

Action Note

Meeting:	Arran Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	Thursday 6 June at 4.45pm on Microsoft Teams
Present:	Councillor Charles Currie (Chair) Lesley Forsyth, Senior Manager Information and Culture (Lead Officer) Sheila Gilmore, Islands Plan Lead for Community Alistair Dobson, Island Plan Lead for Economy Simon Ross-Gill Island Plan Lead for Environment Louise Logan, Island Plan Vice Lead for Environment David Cameron, Police Scotland Seony Ross, Team Manager Strategic Planning & Equalities Ross Dobson Active Schools Susan Foster – Head Teacher, Lamlash Judi Worthington, Argyll College Claire Nelson, Police Scotland
In Attendance	Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
Apologies:	Ruth Betley, Senior Manager, Arran Services, NHS Ayrshire & Arran Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Carol Norton, Operations Manager, Arran CVS Vicki Yuill, Chief Executive Officer, Arran CVS (Senior Lead Officer) Bill Calderwood, Arran Community Council Anne Marie Hunter, Engagement and Participation Officer Scott Morrison, Community Sport Manager, KA Leisure

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made and apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p>L Forsyth took the opportunity to welcome Cllr Currie to his first meeting of the Arran Locality Partnership.</p>	
2.	<p>Action Note</p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 6 June 2024 was approved subject to one change being made.</p> <p>S Gilmore highlighted that at the June meeting she was referring to dirty campers and asked if Police could get out of Police van, and go to where foot passengers come off, so that any potential dirty campers would see there is a Police presence on the island. The Partnership approved this change.</p>	J McGee
3.	<p>Grants</p> <p>The Locality Partnership were asked to consider two Grant applications.</p>	

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	<p>Community Benefit Fund – the Partnership were asked to consider an application from Arran Dogs, who applied for £4,000 funding to create a dedicated dog park on Arran, providing a safe and enclosed space for dogs to exercise and socialise off the lead, encouraging the safety of wildlife and wild stock.</p> <p>The Partnership requested some clarity around the application as they are aware that that the dog park is already operational. They requested clarity on the current position and an itemised list of what the funding will be spent on and a reassurance that it was not duplication what assets they already have in place.</p> <p>It was agreed that once the information was available, it would be circulated to the Partnership for a decision by email</p> <p>Elderly Grants Fund – The Partnership were asked to consider and application the Elderly Grant Fund where Arran CVS is awarded £2,841 for distribution to Arran groups for outings, meals and activities. The activities planned will be aimed at enabling elderly people to engage in activities outside their own homes & reduce social isolation.</p> <p>The Partnership approved this application.</p>	<p>L Forsyth/R Ramsay/S Fleming</p> <p>J McGee</p> <p>R Ramsay/S Fleming</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Street Naming Report</p> <p>The Partnership were asked to consider a street naming report. This was for a residential development site to west of Rowarden, Benlister Road, Lamlash, one street name is required.</p> <p>The Partnership approved the name Halls Field as the street name for this site.</p>	<p>L Dempster</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>KA Leisure</p> <p>S Morrison was unable to attend the Partnership meeting, however he did share a written update which would be shared with the Partnership along with the action note.</p>	<p>J McGee</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Education Overview</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>S Foster provided the Partnership with an update in relation to the Island Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Head Teacher appointed for Primary Island Schools, Alison Conner, who started post earlier this week. S Foster will extend an invite to Alison to next meeting. • During the summer attended the opening of the Arran High Mountain Bike Club Park at the Dyemill. S Foster commented that this is a great asset to the island. 	

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- Careers Fayre took place in the school June which was hosted by Chamber of Commerce. Primary and Secondary students were in attendance. There was contribution from business from mainland and Island.
- The Arran Skills Group meeting with Sheridan Walden taking place in the high school tomorrow.
- Continuing disruption of ferries is denying young people on the island equity due to having to cancelling going to event due to ferry disruptions.
- SQA results this year were excellent, particularly with National 5 in S4

A Dobson commented that he is happy to amplify issues at Regional Skills partnership and thinks it would be good to keep escalating the issues the ferries are causing as they are continually disrupting the lives of young people, communities and business on the island. The Chair commented that any evidence we can gather to add weight to this issue would be beneficial.

Noted

Argyle College

J Worthington provided the Partnership with an update in relation to the College:

- Graduation Ceremony taking place this Friday in Dunoon.
- More student enrolling this year than ever before. 19 students enrolled this year across further education, higher education degrees and post graduate course.
- 10 different courses running. The first Arran PGDE Students, first time people living on arran doing their primary teaching degree. With support from the Council they are being allocated local placements where possible. This will hopefully address future issues.
- Continue to work close with Arran skills group on skills mapping and skills development locally.

A Dobson commented that it is encouraging to hear about the increasing engagement of students, and implementing localised solutions is a positive step forward. He also highlighted that the Skills Group is focusing on the supply side, not just the demand aspect and are working to identify the specific skills that businesses and organisations require, which will guide the initiatives of both the College and the Skills Group.

Noted

Active Schools

R Dobson provided the Partnership with an update in relation to the Active Schools:

- Flagship Leadership Programme has 14 NASA students from Arran High School.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 young ambassadors were meant to attend the Leadership Programme last week however due to issues with the ferries they were unable to attend. R Dobson is arranging for the Tutor to come over to the island to deliver the programme. • There is an active girls committee this year within the high school. Two girls lead on a committee and they both attended conference few weeks ago. Events being arranged with four different community clubs to offer taster sessions to high school students. • Working with Archie McNicol, focusing on working young people who are looked after and non-attenders. • Residential held at the end of last term at Inverclyde 18 young people from Primary 5-7 attended. The residential focused on building relationships and engaging them in extra circular sport. • Over 40 clubs for primary and secondary pupils. R Dobson conveyed this thanks to the volunteer community coaches and clubs for supporting these clubs. • Arran High, Lamlash and Brodick Primary schools have achieved their Sport Scotland Gold School Sport Award. • KA Leisure classes are starting up week beginning 21 October at Arran High School. Three of the coaches employed are NASA students which is fantastic. • Eight local events held on the Island, shinty competition was a real success, sport hall athletics event taking place on Friday at Auchrannie sports hall. <p>S Foster commented that she is thrilled the way things are progressing with Active Schools Team it has been a huge success and growing every year.</p>	Noted
7.	<p>Island Plan</p> <p>The Island Plan Leads gave the Partnership an update on each of the three strands:</p> <p>Business</p> <p>A Dobson highlighted that it has been almost one year since the big meeting in Brodick Hall took place which looked at Skills, Decarbonisation and Digitisation. Since then, a skills group and skills coordinator are now in place, a Net Zero Accelerator model is due to launch shortly which has been supported by North Ayrshire Council and Zero Waste Scotland. This is aimed at helping businesses and organisations decarbonise and also includes exploring circular economy opportunities. In terms of digitalisation, there is a big push to improve connectivity and help businesses engage better with the community. There is a lot of positivity on the island which demonstrates that many people and businesses here want to make a difference.</p> <p>Community</p> <p>S Gilmore highlighted that the community meetings were held in different villages. The main takeaway from the meetings is a need for less corporate communications and more in plain English. Recognising that</p>	Noted

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	<p>some community members feel isolated, S Gilmore has been sharing all Community Planning Partnership (CPP) updates with the network. This approach aims to boost engagement and keep more people in the loop about what is happening locally. Looking ahead, the group is exploring ways to make progress. One idea they're considering is setting up a community benefit society. This could be a way to drive initiatives forward and increase local involvement. to look at how they can drive things forward possibly looking at in community benefit society.</p> <p>S Gilmore left the meeting after the update</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>S Ross-Gill highlighted that multiple meetings have been held, with an ongoing open invitation extended to all environmental groups on the island to participate.</p> <p>S Ross-Gill also highlighted the project mapping tool available on the Island Plan Website. This tool outlines current initiatives and future needs. There are plans to enhance this tool, potentially allowing islanders to provide direct input on projects in the future. The group is considering implementing either a cooperative model or a 3DF model. In theory, this could enable all islanders to become members of an island-wide cooperative, potentially attracting more funding to Arran.</p> <p>L Logan highlighted that Cooperatives UK has offered to conduct a 10-part orientation and awareness session. This would help the community understand how the cooperative model could be applied to Arran, including its benefits for fundraising, share leasing, and community voting on policies and priorities.</p> <p>S Ross-Gill noted that he would be keen to meet with Councillor Currie to discuss strategies for moving these initiatives forward.</p> <p>A Dobson commented that this work is not intended to replace existing plans or create additional bureaucracy. Instead, it aims to support organisations and provide a unified, concise voice.</p> <p>L Logan added that the Carbon Neutral Islands team is working with other communities across Scotland, and they have shown interest in understanding Arran's approach. While there is no funding for a shared Island Officer, there is an opportunity to share best practices and lessons learned. This puts Arran in a position to potentially connect with other communities and integrate various working groups.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Police Scotland</p> <p>D Cameron provided the Partnership with an update in relation to work of Police Scotland. D Cameron highlighted that he has recently took over the role of Locality Inspector covering Arran, previously covering Irvine, Kilwinning and Garnock Valley. D Cameron also introduced C Nelson who is the local Sergeant based on the Island.</p>	

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	<p>D Cameron highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Team is working in Partnership with SFRS, the Council and other partners around operation Moonbeam which is a community safety programme that focuses on addressing public disorder and safety concerns around Bonfire Night. This is not a major issue on Arran. • Sergeant Guy Jenner has been over on the Island and is working with Partners and Groups working alongside Trading Standards and Public Health around tobacco and vaping. <p>C Nelson advised that two officers on the island have completed training in the young people driving scheme and will be visiting the school soon. Vaping has also become a concern within the school, and she plans to liaise with G Jenner regarding a visit to the school.</p> <p>D Cameron also highlighted that there is an opportunity for work experience with Police Scotland and is keen to not miss the opportunity for this happen on the Island. S Foster welcomed this opportunity for the young people.</p>	Noted
<p>9.</p>	<p>Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults</p> <p>In V Yuill's absence, J McGee advised the Partnership that the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults opens on 30th September and will close on Monday 11 November 2024 at 12.00 noon. The ambition of this fund is to support initiatives that promote mental health and wellbeing for adults (16+) at small scale, grassroots, community level. The fund can support both new and existing groups or projects, mental health does not need to be the central focus, but the activity should clearly benefit the wellbeing of people, providing opportunities to connect and revitalise our communities.</p> <p>J McGee also advised that an additional pot of money (£22,000) from the Children, Young People and Families Communities Mental health and Wellbeing Fund, to offer in addition to the adult fund.</p> <p>Further information and application guidance can be found on the Arran CVS website – Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund - Year 4 - Arran CVS</p>	Noted
<p>10.</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>L Forsyth highlighted that the Locality Partnership previously awarded funding to Arran Geo Park to assist in their pursuit of UNESCO status. Initially, part of the funding was released to help them prepare their application for UNESCO Geopark status, with the remainder to be provided upon successful completion.</p> <p>L Forsyth advised that UNESCO has endorsed the Geo Park, with a final decision expected by Spring 2025. To enable the team to continue</p>	

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	<p>working on UNESCO's recommended actions, there is a request to release half of the remaining funds.</p> <p>The Partnership expressed support for this, recognising it as a significant achievement for the island.</p> <p>L Forsyth undertook to liaise with the group and provide J McGee with the relevant information to allow the payment to be processed.</p> <p>The Chair conveyed his thanks to all in attendance.</p>	<p>L Forsyth</p> <p>L Forsyth</p>
11.	<p>Reports for Information</p> <p>The Chair advised the Partnership of the reports attached to the agenda for information.</p>	