
**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership**

**Bute and Cowal
Area Community Planning Group**

2 February 2021



David Rennie, Argyll and Bute Council, delivered a presentation regarding the ongoing work of the Climate Change Group which is looking to build on and promote the work being done by partners. The Group is also linked to the Council Climate Change Board. David advised that the Climate Change Group is keen to explore the wider climate change impacts and what else is happening in the wider communities. This approach would help support the establishment of a directory of the positive work on climate change being which would then be promoted.

Fergus Murray, Head of Development and Economic Growth - Argyll and Bute Council, gave an update on the issue of irresponsible wild camping. Since the last Management Committee there had been a meeting held with 15 different stakeholders to discuss this complex issue with a virtual survey being created to engage with, and get comment from, the local community to understand the impacts of wild camping and motor homes and to map existing assets and resources. The data gathered from the virtual survey will be used as a basis to fine tune a draft action plan that should be available early in 2021.

In response to concerns raised by the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group (ACPG) regarding the lack of clarity and guidance around befriending and the lack of communication with voluntary organisations Kirsteen Murray, Argyll & Bute Third Sector Interface, confirmed that this matter had been addressed. Kirsteen advised that the misunderstanding had arisen as the People Manager was representing the Council for People Partnership which included both Council and HSCP, and consequently there would have been no separate communication from HSCP.

The Management Committee were asked United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child legislation could make to decision making and engagement within the Community Planning Partnership framework by the Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG. Joanna MacDonald responded that children's rights underpins the work of the child poverty action group and provide a specific response to the group. Rona added that this was Children's Forum (where the Outcome 4 Leadership Committee are welcome at ACPGs, with work haven been undertaken last year to

specific membership places for members of the Scottish Youth Parliament at the CPP Management Committee. Rona suggested that this could be revisited given the new digital format of meetings.

McLean noted that the membership of each ACPG would be discussed at the February cycle of meetings. The Management Committee requested that the outcome of these considerations be reported as required.

The Group discussed the ongoing situation regarding the A83 and the effect it was having on all Argyll and Bute communities. Key points which were highlighted included:-

- Pippa Milne advised that exploratory work to look at alternative routes was a step in the right direction, but the ongoing situation of only daylight operation of the Old Military Road (OMR), continued instability of the hill, and the time period to progress to a permanent solution was unacceptable.
- The Council are looking at the possibility of utilising the forestry road for haulage as businesses have raised concerns regarding the slowness of the OMR convoy route when it is open. Pippa Milne had raised this with both BEAR and Transport Scotland and is pushing for an interim solution.
- Fergus Murray reported that as we are trying to encourage people to live and invest in the Argyll and Bute area the continual negative attention was becoming a critical issue.
- Morag Goodfellow, Highland and Islands Enterprise, said the recent Argyll and Bute Overarching Recovery Group discussed the A83 and agreed it is important to lobby at senior levels and that messages are consistent.

For further information, please contact:

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