

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON A  
HYBRID BASIS IN THE QUEEN'S HALL, DUNOON AND BY MICROSOFT TEAMS  
ON TUESDAY, 5 MARCH 2024**

**Present:** Councillor Liz McCabe (Chair)

Councillor Audrey Forrest                      Councillor William Sinclair  
Councillor Reeni Kennedy-Boyle              Councillor Peter Wallace  
Councillor Ross Moreland

**Attending:** Stuart McLean, Committee Manager  
Jim Smith, Head of Road and Infrastructure Services  
Colin Young, Strategic Transportation Delivery Officer  
Colin Fulcher, Senior Economic Regeneration Officer  
Kelly Ferns, Research and Development Officer  
Stuart Green, Corporate Support Manager  
Sonya Thomas, OD Project Officer  
Suzanne Mason, Engagement and Communities Lead  
Louise Lawson, Education Manager - Inclusion and Equality  
Lisa Marle, Head Teacher, Innellan and Toward Primary School

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Yvonne McNeilly, Gordon Blair and Daniel Hampsey.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Reeni Kennedy-

The Minute of the meeting of the Cowal Transport Forum, held on 12 December 2023 was noted.

#### **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Having noted that there were members of the public in attendance, the Chair invited them to submit any questions they may have.

##### Jean Moffat

As a member of the Friends of Arden Craig Gardens we have prepared a complete plan for the year and are very excited that shrubs and plants are being delivered this month. I am looking to ensure everything is going as planned, could this be confirmed?

Councillor Moreland advised that as far as he knew, the plants and shrubs are due to be delivered this month but that he would check with the appropriate Department and confirm.

##### Annemarie Ferguson

Could you advise us on the Council's policies and processes in relation to derelict houses, in particular 12-16 Castle Street to Buckingham Terrace?

Residents of Castle Street face ongoing risk to our health and safety. The risk is increasing as the recurrent storms continually add to the deterioration of the buildings, creating dangers to residents and passers-by of flying debris as well as the physical

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Lawrence Lindsay

Many Rothesay residents have raised concerns regarding the lack of local newspapers within libraries since the Covid crisis. I have done research into all Live Argyll libraries and apart from Dunoon and Rothesay libraries, all others have access to their local newspaper in a digital format.

1. noted and considered the performance and supporting commentary as presented;
2. noted that upon receipt of the Quarterly Performance Report the Area Committee

2. noted that the programme would go forward to the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee on 21 March 2024 for endorsement.

(Reference: Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure Services, dated February 2024, submitted)

**9. HOUSING SERVICES ACTIVITY UPDATE - STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN (SHIP) - ANNUAL UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on Housing Services activity and the delivery of the Local Housing Strategy within the Bute and Cowal area.

**Decision**



