

**MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP held
by TEAMS
on WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2023**

Present:

Kevin Champion (Chair)
Stuart McLean, Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council
Councillor Kieron Green, Argyll and Bute Council
Councillor Andrew Vennard, Argyll and Bute Council
Councillor Amanda Hampsey, Argyll and Bute Council
Joan Best, Crossroads
Jen Broadhurst, Citizens Advice Bureau
Robert Kincaid, Oban Community Harbour Development Association
Duncan Martin, Oban Community Council
Sue Barnard, Oban Community Council
Jen Metcalf, Coll Community Council
Robert Taylor, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Susan McRae, Skills Development Scotland
Kirsty McLuckie, Community Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Maureen Evans, Community Learning, Live Argyll
Sergeant Matthew Shaw, Police Scotland
Catriona Petit, New Hope Oban
Judith Hawcroft, Crossroads

Attending:

Jackie Westerman, Home Energy Efficiency, Project Officer Argyll and Bute Council
Rachel McNicol, Allenergy
Robbie Layden, Land and Field Scotland
Isla McCulloch, Adventure Oban, Sustaining Choices
Andrew Galloway, Local Democracy Reporter, Helensburgh Advertiser
John McLuckie, Part

The Group considered a report providing information relating to the appointment of a Chair of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group and outlining the expected time commitment and information about the role.

Kevin Champion, current Chair, advised that he would be moving from the area during the summer of 2023 and volunteered to continue as Chair for the next meeting in May.

It was noted that Community Councillors, within the locality could hold the position of Chair and should be advised accordingly. There were no other nominations for the position of Chair during the meeting.

Decision

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

1. Kevin Champion be re-appointed as Chair for next meeting.

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 8 February 2023, submitted)

5. PARTNER UPDATE

(a) Scottish Fire & Rescue

The Group considered a report highlighting the Scottish Fire and Rescue 6 H U Y L F H ¶ V 6) 5 6 of local performance across Oban, Lorn and the Isles for the period 2022-23. The report also included information on W K H 6 H U Y L F H ¶ V 6) 5 6 covering Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals which will go live from May 2023, where fire alarm signals received must be backed up with a phone call or the service will not attend. The report included information on the local firefighter training plan, incidents during this time period and recent community engagement activities.

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, submitted)

(b) **Police Scotland**

Consideration was given to an update by Sergeant Matthew Shaw, who advised that the Policing Framework within the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands and Oban, Lorn and the Isles had changed, with more emphasis on Community Focus.

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launched locally on

(Reference: Report by Living Well Network, submitted)

(e) **Community Learning Services - Live**

considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Report by Department of Work and Pensions, submitted)

(h) **Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau**

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update in relation to current work streams R I W K H & L W L] H Q ¶ V \$ i G X r g y l l a n d % B u t e H C
The report included information on the ongoing rise in the number of clients seeking support with the energy costs as the cost of living crisis continues and the additional supports available in the forms of grants available within the ; Oban, Lorn and the Isles area.

The report also highlighted the recruitment campaign about to begin for the spring cohort of volunteer trainee advisers and the the annual consultation exercise with partner organisations in order to review the work of the bureau. Partners noted that they could participate in the consultation which could be found at:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ABCABCCommunityPartnersSurvey>

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice, submitted)

(i) **Community Contacts - Carr Gomm**

The Group gave consideration to a written report from Community Contacts ±Carr Gomm. As no-one was in attendance from Carr Gomm the Committee Manager advised that he would relay any questions back to them with regards to the report.

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by Community Contacts, Carr Gomm submitted)

(j) **North Argyll Carers Centre**

The Group gave consideration to a report from North Argyll Carers Centre highlighting the increase in demand for their services, with 29 new adult carers and 15 new young carers being registered since the last meeting. The Health and Social Care Partnership have awarded funding to support a pilot which will enable the Carers Centre to put in place regular home-help type preventative supports for carers, to reduce the risk of them reaching crisis point.

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by North Argyll Carers Centre, submitted)

(k) Argyll and Bute TSI

The Group gave consideration to a written update by Argyll and Bute TSI ZKLFK LQFOXGHG LQIRUPDWLRQ RQ WKH \$UJ\O Service Function which will allow organisations to update and maintain their listing themselves; useful resources and warm spaces information in relation to the Cost of Living Crisis; the TSI Inveraray Hub which is being offered as a warm space for Organisations; fully funded distance learning qualifications with Skills Network training and All our Children Network and the TSI Social Enterprise Network meetings on the 14th and 15th of February 2023.

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by Argyll and Bute TSI, submitted)

(l) Opportunity for verbal updates by Community Planning Partners

Joan Best, Crossroads

Employment (PACE) situation.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE

(a) Report by Chair of Climate Change Working Group

Consideration was given to a report which highlighted the ongoing work of the Climate Change Working Group. The report outlined the proposal to produce a strategic Action Plan as a means to address the climate emergency in Argyll and Bute; the development of governance arrangements and structures to support the Climate Change Project Officer post. It was highlighted that they are actively pursuing the recruitment of a Project Manager to start this Action Plan work and hope to have someone in post before the end of the financial year.

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by Chair of the Climate Change Working Group, dated 20 January 2023 submitted)

(b) Home Energy Efficiency

Jackie Westerman, Home Energy Efficiency Project Officer for Argyll and Bute Council provided the Group with a verbal presentation on Home Energy Efficiency and the funds available to people within Argyll and Bute. Jackie highlighted that the premise of the Energy Efficient Scotland Scheme is to reduce carbon emissions to contribute to the Scottish Government's aim to have 0% emissions by 2040, adding that fuel poverty has been an important aspect of her work. Jackie reported that the Energy Efficient Scotland Area Based Scheme is available to home owners or private rented tenants with grant amounts dependent on property type and personal circumstances, with awards starting at £8,500 for a flat and a maximum of £13,500 for a detached property.

Jackie highlighted that from July 2022 until now, £1.12million has been spent in Argyll and Bute and that more than 140 households in Argyll and Bute

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Decision

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

(Reference: Verbal report by Jackie Westerman, Home Energy Efficiency Project Officer, Argyll and Bute Council)

(c) Allenergy

An update was considered by the group from Rachel McNicol from

ALlenergy on the affordable warmth services provided. The update included information on what they are working on including Affordable Warmth, Education and Local Energy Projects. The update also included information on fuel poverty around Scotland with communities with Argyll and Bute being rated as one of the most at risk. It was also highlighted that the majority of households across North West Scotland are now likely to be suffering with fuel poverty or will in the near future. It was also highlighted that oil is not a problem as it is considerably cheaper than electric heating.

Decision

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

(Reference: Presentation by Rachel McNicol, ALlenergy)

(d) Forestry and Land Scotland

The Group gave consideration to a report from Robbie Layden, which highlighted the ongoing workstreams of Forestry and Land Scotland within the Oban, Lorn and the Isles (OLI) locality. Information on Land Management Plans; Renewable Energy plans; the ongoing peatland restoration programme; removal of Larch Trees infected by disease; proposals to introduce car parking charges to a number of sites within the locality with the busiest sites being charged £3 per day or £1 per hour was highlighted.

Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles considered and noted the report.

(Ref. Presentation by Robbie Layden, Forestry and Land Scotland)

7. COMMUNITY FOCUS

(a) Sustaining Choices - Active Travel Plan Oban

Isla McCulloch, a trustee with Adventure Oban, advised that they work in partnership with Sustaining Choices. Isla delivered a presentation on the Active Travel Plan for Oban and highlighted the key actions proposed in Oban: Safer such as Safer Cycle Routes to Schools, Improvement on signage and lighting for active travel routes, ensuring pavements meet the needs of people with additional access needs, maintenance of the general

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Decision

The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning group considered and noted the Presentation.

(Presentation by Isla McCulloch, Adventure Oban, Sustaining Choices)

8. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report which provided information on matters discussed during a meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Management Committee, held on 7 December 2022. The Committee Manager outlined a number of key highlights from the meeting, with it being noted that the closing date for the consultation survey being conducted by the MSYP ¶ V K D G E H H Q H [W H Q G H G X (February 2023. Partners were encouraged to take part in the consultation, which can be found at:- tinyurl.com/3yf3xe8

Decision

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

(Reference: Report by Committee Manager, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 7 February 2023, submitted)

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 10 MAY 2023

The Chair thanked everyone in attendance at the meeting, and thanked all partners for their continued proactive work in the community.

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Community Planning Group would take place on Wednesday, 10 May 2023 at 10am.