

**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held by
SKYPE
on WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2020**

Present: Councillor Elaine Robertson (Chair)
Councillor Mary Jean Devon
Councillor Kieron Green
Councillor Jim Lynch
Councillor Roderick McCuish
Councillor Sir Jamie McGrigor
Councillor Andrew Smith – Community Planning Team Leader, Argyll and Bute Council
Inspector Mark Stephen – Police Scotland
Jenny Dryden – Health Improvement Lead, Health and Social Care Partnership
Kevin Champion – Senior Depute, Oban High School
Grant Young – Mull Safe and Sound
Joan Best – Crossroads North Argyll
Gary Cringles – Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Lynn Campbell – Department for Work and Pensions
Finlay McFee – Avich and Kilcrennan Community Council
Ian Gillies – Tiree Community Council
Dr John Holliday – Tiree Community Council
Guy (Zim) Knight – Seil and Easdale Community Council
Marri Malloy – Oban Community Council
Jane Martin – Iona Community Council
Alison Jones – Development Coll
Colin Wilson – Local Government Boundary Commission
Ailsa Henderson – Local Government Boundary Commission

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first virtual meeting of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Areas Community Planning Group and outlined the procedure for the meeting.

The Chair advised that she would Chair the meeting in place of John Fleming, who had stepped down as Chair of the Group. The Chair thanked John for his valuable input over the last year and advised that she hoped that John could be welcomed back to the Group in future.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of:

Samantha Somers, Argyll and Bute Council
Albert Bruce, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
John Sweeney, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

whether the number of visitors during the Covid-19 crisis had had an impact on their resources.

The Community Development Officer requested information as to whether challenges highlighted around the flow of shopping from Tesco had subsided. Councillor Devon advised that this issue appeared to have been resolved, with shopping largely back to normal on the island.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group:

1. noted the update; and
2. noted that in the absence of a representative from Mull Community Council the Committee Manager would take back any questions to Mull Community Council and circulate any responses to the Group.

(Reference: Update by Mull Community Council, dated 11 November, submitted)

(d) **Opportunity for verbal updates from Area Community Planning Group Partners involved in resilience projects relating to the covid-19 response**

Joan Best, Crossroads North Argyll

The Chair advised that she was also the Chair of the Crossroads North Argyll Group.

Joan advised that many of the Crossroads staff had been working from home throughout the crisis, providing telephone support to unpaid carers which had then moved on to providing doorstep support to check how unpaid carers were coping. Joan noted that assistance had also been provided by the Group in delivering shopping and prescriptions where required.

Joan advised that the Group had restarted face-to-face support in August when they were able to and were now also able to provide respite. Joan noted that a grant had been received to provide free respite and travel for unpaid carers until the end of January 2021, advising that the Group would analyse what funding remained at this time.

Brian Smith, Community Learning Team Leader

Brian Smith provided details of the way in which the community learning service had adapted to the requirement to move learning online during the pandemic and noted that a number of platforms had been used to provide support to those who needed it. Brian advised that the team had also been involved in the Caring for People effort by assisting with phone lines; delivering food parcels and prescriptions; and producing scrubs and face masks. Brian noted that the team had also assisted with school hubs for the children of essential workers to allow them to work during the lockdown period.

Brian provided details of different projects around digital support, including the Digital Connections project which had seen 400 devices provided to the community

to assist them in staying digitally connected. Brian noted that the Connecting Scotland project had also seen over 1000 devices being delivered to schools to assist with online learning. Brian outlined work which had been carried out by the team with young people, including work to re-engage pupils who had struggled throughout lockdown; work with youth forums; work around increased youth participation; work around health and wellbeing following concerns raised in the Lockdown Lowdown consultation; work with Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) in look at a recovery plan; work around new United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) legislation being incorporated into Scots Law in 2021; and a successful bid to the Scottish Government's Youth Work Education Recovery Fund which would allow the team to work with partners to create a project which could be offered to young people and would incorporate outdoor learning and an SQA award.

Brian gave details of how the team were involved in the No One Left Behind initiative, assisting both young people and adults to identify and overcome challenges and barriers which they may be facing. Brian advised that since August the team have been able to begin some face-to-face support again although the majority remained online.

The Chair thanked Brian for this update, applauding the team for their partnership working and it was agreed that Brian and a number of youth representatives would be invited to attend a future meeting of the Group to provide an update on the work which was being carried out. Councillor Devon agreed to contact Brian regarding future engagement with the Corporate Parenting Board.

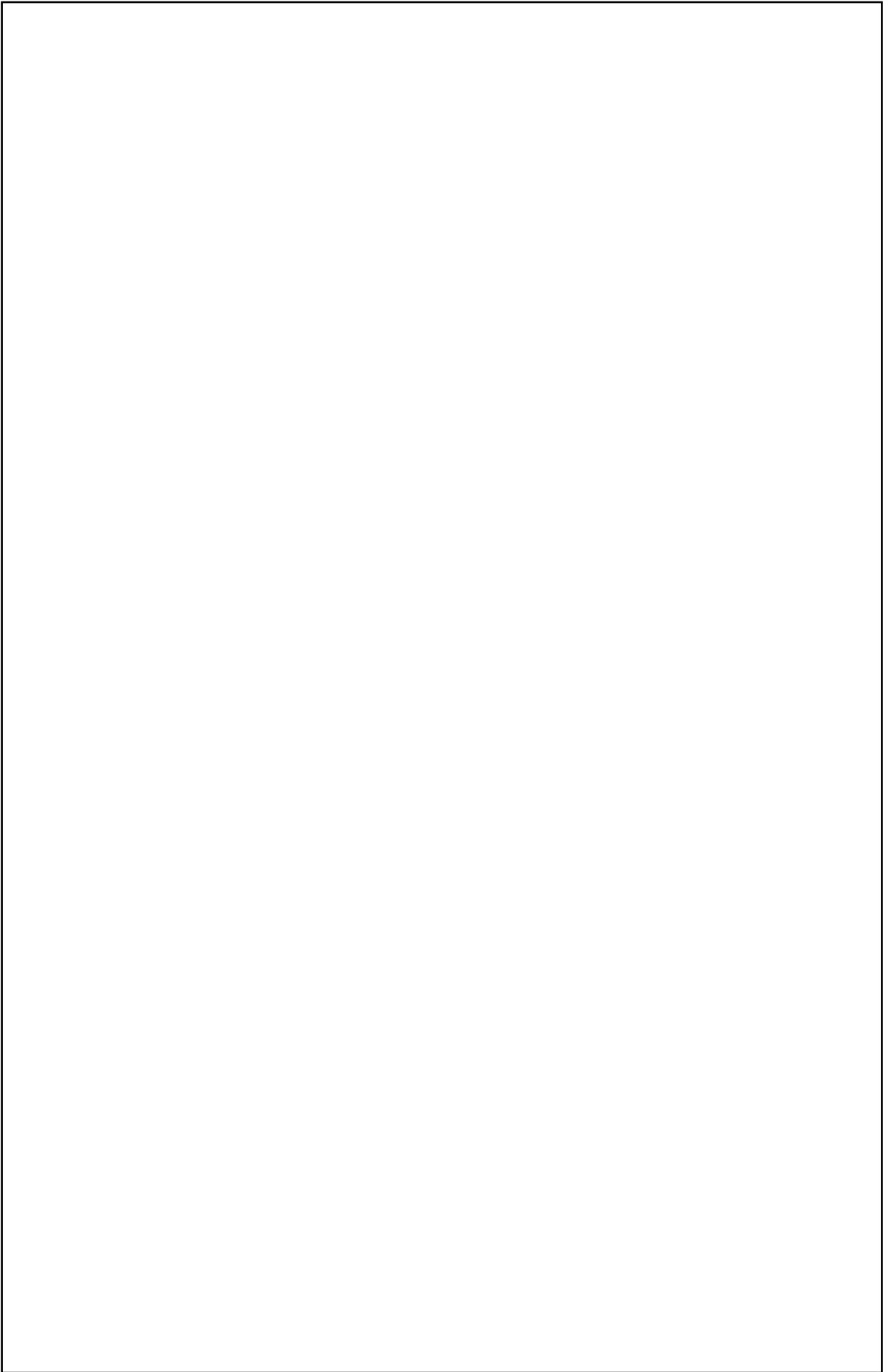
Laura MacDonald, Community Development Officer

Laura MacDonald advised that Community Engagement Training which had originally been scheduled for March had now been rescheduled to take place virtually in late November and information would be sent out to community groups and Community Councils around this.

6. PARTNERS UPDATE

(a) Health and Social Care Partnership - Public Health

The Group gave consideration to an annual report for 2019/20 which highlighte



home fire safety visits were being carried out with appropriate PPE following an initial telephone assessment.

