

MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE

4.

(a) Tobermory High School

The Acting Head Teacher Tobermory High School took the committee through a progress update report on the school's achievements for the 2021 session.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Committee;

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure Services dated November 2021, submitted)

7.

Questions from Duncan Martin – Oban Community Council (OCC)

1. When will Roads and Infrastructure Services (RIS) confirm when the OCC will be consulted regarding the Oban Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)?

Response from Head of Roads and Amenity Services

RIS are currently working on the TRO, the second part of which will be subject to a workshop group in conjunction with OCC in due course.

2. Over a year ago Audit Scotland told the Council to put in place robust option appraisal processes. But when officials were instructed to carry out an appraisal on the future of Oban harbour they ignored key elements of any such process, resulting in a totally inadequate report to the Harbour board, putting the members in an impossible position. As a consequence the reputation of the council is again damaged.

At the same time the 'appraisal ' highlights various omissions from the OCHDA proposals. Most if not all of these omissions concern information which should have been supplied by council officials to OCHDA, since these officials had been instructed by the Harbour Board to enter constructive negotiations with OCHDA.

Why are Council officials able to regularly ignore instructions from Council committees?

3. Reports to committees always end with the financial implications of the official's recommendations, but the report last week makes no mention of this. Unlike OCHDA, which has much marine and legal expertise within its membership, the council manifestly does not, and will have to buy in all the professional services needed to set up a municipal port. This will be £100k and then some.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee;

1. noted the contents of the presentation; and
2. thanked the Chief Executive of ACHA for his input over many years and wished him well in his retirement.

(Reference: Presentation by Chief Executive of the Argyll Community Housing Association dated 8 December 2021, submitted)

9.

The Committee gave consideration to the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Annual Performance Report for 2020/21.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee noted and considered the Annual Performance Report for the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) for the year 2020/21.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director Head of Strategic Planning and Performance, HSCP dated 8 December 2021, submitted)

10.

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided details on of a number of the Trusts and Bequests that remain active in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area and sought agreement regarding their ongoing distribution and management.

Decision

1. noted the financial position of the Charitable Trusts, Bequests and Trust Funds as of July 2021;
2. agreed that a moratorium be placed on awards being made from the James McKechnies Trust and the Miss Mary A McNivens Trust;
3. agreed that the charities and trust funds, that have historically been awarded to Council Departments and Allied Partners, are awarded on the basis outlined in paragraph 5.5 and defined within appendix 1; and
4. noted that officers are in ongoing dialogue with representatives from the Lord Advocates office to establish appropriate methods of distributing those funds that have no established distribution arrangements.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support dated October 2021, submitted)

11.

The Draft Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee Workplan, as of December 2021, was