

**MEETING OF THE CAUCUS OF BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY COUNCILS HELD IN 22 HILL STREET,
DUNOON WITH VIDEO LINK TO UNION STREET ROTHESAY ON WEDNESDAY August 13th AT 2.30pm.**

PRESENT: Max Barr, Chairperson
Robert Aldam, Kilmun CC
Willie Lynch, Dunoon CC
Iain MacNaughton, Sandbank CC
Marion Norris, Ardentinny CC
Eleanor Stevenson, So. Cowal CC

Notes of Meeting.

1. Apologies

An apology had been received from Kenny Mathieson, Dunoon CC

**2. Matters Arising From The Minutes – BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP –
3rd JUNE 2014.**

- (a) The Caucus was extremely disappointed in the submission of Transport Scotland to the Community Planning Group regarding the A83. It was decided that all Argyll & Bute Community Councils should be encouraged to write to the Minister responsible and Transport Scotland demanding proper resolution to the Landslip problem. To this end the Chairman undertook to draft a letter which could be used with amendments as required by each Community Council.
- (b) The Caucus was encouraged by the response received from the Chief Executive of Argyll & Bute Council to its letter of complaint concerning the effectiveness of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group trusts that the new appointments mentioned in that letter will have a positive effect. It was noted that the Draft Agenda for the meeting on 2nd September seemed to point in that direction.
- (c) Car Parking – There is a requirement for the Council to explain its strategy for the future of car parking following the introduction of DPE .
- (d) Dog Fouling – We await the Update to the September meeting of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group
- (e) Public Toilets – It was noted that the Roads Performance Manager’s Report to the meeting on 3rd June 2014 did not happen. It was also noted that the update has not been circulated as stated in the Minutes of that meeting. The Group requires to develop a process that ensures that actions agreed at meetings are carried out!
- (f) Cowal Cycling and Transport Initiative – The Chairman reported that since the previous meeting the BID Group had funded a report from a Tourist Consultant organisation and their final report is awaited. Money for cycling infrastructure is scarce and the assumption is that our only likely source would be Lottery grants. To support this full community support would be required and it was agreed that a meeting of the five community council representatives should take place to determine how this could be done.
- (g) Area Community Planning Group Event Outcomes – The Chairman reported that the Community planning Group had created a Sub Group to consider the Event Outcomes

and the requirements of the Single Outcome Agreement. One Sub Group meeting had taken place and a second was planned for the next day with a report being presented to the September meeting of the Community Planning Group.

3. **Matters Arising From Draft Agenda – Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group – 3rd June 2014.**

(a) It was noted that the draft agenda largely concerned the operation of the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group and this was welcomed.

4. **Tree Felling**

After a short discussion it was agreed this not a matter over which we could have influence.

5. **Flowers**

Some concern was expressed as to how money appeared to be allocated for the floral displays in our communities and while accepting this could not be an exact science it was felt that the local communities should know what was available and what was possible. The subject of Japanese Knotweed was also raised and while aware that the Council was involved in its eradication it would be helpful to be aware of the Council's approach to this as it affects both Public and Private land.

6. **Community Service**

It transpired that this subject is regularly discussed at community council meetings but none of our number was able to provide information on what jobs can and cannot be carried out. It was decided to request from the Council a report on what work has been done in the previous year and a list of the possible/probable tasks that can be carried out. This subject arose when considering unsightly areas in our communities.

7. **Parks and Play Areas**

Facilities for children and young adults within Bute and Cowal in comparison with other local authorities were generally considered to be inadequate and in some cases expensive. In order to encourage young families to the area this was a concern. It was decided to request a report from the Council on the longer term strategy for our parks, open areas, and leisure facilities including Dunoon Stadium.

8. **Attendees for Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group** – It was agreed that Max Barr, Iain MacNaughton and Eleanor Stevenson would attend.

9. **Date of Next Meeting** – 12th November 2014

Items For Inclusion on Agenda of Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group Meeting on 2nd September 2014.

- (a) **Car Parking**
- (b) **Dog Fouling**
- (c) **Public Toilets**
- (d) **Flowers and Japanese Knotweed**
- (e) **Community Service**
- (f) **Parks and Play Areas**