.

8. ARGYLL AND THE ISLES COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

The group were given a short presentation by Julie Young, Development

Officer who outlined the vision, structure and sustainable business model of the Trust. Ms Young advised that the trust was still in its infancy and was hoping to have more of a “friends of” structure. Its aim was to support existing groups, share information and co-ordinate action. Ms Young further advised that membership was only open to residents of Argyll and Bute with membership costing £5.00 per person.

The Vice Chair thanked Ms Young for her informative presentation.

9. THIRD SECTOR ASSET TRANSFER

The group were given a short presentation by Brenda Sutherland, Development Worker on the benefits of asset transfer. She outlined the application process and the decision making process. Ms Sutherland advised that there are five important factors which should be adhered to when considering an application for asset transfer, these are the capacity of the organisation, the suitability of the asset, any risk involved, the social impact of the project and the financial sustainability. She also advised that The Big Lottery would not fund anything above the market value of the asset.

Arlene Cullum advised that the presentation had been about bringing to the attention of the partners the opportunities available to people as the current economical climate had seen an increase in asset transfer, and that she hoped that partners would use this knowledge to pass on the information where appropriate.

The Vice Chair thanked Ms Sutherland for the informative presentation.

10. ACHA UPDATE

The group were given a short presentation by David Rae. Mr Rae advised that ACHA had a total stock of 5,091 properties, with 1,002 of these properties being in the Lomond area. He explained that in terms of the Investment Programme, which has an end date of 2015, each property must meet a criteria which would make them compliant with the tolerable standard and energy efficient. He explained that in the Lomond area 72% of properties had already been improved, therefore they were considerably ahead of the game. Mr Rae spoke of a new housing development, known as Hood Court, which had already received a significant demand.

Further discussion took place in regard to the Welfare Reform and Bedroom Tax. Mr Rae advised that ACHA had recently received a Big Lottery award to provide ACHA residents with advice in this regard.

Audrey Baird spoke of a recent meeting she had attended with the Trussell Trust who had estimated between 800-1200 cases which would require the use of a food bank in the Lomond area, and were looking to set up a food bank facility in the area. Ms Baird confirmed that she would

send information to the group regarding the next meeting of the Trussell Trust.

The Vice Chair thanked both Mr Rae and Ms Baird for the information provided.

11. SOA PROGRESS REPORT

Jane Fowler provided the group with a progress report on the Single Outcome Agreement. She advised that the objective of the agreement was the growing population and economic development. She advised that the Community Planning Events which had been scheduled to take place in November had been postponed and that they were now scheduled to take place in February. Following some discussion the group agreed that Thursday 6th February 2014 would be the best date to carry out the events.

12. DUCHESS WOOD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE COMMITTEE

Shirley MacLeod updated the group in relation to recent activity undertaken by the Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve. Councillor Aileen Morton advised of future plans at Duchess Woods including the outdoor nursery which was in the process of being organised alongside STRAMASH. She advised that it was still in the early stages with issues such as planning still being addressed. Councillor Morton advised that Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve, along with the Friends of Duchess Woods were involved in planning events in relation to the John Muir Way.

(Reference: Report by Area Governance Manager, Customer Services dated 10 December 2013, submitted.)

13. HIGHLIGHT REPORT HELENSBURGH COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Shirley MacLeod provided the group with an update regarding the main pieces of work undertaken by the Helensburgh and Lomond Community Safety Forum.

(Reference: Report by Area Governance Manager, Customer Services, dated 9 December 2013, submitted.)

