

**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held by  
MICROSOFT TEAMS  
on WEDNESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Present:** Kevin Champion – Oban High School (Chair)  
Councillor Elaine Robertson  
Councillor Sir Jamie McGrigor  
Stuart McLean – Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council  
Becky Hothersall – Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council  
Kirsty MacKenzie – Carers Act Officer, Argyll and Bute Council  
Cathy Cameron – Time for Change Argyll and Bute  
Joan Best – Crossroads North Argyll  
Inspector Ian Hutchison – Police Scotland  
PC Laura Evans – Police Scotland  
Catriona Petit – Hope Kitchen  
Laura Corbe – Oban Community Council  
Duncan Martin – Oban Community Council  
John Sweeney –









Ali Martin introduced herself as the new Support and Development Worker for MECOPP. She provided information around the work that she would be doing to support the Gypsy Traveller community to improve access to accommodation and to tackle racism and discrimination. She also outlined information around consultations and one-to-one support that she would be taking forward, following a delay in progressing COSLA and Scottish Government strategies during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ali invited anyone who may be interested in working with MECOPP to get in touch with her. The representatives from Crossroads North Argyll and Skills Development Scotland agreed to contact Ali following the meeting.

## **7. COMMUNITY FOCUS - ARGYLL & BUTE'S TIME FOR CHANGE CLIMATE ACTION GROUP**

The Group considered a presentation by Cathy Cameron, Time for Change Argyll and Bute. The presentation provided an overview of the organisation's origin as a youth group and their development since then to include a wider member demographic; their purpose; the ongoing work to combat the climate crisis and the ways in which the organisation were progressing this; details of the organisations achievements since 2019; and information around the organisations plans for 2022.

The presentation also provided information in relation to some terms relating to climate change, as well as details of useful resources for anyone who wished to seek further information around the climate crisis. Cathy noted that Time for Change were able to assist local organisations with projects and provided past examples of positive local partnership working. In addition to the resources available in the presentation, Cathy also highlighted the Community Planning Partnership Climate Change Action Signposting.

Cathy outlined the ways in which Group members and Time for Change could provide mutual support to each other. She invited anyone who would like further information to contact Time for Change at [timeforchangeargyll@gmail.com](mailto:timeforchangeargyll@gmail.com).

Discussion took place around Carbon Literacy Training, with Cathy confirming that Time for Change were awaiting confirmation from the Council around this but understood that they were seeking a suitable provider. Cathy noted that Time for Change offer training, and Catriona Petit advised that Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust also provide a two-day training course.

Following a request from Councillor Robertson, Cathy agreed to circulate a list of trees suitable for carbon reduction to the Group following the meeting.

### **Decision**

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Presentation by Cathy Cameron, Time for Change Argyll and Bute, submitted)

## **8. CLIMATE CHANGE**

(a) **Climate Change Working Group Minutes - 16 December 2021**

The minutes of a recent meeting of the Climate Change Working Group, held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021, were before the Group for noting and relevant discussion.

Laura Corbe, as the Group's representative on the Climate Change Working Group, provided information around the background of the Climate Change Working Group; their aim to reach net zero before national targets; their plans to define the main aims of the group and to develop an engagement plan in collaboration with local

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The Group considered a report which provided an update to Members on the Oban Bid for City Status as part of the Civic Honours. The report provided information around the background of the bid; the benefits of city status; and the reason behind Oban's selection for the bid.

Councillor Robertson encouraged people to read through the bid submission, a link to which was included within the report, as it was very interesting. The Chair provided information around an increase in families enrolling at Oban High School, noting that there were exciting things happening in the area.

### **Decision**

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

1. considered and noted the contents of the report; and
2. noted that in the absence of a representative from the Council's Development and Economic Growth service, any questions could be forwarded to Stuart McLean following the meeting and any responses would then be circulated to the Group.

(Reference: Report by Fergus Murray, Head of Development and Economic Growth, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, submitted)

### **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group would take place at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022.