

**MINUTES of MEETING of MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM held in the BURNETT BUILDING, CAMPBELTOWN WITH VC FACILITIES IN MARRIAGE ROOMS, HELENSBURGH, HILL STREET, DUNOON, ISLAY SERVICE POINT, DALRIADA HOUSE, LOCHGILPHEAD on TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2014**

<b>Present:</b>	Anne Horn (Chair)	
<b>Campbeltown</b>	Stephen Doogan Eva MacDonald MBE Andrew Hemmings Peter Howland	Argyll and Bute Council Kintyre Crime Prevention Panel Kintyre Crime Prevention Panel RNLI
<b>Lochgilphead</b>	Andy McClure	Scottish Fire and Rescue
<b>Dunoon</b>	Sergeant Mark Wilson	Police Scotland

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated from:-

Councillor Sandy Taylor  
June Graham  
Kathleen Munro  
Robert Cowper (Due to VC Connection difficulties)

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2013**

The Minute of the previous meeting held on 26 November, 2014 was approved as a true record.

Andrew Hemmings advised that although his apologies had been listed on the previous minute he wished to note that he had attended the Burnett Building on the day of the last meeting but had connection difficulties with the VC facilities.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

**3. PROGRESS OF ACTIONS**

Andrew Hemmings provided an update with regard to the success of the Fuel Theft Leaflets initiative. He advised that the fuel distributors, Mcnair & Son Ltd, had assisted with the distribution of leaflets by sending them out to their customers with their invoices. The Forum Members wished to express their gratitude to Mcnair & Son Ltd for their assistance in this matter.

As there were no further actions from the previous meeting there was no update required.

#### **4. BUDGET AND FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

No new Applications had been received this period.

#### **5. PARTNER UPDATES AND EMERGING TRENDS**

##### **(a) VIOLENT CRIME, DISORDER AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

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- i) Hate Crime - Sergeant Mark Wilson provided the group with an update covering the period between 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013 and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014. He advised that there had only been 2 incidents of hate crime within this period. He further advised that both incidents had been detected and were as a result of alcohol.
- ii) Regulatory Services - There was no update.
- iii) CCTV and CCTV Requests Due to the Connection difficulties the Anti-Social Behaviour coordinator was unable to provide an update report. Consequently the Clerk agreed that he would request a report for the next meeting in relation to the mobile camera and also in regards to the town centre static camera, He also agreed that if there had been any major substantive changes that he would circulate an interim update to members.
- iv) Domestic Abuse- Sergeant Mark Wilson reported a decrease in domestic violence related crimes for the period of 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013 to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014. He advised that out of 25 detected incidents only 16 reached the threshold of criminal behaviour. He advised that the other 9 cases were a result of couples having arguments which were reported to the Police, but that there was no requirement for further action.
- v) Child Protection/ Youth Projects There was no update, however Andrew Hemmings advised of a number of school projects which were currently running which were being supported by the Crime prevention Panel, highlighting child protection issues.  
The Clerk advised that he would invite Raymond Flanagan, Youth Worker to the next meeting with a view to providing an update in this regard.

- vi) Older Persons - There was no update, however the Clerk advised of the recent "Reshaping Care for Older Persons" event run by Argyll and Bute Council.
  
- vii) Home Safety - Andy McClure advised the group that the Fire Service are working to reduce the number of calls they are receiving due to automatic fire alarms. He advised that these were mainly due to faulty or oversensitive systems and were primarily located in care homes and similar.. Mr McClure also advised of the serious house fire on the Isle of Colonsay. He noted that unfortunately the house had been razed to the ground. He explained that the Community Council in this area had raised the issue as to why the designated water supply for fire fighting was so far away from the house.. He spoke of the Building Regulations both pre and post 2011. It was noted that the regulations now specify that the water hydrant must be within 100 metres of the house, unless the fire service are satisfied that sufficient alternative measures are in place to mitigate the risk. It was suggested that it may be necessary in the longer term for the Fire Service to be more prescriptive regarding this aspect of the regulations, He stressed the importance of home safety visits and requested that the Forum publicise these at any opportunity.
  
- viii) Health - There was no update.
  
- ix) Health Activities - There was no update, however the Chair advised that the Council have recently re-instated the Healthy Working Lives group and a further update will be provided to the next meeting
  
- x) Police Scotland - Sergeant Mark Wilson advised that there were no further incidents of house break-ins since the last meeting. He did advise however that they believed that the break-ins last year were linked to an organised criminal gang based in the central belt. He advised of a national Police operation ongoing at present. He further advised of a successful detection by an officer on nightshift in the Mid Argyll area, who recently stopped a white van, only to discover 2 outboard motors and a tank of red diesel. He advised that the 2 outboard motors were stolen and as the use of red diesel is illegal, they arrested the Lithuanian gentleman, who is currently in custody awaiting trial as he was deemed a flight risk.

- xi) Andy McClure updated the group in regards to the Muirburn Code. Which is the farmers code for controlled burning of Moorland. He advised that the Fire Service are about to start a PR drive to ensure that landowners are aware of their responsibilities and ensure that the general public are aware of the steps they can take to protect the environment. He spoke of the leaflet drop and local press coverage which is due to start in late February/early March before the onset of the dry weather. The Chair thanked the Fire Service for the information and statistics provided in respect of the incident reports. The code itself can be located on the Scottish Government Website.
  
- xii) Road Safety - There was no update.
  
- xiii) Partnership Referrals There have been no referrals.
  
- xiv) Water Safety. Peter Howland advised the group that the RNLI offer lifejacket checking as a service. He advised that on inspections last year, only 12 out of the 145 inspected required any maintenance work done. He advised that all Police cars in Scotland should carry a Water Safety Kit. Sergeant Wilson confirmed that they do and each kit contains life lines and safety vests, which are checked annually.

Mr Howland advised that he was awaiting further information from Argyll and Bute Council in relation to the Kintyre Kayaking Trail. He advised that while he supports the idea in principal he is concerned by the consequences for the emergency services. He stressed that it was important that any paddle sports participants notify someone where they are going and an expected return time. He advised that he had spoken with the Coastguard in Belfast and they confirmed that they are happy to accept calls notifying them.

The Clerk advised that he had spoken with the organisers at MACPOOL in Lochgilphead who were offering introductory and intermediate Kayak Safety Courses with a view to a representative coming along to the next meeting of the Forum and providing an update.

The Chair agreed, that due to the discursive nature of the next two items of

business on the agenda, agenda item 7 would be taken before agenda item 6.

## **6. RESILIENCE - CSF INVOLVEMENT**

The Clerk outlined the resilience project which was started around 2 years ago. He advised that he was aware of a significant minority of Community Council's who were reluctant to take part. He advised that this was attributable at least in substantial part to a misunderstanding of what was requested, as some were of the opinion that they were leaving themselves open to additional risk or being asked to undertake work which was more properly the remit of the council. The clerk explained that this was not actually the case and that what was being sought was a local solution to local issues with people agreeing to undertake simple tasks which they would probably be doing in the event of an emergency anyway- the plans purpose being to maximise the effectiveness of the actions of all participants.

Discussion took place firstly as to whether this was a topic which the forum would be interested in supporting, and secondly considering ways in which the forum could assist. The forum agreed that it was a topic that should be supported and the Clerk agreed to liaise with Andrew Hemming's in order to make contact with other bodies such as the Community Council and Kintyre Seniors Forum to assess the appetite for taking the plan forward and implementing it in the area .

## **7. FUTURE OF THE GROUP**

The Clerk advised that the Chair of the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee, Chief Superintendent Barry McEwan, who is also leading on the work stream relating to outcome 6 of the Single Outcome Agreement "People live in safer and stronger communities" would be providing a strategic lead and taskings on community safety. He advised that there was a possibility of the remit of the local community safety groups being subsumed within the local Community Planning Group.

He further noted that the potential for a strong strategic lead should be welcomed since this could provide the necessary focus for the groups efforts.

The clerk was asked how this suggestion had been taken elsewhere and he noted that some groups had expressed serious concerns that to amalgamate the groups when the CSF is already a subgroup of the Area Community Planning Group, would lead to the loss of focus on local issues and also the loss of the local understanding of how issues can be resolved and locally appropriate methods of dealing with problems.

He outlined a ground of concern as being that the agenda of the full Area Community Planning Group is very broad. It was noted that this was a major issue for members of the local Community Safety Forums to consider, and while more detailed proposals would be forthcoming at future meetings, Forum members may wish to consider viable models for the delivery of the Community safety agenda.

Further discussion took place in regards to becoming a more target driven Group. It was felt that encouraging further participation from other Members who do not routinely attend meetings and setting more specific targets would assist with this.

It was noted that the public profile of the group could be higher and that the local press would probably be interested in the activities of the forum. The Clerk was instructed to arrange a press release for the Campbeltown Courier and the Advertiser outlining the work of the Forum, which should include information about the Community Resilience Project, the Home Safety Visits offered by Scottish Fire and Rescue and also the servicing of lifejackets by the RNLi.

The Clerk also agreed to have further discussions with Robert Cowper, Argyll and Bute Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator with a view to coming up with more specific targets for the group.

#### 8. FORTHCOMING KEY EVENTS DIARY

DATE	TIME/VENUE	EVENT
14/02/2014	Campbeltown	Good place to live, work and play. (Workshop between 3.00pm and 5.00pm and Panel between 7.00pm and 9.00pm)
18/02/2014	Tarbert Academy	Good place to live, work and play. (Workshop between 3.00pm and 5.00pm and Panel between 7.00pm and 9.00pm)

There are also Events being held by the GRAB Trust, which the Clerk agreed to look into and disseminate the information to the Forum.

#### 9. NEW ACTIONS

Peter Howland requested that the Forum consider inviting a spokesperson from Scottish and Southern Energy to a future meeting to give a presentation outlining the repair process following the incident which seen Campbeltown cut off in March 2013.

#### 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Sergeant Wilson advised that as part of the community learning and development initiative the 6 main towns in Argyll and Bute were running Midnight Football. He advised that although its called "Midnight" in reality most events would be over by 10.00pm.

He also reminded the Forum that he currently ran the Twitter feed on behalf of the local Police and would be more than happy to disseminate information on behalf of the Forum in this way.

(b) The date of the future meetings of the group were confirmed as:-

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 2.00pm, in Lochgilphead

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at 2.00pm, in Campbeltown

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 2.00pm, in Lochgilphead

