



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

North Ayrshire Council

A Meeting of North Ayrshire Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE** on **Wednesday, 15 May 2019** at **14:00** to consider the undernoted business.

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**
Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.
- 3 Previous Minutes**
The accuracy of the Minutes of meeting held on 27 March 2019 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copy enclosed).
- 4 Provost's Report**
Submit report by the Provost for the period from 19 March - 6 May 2019 (copy enclosed).
- 5 Leader's Report**
Submit report by the Leader for the period from 19 March - 6 May 2019 (copy enclosed).
- 6 North Ayrshire Council Minute Volume (issued under separate cover)**
Submit, for noting, the Minutes of meetings of committees of the Council held in the period 14 February 2019 - 8 May 2019.
- 7 North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of meeting held on 28 March 2019**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on the Minute of the last meeting of the CPP Board held on 28 March 2019 (copy enclosed).

8 **Congratulatory Motion**

In terms of Standing Order 13.3, submit the undernoted motion, duly proposed and seconded, which seeks to congratulate, commend or recognise an individual or group in relation to their achievement or activities within North Ayrshire:-

“Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club

Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club was formed in the village from which it takes its name in 1944 as a welcome home organisation for local men returning from military service. It has been going strong ever since and has held an annual Burns Supper and St Andrew's Dinner every year without a break since its formation. On 25th January 2019 it celebrated its 75th Annual Burns Supper and will celebrate its 75th Annual St Andrew's Dinner on 29 November 2019.

The club has worked with local schools and supported them financially with prizes and certificates over the years to encourage verse speaking in Scots and a love of the poems and songs of Scotland's Bard, Robert Burns. The club had a special accolade in 1947 when it was visited by a reporter and photographer from the American *Life Magazine* and subsequently a three page article with photographs of the club appeared in that magazine which has a world-wide circulation.

The club comprises heavily of retired members (65-94 years) and organises an interesting programme of activities to suit members and ensure that they have contact with other members to combat social isolation and loneliness and keep them involved in positive activities such as regular meetings with speakers on a range of subjects, visits, bus trips and theatre outings to enhance their journey into age.

North Ayrshire Council acknowledges the 75th anniversary of Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club; notes the progress the club has made over the years to combat loneliness and social isolation, encouraging mutual support for older members; congratulates all the members on their support for local schools in the area; and wishes the club well in the future.”

9 Appointments to Committee

Submit the undernoted appointments, for noting:-

(1) Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee

Sector	Representative	Substitute
Scottish Enterprise	Steve Dunlop	-
Skills Development Scotland	Katie Hutton	-
Business	Simon Foster (Spirit Aerospace)	-
Education	TBC	-

(2) Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership Sub-Committee

Sector	Representative	Substitute
Ayrshire College	Carol Turnbull	-
University of the West of Scotland	Craig Mahoney	Ehsan Mesbahi/ Marcus Ross
University of Glasgow	Alan McGregor	Des McNulty
University of Strathclyde	TBC	-
Business	Alastair Dobson (Taste of Arran) Simon Foster (Spirit Aerospace) Craig Hume (Utopia Computers)	- - -
Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce	Val Russell	-
Federation of Small Businesses	Hisashi Kuboyama	-
Transport Scotland	Allison Irvine	-
VisitScotland	Malcolm Roughead	-
Scottish Enterprise	Mark Newlands	-
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	Jennifer Nicoll	-
Skills Development Scotland	Katie Hutton	-
Third Sector (Co-opted)	Ian Welsh	-

- 10 North Ayrshire Ventures Trust**
To approve the appointment of a new Director on the Board of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust (copy enclosed).
- 11 Ardrossan Harbour Improvements**
Submit report by the Executive Director (Economy and Communities) on harbour works at Ardrossan that will improve service reliability, long term port resilience and allow Ardrossan to remain the mainland harbour for the Arran and Campbeltown ferries as set out in the Council approved prospectus to Transport Scotland (copy enclosed).
- 12 Questions**
In terms of Standing Order 12, submit:-
- (1) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care in the following terms:-**
“How many over 65 year olds are on a pending list to receive funding, formal assessment or a place in a North Ayrshire Care Home.”
- (2) a question by Councillor Dickson to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-**
“At the recent SNP conference a resolution was passed that asked that “the Scottish Government work closely with stakeholders to develop a set of best-practice, guiding principles for employers which take account of menopausal-related health issues. This will enable employers to ensure that necessary adjustments are in place to support those experiencing menopause”.

What guidance do our managers follow to help support menopausal women?”
- (3) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Education in the following terms:-**
“Noting that the SNP Government has over the last 12 years presided over declining Educational Attainment as witnessed by their decision to to abandon the empirically based Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the Scottish Survey of Numeracy and Literacy(SSL), does he not agree that the recently published league tables of Schools where pupils achieve 5+ Highers are now the only empirical standard for measuring school achievement?”
- (4) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Chair of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee in the following terms:-**
“The Minute of the Audit Committee of 26 March 2019 records that the Health and Social Care Partnership Operational Budget is experiencing “a backlog in assessments in Free Personal Care”. Can the Chair explain the failure to timeously award support to these vulnerable elderly residents.”

(5) a question by Councillor McNicol to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

“Will the Leader of the Council explain the process followed by the Administration in allocating funding awarded to the Council from the Scottish Government’s Town Centre Fund?”

(6) a question by Councillor McNicol to the Cabinet Member for Place in the following terms:-

“Will the portfolio holder for Place inform Members of the number of reports received by North Ayrshire Council of road defects/potholes on all adopted roads/footpaths in the year 2018/19? Will he also inform Members of the cost to repair said defects/potholes?”

(7) a question by Councillor Billings to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

“The question is directed to the Leader of the Council because he is a member of the Ardrossan Harbour Task Force Committee and is closely involved in the Arran to Ardrossan ferry service upgrade project. The Leader will be very aware that this project is not going as well as intended, and at the moment one could describe it as a total shambles. Recent announcements indicate that the two new ferries, already over a year late, are nowhere near completion and there is significant doubt about when, if ever, these ferries will be finished.

The Leader will also know that Scottish Government has approved the Task Force’s plans for the harbour and has just agreed to spend additional money on Ardrossan harbour. He will also be aware that the reason for this additional money is to ensure that Glen Sannox ferry can dock reliably at Ardrossan.

Whilst welcoming the continued commitment of the Scottish Government to keep Ardrossan as the mainland port for the Arran ferry service, my question to the Leader is given that the future of the part built Glen Sannox is still to be decided and that the additional agreed finance is for major harbour work to enable this specific boat to dock at Ardrossan, would it not be better to wait until there is a confirmed decision about what ferry will actually be using Ardrossan?”

(8) a question by Councillor Billings to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

“The Leader is aware that North Ayrshire Council will be investing a lot of money in Ardrossan harbour's terminal buildings and other passenger infrastructure.

The Leader may not be so aware that the new terminal building at Brodick, whilst it may have won industry awards, has come in for considerable criticism regarding passenger usability and infrastructure robustness.

There is a growing body of opinion on Arran that in spite of the work of the Arran Ferry Committee and Arran Community Council, the decision makers involved in the ferry development project are not really listening and don't take in to account the views and concerns of the residents of Arran. This ground-swell of opinion has led to the formation of the Arran Ferry Action Group, which intends to be a fully representative group to represent Arran's interested in ferry service improvements and future investment decisions.

My question to the Leader is that as this Council has a policy to be as inclusive as possible, will the Leader commit to including the Arran Ferry Action Group as a recognised consultation group, and take regard of the views of this group when making representations to the Scottish Government, CMAL and CalMac about the development of the Arran ferry service?”

(9) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

“At the Council meeting held on 7th December 2018 I asked the following question: NAC collected the BID levy on behalf of Largs Matters Ltd from local businesses in Largs under Rates Legislation.

Now that the five year BID has come to an end, will NAC be involved in returning the balance of funds to the businesses or as the statute states, given to an organisation with a similar aim?

What has been done to return the remaining BID funds to the businesses in Largs since the meeting on 7th November 2018, where are the assets of Largs Matters Ltd and what are the assets?”

(10) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Chair of Planning in the following terms:-

“In the letter from the Enviro Centre to North Ayrshire Council Planning dated 10th January 2018 the first paragraph states "As you are aware we submitted an Environmental Review with our screening request of 20 February 2017. This Environmental Review discussed the potential environmental effects of the development as a whole as agreed in our site meeting of January 2017. Subsequently, as fully discussed with North Ayrshire Council (McInally Associates/NAC) it was considered that the most appropriate approach to making the necessary changes to the Hunterston Marine Construction Yard was through three separate planning applications (and a Marine Licence from Marine Scotland)"

Who attended that site meeting, was it minuted and who proposed lodging the application in three parts?"

(11) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Chair of Planning in the following terms:-

“During the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27th March while answering one of my questions, the Chair of Planning referred to a letter dated 19th February 2019 from the Scottish Government. This letter was also referred to during a Public Meeting held in Largs Campus on 21st February 2019. Is the Chair of Planning and NAC still "quite happy with the written comment from the Scottish Government"?"

13 Motions

In terms of Standing Order 13, submit:-

(1) a motion by Councillor Donald L. Reid, seconded by Councillor Dickson, in the following terms:-

“In view of the potentially high levels of traffic which the welcome improvements to Dalry Bypass and the Den Realignment will bring, this council is keen, for road safety reasons, to have the excellent plans for the realigned Beith bypass actioned in early course. To this end North Ayrshire Council request that the Chief Executive writes to the Scottish Transport Minister urging him to prioritise work to begin on the realigned Beith bypass as soon as practicable.”

(2) a motion by Councillor Billings, seconded by Councillor Gallacher, in the following terms:-

“The Isle of Arran is one of North Ayrshire’s most buoyant and developing communities, and attracts over 400,000 visitors every year. North Ayrshire Council is aware of Arran’s importance and is working with local communities to further develop the island through new housing and business support. The residents of Arran were, therefore, delighted when it was announced that public money would be spent to upgrade and improve all aspects of the ferry link to Arran.

Back in April 2017, the then Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work, Keith Brown said “The Scottish Government is committed to supporting our lifeline ferry links and ensuring that the Arran ferry service is fit for purpose, whilst also getting the best value for the public purse.”

Here we are, 3 years later, with a complete shambles of a project that is over spent, running years late, poorly designed and has reliability issues not seen with the previous service. Over £100 million has been committed to this project which is being squandered, and the ongoing delays are having adverse effects on the economy of the communities that rely on the ferries.

As representatives of our local communities it is our duty as Councillors to hold to account those who make decisions on our behalf, in this case the SNP Scottish Government. On behalf of the people we were elected to represent, we demand to know why this project is so far off track and is not delivering the benefits it promised.

I therefore move that Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands (a) to express in the strongest terms the Council’s disappointment and concern about the current uncertainty that surrounds the upgrade to the Arran and Ardrossan ferry service, highlighting the damage that the unreliability of the current service is having on the economy of Arran, (b) to ask why Ministers have had such poor control over the spending of public money, and (b) for an explanation as to how the SNP Scottish Government intends to make good the Minister’s commitment that this project will provide an Arran ferry service that is fit for purpose and will offer best value for money.”

14 Urgent Items

Any other items which the Provost considers to be urgent.

Webcasting

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site. At the start of the meeting, the Provost will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data collected during the webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site.

Generally, the press and public seating areas will not be filmed. However, by entering the Council Chambers and using the press or public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and consenting to the use and storage of those images and sound recordings and any information pertaining to you contained in them for webcasting or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public.

If you have any queries regarding this and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact committeeservices@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

North Ayrshire Council Sederunt

Ian Clarkson (Provost)
Robert Barr (Depute Provost)
John Bell
Timothy Billings
Joy Brahim
Marie Burns
Joe Cullinane
Scott Davidson
Anthea Dickson
John Easdale
Todd Ferguson
Robert Foster
Scott Gallacher
Alex Gallagher
Margaret George
John Glover
Tony Gurney
Alan Hill
Christina Larsen
Shaun Macaulay
Jean McClung
Ellen McMaster
Ronnie McNicol
Louise McPhater
Davina McTiernan
Tom Marshall
Jimmy Miller
Jim Montgomerie
Ian Murdoch
Donald Reid
Donald L Reid
Angela Stephen
John Sweeney

Chair:

Apologies:

Attending:

IRVINE, 27 March 2019 - At a Meeting of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Ian Clarkson, Robert Barr, John Bell, Timothy Billings, Joy Brahim, Marie Burns, Joe Cullinane, Scott Davidson, Anthea Dickson, John Easdale, Todd Ferguson, Robert Foster, Scott Gallacher, Alex Gallagher, Margaret George, John Glover, Tony Gurney, Alan Hill, Christina Larsen, Shaun Macaulay, Tom Marshall, Jean McClung, Ronnie McNicol, Louise McPhater, Davina McTiernan, Jimmy Miller, Jim Montgomerie, Ian Murdoch, Donald Reid, Donald L. Reid, Angela Stephen and John Sweeney.

In Attendance

C. Hatton, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Support); K. Yeomans, Executive Director (Economy and Communities); S. Brown, Director (Health and Social Care Partnership); A. McClelland, Head of Service (Learning, Teaching and Curriculum)(Education and Youth Employment); Y. Baulk, Head of Service (Physical Environment (Place); and A. Fraser, Head of Democratic Services, A. Craig, Senior Manager (Legal Services), M. McColm, Senior Communications Officer (Media and Internal Communications); H. Clancy and D. McCaw, Committee Services Officers and M. Anderson, Interim Committee and Member Services Manager (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Provost Clarkson in the Chair.

Apologies

Ellen McMaster.

1. Provost's Remarks

The Provost welcomed those present to the meeting and dealt with preliminary matters, which included an announcement that the Council meeting would be webcast.

The Provost also took the opportunity, on behalf of the Council, to extend birthday good wishes to Councillors Cullinane and Brahim.

2. Apologies

The Provost invited intimation of apologies for absence, which were recorded.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

There were no declarations of the Party Whip.

4. Previous Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 13 February 2019, the Special Meeting held on 27 February 2019, the Special Meeting (Planning) (Pre-Determination Hearing) and Special Meeting (Planning) (Determination Meeting) was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

5. Provost's Report

Submitted report by the Provost for the period from 5 February-18 March 2019.

The Provost highlighted the following elements of his written report:-

- showcase events to celebrate the North Ayrshire Young Musician on the Year, the North Ayrshire Traditional Musician of the Year and the Young Rock and Pop Musician of the Year;
- the launch of Largs Picture House at Largs Campus, the Arran Cycle maintenance Project in Arran High School and the Credit Union Project at Kilwinning Campus, all of which equip students with additional employability skills while providing a service within the local community;
- a special concert and reception held in the Usher Hall and a reception hosted by the Lord Provost of Glasgow City Council, both in celebration of Chinese New Year; and
- the Civic Pride Awards which took place on 15 March 2019 in the Portal, Irvine, which saw over 16,700 votes and raised more than £9,000 for Cash for Kids and Ayrshire Hospice.

Noted.

6. Leader's Report

Submitted report by the Leader for the period from 5 February – 18 March 2019.

The Leader highlighted the following elements of his written report:-

- the next stage in terms of progress on the Ayrshire Growth Deal and a recognition of the hard work of those involved thus far, particularly officers of the Council; and
- the launch of the Kilwinning Academy Credit Union project and its important role with regard to the delivery of 'life skills' education.

Noted.

7. Council Minute Volume

Submitted for noting, the Minutes of meetings of committees of the Council held in the period 13 December 2018-12 March 2019.

Noted.

8. Congratulatory Motion

In terms of Standing Order 13.1, submitted the undernoted motion, duly proposed and seconded, which sought to congratulate, commend or recognise an individual or group in relation to their achievement or activities within North Ayrshire:-

“Irvine and Dreghorn Band attended the Scottish Brass Band Championships at Perth Concert Hall on Saturday 9 March when they performed to a very high standard and were crowned Scottish Champions. They now go forward to represent Scotland at the National Brass Band Championships in Cheltenham in October this year.

The Council congratulates all the band members, committee and supporters on their musical dedication and teamwork which has resulted in this hallmark achievement and wishes them well when they represent Scotland at the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain in October 2019.”

There being no dissent, the motion was declared carried.

9. Outside Body Nomination

The Council considered a nomination, proposed by Councillor Barr and seconded by Councillor McNicol, for Councillor Donald L Reid to serve as the Council's representative on Scotland Excel.

There being no amendment, Councillor Donald L Reid was duly appointed to serve on Scotland Excel.

10. Development of North Ayrshire Council Plan 2019-24

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on a draft Council Plan 2019-2024 for formal consultation.

Members asked a question, and received clarification, on the aspiration to deliver on fairness for all communities across North Ayrshire.

The Council agreed (a) to approve the draft Council Plan 2019-2024 set out at Appendix 1, for formal consultation with communities, partners and other agencies; and (b) that, following the collation and consideration of feedback through formal consultation, a final Council Plan be considered for agreement by Council prior to the summer recess.

11. Questions

In terms of Standing Order No. 12 submit:

- (1) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Leader of the Opposition in the following terms:-

"The SNP at the last election stood on a manifesto commitment of a maximum increase of 3% on the Council Tax. However at Council in February the SNP Group voted for an increase of 4.79% for 2019/20, and opposed the Conservative Amendment of a 3% increase. Why did the Opposition not support a council tax rise which would have delivered their own manifesto commitment, or was this a manifesto commitment which they never intended to keep?"

Councillor Burns thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"The SNP stood on a manifesto of a Council Tax cap of 3%. Earlier this year, the cap was raised when the Green Party worked with the SNP minority Government in Holyrood to ensure a budget was passed. An agreement was reached which involved compromise on both sides, but which produced a budget that delivered on a whole range of public services, national and local, for the people of Scotland.

My Group's budget proposal in this Chamber attempted a similar compromise by suggesting a Council Tax increase of 3.7%, only 0.7% above the previous cap. If Mr Marshall's Group had been prepared to compromise, that proposal could have been approved. Instead, they chose to sit on their hands and allow Labour's proposal of 4.79% to defeat our proposal of 3.7%.

My Group's compromise was to support Labour's proposal when the only other option available to us was the Tory proposal which would have cut teacher numbers and destroyed the Council's apprenticeship programme.

Provost, I believe manifesto commitments are extremely important and should be honoured as far as possible. I also believe that people understand when compromises have to be made as circumstances change, and perhaps if Councillor Marshall's own Leader understood that, she wouldn't be in the mess she's in now.

Can I say again that the only pledge our group of Tory candidates made in the Council elections, was a commitment to prevent a second Independence referendum. I'm keen to hear how, as a local councillor, Councillor Marshall plans to deliver on that."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Marshall asked the Leader of the Opposition how she expected those on fixed incomes to fund a large increase in Council tax.

Councillor Burns responded by expressing the view that if the Member were concerned about poverty levels and how people were going to pay their bills, he should speak with his own Party Leader on how years of Austerity had impacted on people, not just in North Ayrshire, but across Scotland and the UK.

- (2) a question by Councillor Hill to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

"Does the Portfolio Holder welcome The Scottish Government/COSLA announcement of £1.4m of funding for North Ayrshire to establish a new Town Centre Fund aimed at ensuring our High Streets are more diverse, sustainable and successful?"

Councillor Gallagher responded by indicating that, given the state of the Council's finances following cuts imposed upon it by Councillor Hill's own Party, he would accept any small amount of funding offered and would ensure that the money was used wisely.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Hill referred to the Cabinet report mentioned in the Cabinet Member's written response. Councillor Hill requested confirmation that there would be consultation with Members and communities on expenditure of the funding and clarification of the steps which would be taken to ensure a fair geographical spread of expenditure.

Councillor Gallagher responded by confirming that the aim of the Cabinet report would be to ensure an equitable split between all of the eleven settlements in question and referred to the terms of his written response:-

"We always welcome additional Government funding for North Ayrshire. Our town centres are very important to all our communities and we recognise the challenges that they are facing as shopping patterns change and increasing numbers of commercial buildings become redundant in our towns. The Scottish Government funding is a one-off amount of £1.4m for 2019/20 only. Officers will consider potential options for the Fund with a report for consideration coming to May Cabinet."

- (3) a question by Councillor Brahim to the Cabinet Member for Place in the following terms:-

"In light of North Ayrshire Council's pledge to support Keep Scotland Beautiful's Roadside Litter campaign following a motion I lodged last summer, can the Portfolio holder for Place provide an update detailing what steps have been taken to conduct an ongoing publicity campaign, what options have been explored to optimise the presence and location of roadside bins and monitoring roadside litter levels and what other efforts have been made in line with this specific campaign?"

Councillor Montgomerie circulated some examples of promotional advertising, responded and responded in the following terms:-

“Thank you for your question regarding roadside litter.

The Council has taken a number of actions to reduce this and continues to work closely with Keep Scotland Beautiful on roadside and general litter issues.

Streetscene has populated known areas of concern/litter hot spots with the promotional advertising provided by Keep Scotland Beautiful. The material is designed to encourage people to 'Give their litter a lift home'. In addition the messaging also informs drivers to take their litter home as there are 'no bins here'. Streetscene have removed litter bins from specific laybys, as suggested by KSB, which were subsequently populated with these signs. This has been monitored and has resulted in reduced volumes of litter in these roadside locations.

In addition to this the Streetscene Environmental Enforcement team has developed its own enforcement signs to help support the KSB initiative.

These signs are bright yellow and warn potential offenders that surveillance is in place and that litter attracts an £80 Fixed Penalty Notice. This is being implemented in two specific locations in Irvine where roadside litter was a serious problem. The signs are in place on the A71 and at the exit from the Riverside Retail Park. Early indications are that this is having a positive impact with reduced litter and an improved visual impact on the area.

This is now being considered for expansion into surrounding locations and other known litter hot spots.

As well as signs, CCTV cameras have been implemented on the A71, at Irvine Beach park and at Byrehill Road, Kilwinning to help address all levels of environmental crime including road side litter and fly tipping. This combined with the recent "DASH CAM" campaign which encourages members of the public to report offences captured on dash cams are also having an impact on people's behaviour.

I can furthermore confirm that laybys and roadsides are continually monitored for the impacts of litter and clearances are scheduled for badly affected areas in line with planned roadside closures to minimise disruption and reduce costs.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Brahim asked if, following the meeting, the Cabinet Member could provide more details in writing of what action had been taken in other Wards and on what she and other Elected Members could do to support the campaign.

Councillor Montgomerie responded in the affirmative.

- (4) a question by Councillor Brahim to the Cabinet Member for Communities in the following terms:-

“I would like to ask the Portfolio Holder for Communities if she agrees that we must ensure all EU citizens in North Ayrshire have access to Android devices through Council buildings and home visits, to ensure they are have the opportunity to apply for the Settled Status Scheme and if so, what measures the Council will put in place to accommodate this.”

Councillor McPhater thanked the Member for her question and responded in the following terms:-

“Staff in North Ayrshire Library Service are working with We Are Digital to ensure that there is access to the necessary resources relating to EU National and the Settled Status Scheme. We Are Digital will be the conduit for appointments with anyone in the North Ayrshire area requiring assistance being directed to us. Three libraries have been identified to participate in the scheme and staff there are currently having additional security checks carried out in order to operate the system and help in the delivery of this work.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Brahim asked if the Cabinet Member could provide further information following the meeting on the three libraries mentioned and whether home visits were also a possibility.

Councillor McPhater responded in the affirmative.

- (5) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

“Before planning permission was granted for the Decommissioning Site at the Marine Construction Yard at Hunterston in 2018, were all meetings held between North Ayrshire Council, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and Marine Scotland minuted and if not why not?”

Councillor Gallagher thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

“There is no record of any minutes of such meetings as they would have been informal in nature. These meetings would have been held prior to the formal consultation being inserted on the Council’s Planning Portal.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Murdoch asked whether the Cabinet Member agreed that future meetings between officers and outside organisations should be minuted.

Councillor Gallagher responded by expressing the contrary view.

- (6) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

“If the proposal is successful, how many jobs will be created at the Decommissioning Site at the Marine Construction Yard at Hunterston?”

Councillor Gallagher thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

“The report to the Council’s Planning Committee on 25 April 2018 (Agenda Item 3.2), advises that the applicant’s ‘Socio Economic Report’ submitted in support of the application summarises that the long term investments at the site would secure initial funding of approximately £60-80 million from partners and funding resulting in a spend of £76m at the site to accommodate the decommissioning. It would create 500-550 gross Person Year Equivalent jobs in construction and related sectors and the ongoing operations at the site would result in £50m annual operating contract values, generating some 220-260 permanent full time equivalent jobs.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Murdoch made reference to varying figures quoted by Kenneth Gibson MSP with regard to the number of jobs likely to be created by the decommissioning work, contrasting the MSP’s estimates of ‘100s of jobs’ and up to 1,000 jobs with the 40-80 jobs associated with similar facilities elsewhere, and asked the Cabinet Member for clarification as to the correct figure.

Councillor Gallagher advised that he had no reason to doubt the robust nature of the figure quoted within the Planning Committee report, based as it was on a Socio Economic report which had been prepared using expert advice and subsequently reviewed and published.

- (7) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Chair of Planning in the following terms:-

“In documentation obtained through Freedom of Information relating to the Hunterston Marine Construction Yard, there is a letter from the Enviro Centre dated 10th January 2018 sent to North Ayrshire’s Planning Department. Is the Chair of Planning aware of the existence of this letter and if so when did he become aware of it?”

Councillor Marshall thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

“The documents were published on the Council’s ePlanning Portal, which are available to Members in advance of the determination. The letter relates to clarification on environmental studies. The report to the Council’s Planning Committee on 25 April 2018 (Agenda Item 3.2), refers to the applicant’s ‘Environmental Statement’.

I was made aware of the terms of the letter after it was received and that it informed the Planning Officer’s report.”

As a supplementary question, Councillor Murdoch made reference to a Freedom of Information request which had revealed both Marine Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage had encouraged the Council to conduct a full Environmental Impact Assessment, and asked whether the Planning Committee was made aware of this prior to granting planning permission.

Councillor Marshall responded by referring to the Minute of the Planning Committee of 25 April 2018, which stated that an EIA was not required by Marine Scotland, nor by Scottish Natural Heritage, and by expressing his confidence in the Planning Officers' interpretation of their submissions.

(8) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Chair of Planning in the following terms:-

"Was there a reply sent to the letter dated the 10th January 2018 from the Enviro Centre to North Ayrshire's Planning Department in respect of the Hunterston Marine Construction Yard and why is there no reference in the formal planning report provided to the Planning Committee?"

Councillor Marshall thanked the Member for his question responded in the following terms:-

"The letter relates to clarification on environmental studies. The contents of the letter would have formed part of the applicant's supporting information to the application, all of which would have been considered in the Officer's assessment, and the consultees' response to the application and the supporting information was in the report to the Council's Planning Committee on 25 April 2018."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Murdoch referred to statements made in the Scottish Parliament that there had been substantial changes to the project since Marine Scotland's original assessment that an Environmental Impact Assessment was not necessary, and asked the Chair of Planning about the nature of those substantial changes.

Councillor Marshall responded by advising that there had been no change as far as he was aware and asserting that the Member was referring only to an opinion expressed by one MSP to another. Councillor Marshall cited a letter from the Scottish Government dated 19 February 2019, which stated quite clearly there was no need for an EIA.

(9) a question by Councillor Murdoch to the Cabinet Member for the Economy in the following terms:-

"EDF have recently held two Public Information Sessions at Hunterston B Power Station. Are there any plans to invite EDF to a meeting with North Ayrshire Council to discuss the graphite inspections, modelling and analysis work that has been taking place on the reactors at Hunterston since they have been offline?"

Councillor Gallagher thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

“Councillors and officers last met with the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and EDF, on the 25 June 2018 to receive an update from both parties in relation to the key way root cracks found in reactors 3 and 4 at Hunterston B. Furthermore, the ONR, EDF and other stakeholders including Elected Members and Council Officers meet on a quarterly basis at the Hunterston Site Stakeholders Group to receive updates on current activity and progress at both Hunterston A and B.

Whilst this regular engagement with all parties at the Site Stakeholder Group and the increasing amount of information now in the public domain from both EDF and the ONR relating to the issues of graphite ageing has enabled greater awareness of the current situation the Chief Executive plans to invite ONR and EDF to meet with him as part of a regular programme.”

(10) a question by Councillor McClung to the Cabinet Member for Communities in the following terms:-

“The Year 2020 marks the 700th Anniversary of the signing, on 6th April, 1320, of The Declaration of Arbroath.

The importance of this document is acknowledged throughout the world since it is not, as many believe, simply a declaration of Scotland’s right to self-determination, but is also hugely important in that it recognises that the people of Scotland have their own identity. It also asserts that the people of this country are sovereign, and as such have the right to be ruled only by those to whom we give that gift.

The National Records of Scotland describe this document as “foremost among Scotland’s state papers”.

A US Resolution of 10th November, 1997 states formally that the American Declaration of Independence was directly modelled on the Declaration of Arbroath.

Also, in 2016 the document’s huge significance was acknowledged, and its international importance recognised, when the Declaration of Arbroath was placed on UNESCO’s “Memory of the World” Register.

The text of the Declaration of Arbroath is generally ascribed to Bernard, Abbot of Kilwinning, who went on to be Chancellor of Scotland and Abbot of Arbroath. One of the Declaration’s signatories was Fergus of Ardrossan. Add to that the fact that a signatory of the aforementioned American Declaration of Independence, Reverend John Witherspoon, was a Church Minister in Beith from 1745-1758, and it would seem obvious that this upcoming centenary is an unparalleled opportunity for North Ayrshire to capitalise on the area’s historic significance, not the least as a way of reviving our Tourist Industry - an area of development which I have previously mentioned in the Chamber as one which I have been doing all in my power to advance.

As I was asked by members of the Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society to pursue this matter, can I ask the portfolio holder for Communities what plans are being made by North Ayrshire Council to commemorate this important centenary?”

Councillor McPhater thanked the Member for her question and responded by indicating that none were planned.

As a supplementary question, Councillor McClung expressed disappointment in the brevity of the Cabinet Member's response and asked whether Councillor McPhater did not consider this a prime opportunity to use our heritage to bring tourists back to the area.

Councillor McPhater responded by referring to the severe pressures faced by communities, including the incidence of drug deaths, food bank use, poverty and in-work poverty, and the need to make difficult decisions on the use of reduced staff resources. The Cabinet Member advised that Ardrossan Heritage Society could itself apply for funding to commemorate this event which took place over 700 years ago. Whilst, Councillor McPhater did always remember past events, the priority at this time must be to direct resources to addressing the difficulties being experienced by communities.

(11) a question by Councillor Gallacher to the Leader of the Council in the following terms:-

"Over the last ten years, how many employees have left NAC with a non-disclosure agreement?"

Councillor Cullinane thanked the Member for his question and responded in the following terms:-

"No employees have left the Council with a non-disclosure agreement.

Confidentiality clauses are a normal part of Settlement Agreements (previously known as Compromise Agreements) and prohibit both the employer and employee from disclosing the terms of the Agreement. These protect the reputation of the employee and the employer. However, they cannot stop either the employee or employer from reporting a criminal offence to the Police. In order to protect employees, employment law provides that an employee must receive independent employment advice from an accredited specialist before entering into a settlement agreement. For example, this was the case in all our equal pay settlements. Any employee entering into a settlement agreement with the Council receives independent specialist employment advice, to ensure they fully understand the terms of the Agreement.

In accordance with our data retention schedule, we only hold the data for the previous 6 years. The total number of Settlement Agreements, excluding Equal Pay claims, entered into since 21 March 2013 is 22."

As a supplementary question, Councillor Gallacher asked for information on the total financial payment associated with the 22 cases.

Councillor Cullinane advised that the sum was in the region of £400,000.

- (12) a question by Councillor Marshall to the Cabinet Member for Education in the following terms:-

“Can the Portfolio holder explain why there are now no North Ayrshire schools in the top 50 state schools in Scotland 2019 as listed, in the Herald of 20th March 2019, by the percentage of pupils achieving 5+ Highers?”

Councillor Marshall intimated that he wished to withdraw the above question.

12. Motions

In terms of Standing Order 13, submitted:-

- (1) a motion by Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Ferguson, in the following terms:-

To propose that North Ayrshire Council request that the Chief Executive at the earliest opportunity:

(a) convenes a meeting between the Office of the Nuclear Regulator (ONR) and the Elected Members of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and relevant Officers to enable North Ayrshire Council to understand the incidence of cracking in the graphite core of Reactor 3 and Reactor 4 and be informed as to the methodology of ONR's treatment of the Safety Case made by EDF to restart the Reactors.

(b) given the future closure of Hunterston B Nuclear Station, reconvenes a (restructured) Hunterston Economic Steering Group which last met on Friday 2 May 2014.”

As an amendment, Councillor Murdoch, seconded by Councillor Barr, moved as follows:-

“That North Ayrshire Council request that the Chief Executive at the earliest opportunity convenes a meeting between the Office of the Nuclear Regulator (ONR) and all the Elected Members of North Ayrshire Council and relevant Officers to enable North Ayrshire Council to understand the incidence of cracking in the graphite core of Reactor 3 and Reactor 4 and be informed as to the methodology of ONR's treatment of the Safety Case made by EDF to restart the Reactors.”

A further proposed amendment by Councillor Gallagher was withdrawn following clarification of the terms of Councillor Murdoch's amendment.

Members were then invited to ask questions and, on a Point of Order, it was confirmed that, in terms of Standing Order 14.7, such questions must be for the purposes of clarification only.

Following questions, debate and summing up, there voted for the amendment 25 and for the motion 7, and the amendment was declared carried.

- (2) a motion by Councillor Billings, seconded by Councillor Ferguson, in the following terms:-

"The Isle of Arran is one of North Ayrshire's most buoyant and developing communities, and attracts nearly 800,000 visitors every year. North Ayrshire Council is aware of Arran's importance and is working with local communities to further develop the island through new housing and business support. The residents of Arran were, therefore, delighted when it was announced that public money would be spent to upgrade and improve all aspects of the ferry link to Arran.

Back in April 2017, the then Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work, Keith Brown said

"The Scottish Government is committed to supporting our lifeline ferry links and ensuring that the Arran ferry service is fit for purpose, whilst also getting the best value for the public purse"

Here we are, 3 years later, with a complete shambles of a project that is over spent, running years late, poorly designed and has reliability issues not seen with the previous service. Over £100 million has been committed to this project which is being wasted, and the delays have an adverse effect on the economy of the communities that rely on the ferries.

As representatives of our local communities it is our duty to hold to account those who make decisions on our behalf, in this case the SNP Scottish Government. On behalf of the people we were elected to represent, we demand to know why this project is so far off track and is not delivering the benefits it promised.

I therefore move that Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Transport and the Islands (a) to express in the strongest terms the Council's disappointment and concern about the current mess and uncertainty that surrounds the upgrade to the Arran and Ardrossan ferry link, (b) for an explanation as to how this situation has been allowed to occur, (c) for an explanation as to how the SNP Scottish Government intends to make good the Minister's commitment that this project will provide an Arran ferry service that is fit for purpose and is offering best value for money."

In terms of Standing Order 14.5, Councillor Billings intimated, with the consent of his seconder, that he wished to withdraw the motion.

13. Motion to Amend Standing Orders

Submitted a motion, by Councillor Gurney, seconded by Councillor Brahim, to amend Standing Orders in terms of Standing Order 22-

"Insert a new Standing Order 12.9 as follows:-

"In relation to both a Question submitted in advance of a meeting and a question relating to an item on the agenda, the person answering must ensure there is a reasonable factual basis for any statement of fact made in their response."

As an amendment, Councillor Billings proposed the deletion of the words “of fact”.

The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that the terms of the motion would comply with Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights with regard to safeguarding freedom of expression, while those of the proposed amendment would not.

In light of the advice provided, Councillor Billings withdrew his proposed amendment.

Members then asked questions, and received clarification, on the application of the terms of the motion.

There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

14. Urgent Item

The Provost agreed, due to the timing of the event, to allow a verbal report to be given.

14.1 World Wide Fund for Nature: Earth Hour Pledge

The Cabinet Member for Place provided a verbal report on Earth Hour which takes place this year on Saturday 30 March 2019 between 8.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. The annual event encourages individuals, communities and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights for one hour as a symbol of commitment to the planet.

Councillor Montgomerie requested Members’ support for the event within their communities. He further advised that, given most Council offices were closed during the weekend, the occasion would be marked by asking Council staff to switch off non-essential lights and computer monitors for one hour over the lunch period on Friday 29 March 2019.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 3.25 p.m.



PROVOST'S REPORT

For the period covering: 19 March 2019 – 6 May
2019

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Provost of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Ian Clarkson.

PROVOST'S REPORT

For the period covering: 19 March 2019 – 6 May 2019

Since the last meeting of the Council I have attended various events throughout North Ayrshire.

Citizenship Ceremony, Saltcoats Town Hall, 20 March and 24 April

On 20 March and again on 24 April, I was delighted to welcome new UK citizens to North Ayrshire at special citizenship ceremonies arranged in Saltcoats Town Hall. It is with a great deal of pride that I get the chance to let our new citizens know about our rich cultural heritage and beautiful landscapes that we all enjoy.

North Ayrshire Schools Flagship Concert, Dalry Primary School, Dalry, 21 March

On 21 March, I attended the North Ayrshire Schools' Flagship Concert in Dalry Primary School. This was another excellent event by our Music Service highlighting the exceptional musical talents of our young people in schools throughout North Ayrshire.

Robert Burns World Federation Schools Finals, Irvine Royal Academy, 23 March

It was a great honour that the Robert Burns World Federation chose to host their National Schools competition this year in Irvine Royal Academy on 23 March. I was delighted to officially welcome the competitors who travelled from all over Scotland and to present the top award of senior Young Burnsian of the Year. This was an excellent and well-attended event with the junior version of the competition due to take place in May.

Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Presentation Evening, St Matthew's Academy, Saltcoats, 28 March

It was a great pleasure to present the Gold Awards at the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards presentation evening in St Matthew's Academy on 28 March. The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards programme is delivered in every secondary school in North Ayrshire and offers a variety of educational and challenging activities for participants. The event acknowledged all those who have completed their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards and celebrated these excellent achievements.

Princes Trust/Developing Young Workforce Ayrshire Barista Project Launch, Irvine Royal Academy, Irvine, 29 March

On 29 March, the Royal Aroma Barista was launched in Irvine Royal Academy. Supported by the Princes Trust and Developing Young Workforce, the project provides pupils with additional skills and experience preparing them for employment.

Scottish Youth Parliament Election - Announcement Evening, Greenwood Centre, Irvine 29 March

I had the pleasure of attending the Scottish Youth Parliament election – Announcement Evening on 29 March in the Greenwood Centre, Irvine. The Scottish Youth Parliament is the democratically elected voice of Scotland's young people and I was delighted to get the opportunity to congratulate our newly elected representatives.

Legacy Tree and Time Capsule Planting, Eglinton Park, Kilwinning, 30 March

2018 was the designated Year of Young People. To acknowledge all the fantastic work that took place last year, I joined staff from our Connected Communities and the Young People's Ambassadors in planting the legacy tree and time capsule to mark this special year and the achievements of our young people.

HMS Dasher Remembrance Service, Remembrance Gardens, Ardrossan, 31 March

On 31 March, I attended the HMS Dasher Memorial Service in Ardrossan. The event was very well attended and included members of the HMS Dasher Memorial Committee and the local branch of the British Legion. The service was a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives on HMS Dasher in 1943.

Mr and Mrs McCormick, Diamond Wedding, Kilbirnie, 2 April

I was delighted to go along and congratulate Mr and Mrs McCormick, from Kilbirnie, on their Diamond Wedding anniversary on 2 April. Mr and Mrs McCormick were married in the Walker Hall, Kilbirnie, by Rev Joseph Houston of the then Glengarnock Parish Church.

Reception re. 1918 Poppy Pledge, Poppyscotland Ayrshire, Kilmarnock, 10 April

On 10 April, I attended a reception at the PoppyScotland Welfare Centre in Kilmarnock to mark the success of the 1918 Poppy Pledge. The pledge saw hundreds of supporters across the country raise vital funds and awareness to mark the centenary of the Great War and help veterans living in Scotland today.

North Ayrshire Schools' Senior Concert Band, Kilwinning Academy, Ardrossan, 12 April

Prior to the North Ayrshire Schools' Senior Concert Band leaving for the National Concert Band Festival final in Manchester, a cheese and wine evening was held in Kilwinning Academy. The Band had a final run through of their competition pieces before they set off the next day to Manchester. This was a great opportunity to wish them every success.

Mrs Mary McInnes 100th Birthday, Dalry, 14 April

On 14 April, I was delighted to officially congratulate Mrs Mary McInnes on her 100th birthday. Mrs McInnes was joined by family and friends at Regal Court Dalry to celebrate this special occasion.

Schools Cabaret Concert, Ardrossan Civic Centre, 26 April

A new musical project by our Music Service saw over 80 pupils from across North Ayrshire going along to weekly rehearsals in Saltcoats Town Hall. The project was a great success and culminated in a spectacular 'Cabaret' concert on Friday 26 April in Ardrossan Civic Centre. The event was an all singing/dancing musical celebration with songs from a number of popular musicals.

Kyleshill Court Opening Ceremony, Saltcoats, 29 April

On 29 April, I was proud to officially open our latest housing development, Kyleshill Court in Saltcoats. The homes are of a great quality and I'm sure our residents will be extremely settled and happy there. The 36-unit development is a replacement for the former Canal Court sheltered housing complex.

Children's Art Therapy Launch, Impact Arts, Irvine, 1 May

On 1 May I attended the official launch of Art Therapy at Impact Arts, Irvine. This is a new free service for children and young people in North Ayrshire. The Project, which is funded for three years, will seek referrals of children and young people aged between five and fifteen who could benefit from this work. Sessions are being offered to those experiencing challenging circumstances at home or at school.

John Galt Day Event, Irvine, 2 May

I was delighted to welcome Leeanne Caron Piper, a member of Guelph City Council and visitors to Irvine on 2 May, which is now recognised as John Galt Day.

In recent years, renewed interest has been shown in one of Scotland's "forgotten" literary figures, John Galt who was born in Irvine on 2 May 1779 and died in Greenock on 11 April 1839. Writing in Scots and in English, Galt is credited with being the first socio-political author to comment on society in the post Agrarian and Industrial Revolution era, but was much more than a literary figure. For John Galt was also an entrepreneur who opened up parts of Western Ontario and funded the city of Guelph in what was known as Upper Canada. He also travelled widely in other parts including Malta, Turkey and Gibraltar, and accompanied Lord Byron on part of his European Tour.

The John Galt Society now exists not only to perpetuate the memory of Galt but also to encourage further interest in his life. Irvine Burns Club, of which Galt became its first Honorary Member in 1828, are members of the John Galt Society. A wreath laying event took place, followed by a tour of Irvine Burns Museum and a performance by pupils at Irvine Royal Academy marking John Galt's birth in Irvine.

Reception and Briefing by The Army Engagement Team, Ayr Racecourse, Ayr, 2 May

On the evening of 2 May I attended the “Your Army” presentation which was held at Ayr Racecourse. The event consisted of a multi-media presentation followed by a reception. The aim of the event was to promote a greater awareness and understanding of the British Army



Ian Clarkson

Councillor Ian Clarkson
Provost North Ayrshire Council



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

LEADER'S REPORT

For the period covering: 19 March - 6 May 2019

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Leader of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Joe Cullinane.

LEADER'S REPORT

For the period covering: 19 March - 6 May 2019

MODERN APPRENTICE RECRUITMENT SUPPORT DAY – 27 March

On 27 March, I was invited along to the Modern Apprentice Recruitment Support Day over at Saltcoats Town Hall. This event encourages young people to look at some of the job opportunities available to them over a range of services within the Council and gives our young people the opportunity to learn new skills by gaining a qualification and on the job experience. This is invaluable life experience which stands them in good stead for their future working careers.

COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING, 28 March

Community Planning Partners met on 28 March at the Fullarton Community Hub and heard interesting presentations from Developing the Young Workforce Ayrshire and the Public Health Reform. The Board also heard more about the work undertaken by the “Positive Steps” partnership which is an organisation employed by The Ayrshire Charity Trust and funded by North Ayrshire Council and European Social Funding which looks at ways of helping those that are currently unemployed get back into employment.

Positive Steps begins with a six-week training course involving life coaching, mindfulness and an introduction to volunteering (amongst other things) and then looks at helping individuals get on a three to six-month work placement in an area that suits them best; this could be in retail, community, gardening, care, working with animals or hospitality. The idea behind this is to use a person-centered approach while at the same time encouraging participants to make positive lifestyle changes and help them make new links within the community. This is another fine example of partnership working at its best to deliver results.

COSLA CONVENTION AND SPECIAL LEADERS' MEETING, 29 March

I attended the COSLA Convention and Special Leaders meeting held in Brunton Hall, Musselburgh on Friday 29 March. A packed agenda included discussion on the National Performance Framework (NPF) which was co-signed and jointly launched by the Scottish Government and COSLA in June 2018 and which details the indicators that are used to measure progress. Leaders also heard an update on the progress of the 28 recommendations following the Strategic Review between 2015 and 2017 and noted that many of these have already been

incorporated into the COSLA Plan 2017-2022 although some changes may be required in due course to COSLA's Constitution.

Leaders also received an update on COSLA's work and meetings about Brexit, as well as requests for funding. The main additional point of interest is that the Committee of the Regions has agreed to launch a joint committee with the UK, to continue sub-national dialogue and cooperation. This will involve COSLA.

FOOD WORKSHOP, 9 April

On the 9 April, I was invited along to the Food Workshop held in Cunninghame House. This was an interesting event that encapsulated the work currently being done in North Ayrshire around dignified work provision. The event also provided the opportunity to look at what else could be implemented, looking at potential models for new free/low cost community food provision.

Attendees heard presentations on some existing models such as "The Pantry", "Real Junk Food" and the "Social Supermarket" and then undertook discussion about these and other possible options. I look forward to future workshops and to expanding this area of work as part of our greater community wealth building plan.

ARDROSSAN TASK FORCE MEETING, 23 April

I attended a meeting of the Ardrossan Task Force in the Scottish Parliament on 23 April chaired by the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands, Mr Paul Wheelhouse. The preferred option was approved which would ensure:

- the berth at Arran is retained and reconfigured accordingly
- secure best operational capacity, flexibility and resilience
- provides a future proofed port, ferry and terminal operations at Ardrossan to support the continuation of life line services
- best meets the requirements set out in the Sponsors Requirements Statement (SRS)

The next stage is to undertake more detailed design work, finalise funding arrangements and carry out further consultation.

PAN AYRSHIRE REGIONAL ECONOMIC JOINT COMMITTEE, 24 April

On 24 April, there was a pan-Ayrshire Regional Economic Joint Committee held in Dumfries House, East Ayrshire. Attended by Council Leaders, Chief Executives, other Elected Members and senior officers this was the first meeting held following the signing of the Heads of Terms of our Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD) earlier this year.

The meeting enabled us to look at what successful partnership working should be able to achieve, how it was important to have a coherent 'one Ayrshire voice' to ensure Ayrshire's interests and opportunities are heard at a national and international level. A successful partnership will work together on issues beyond the AGD including a new Regional Economic Strategy, skills, transport and digital. To achieve this, it is important to widen the partnership working to include national agencies and regional partners as well as from the private sector.

For Ayrshire to transform, we will all need to learn to work at becoming more adaptable, innovative with our ideas and resilient in times of change to become a leading authority in the future economy in areas such as digital and low carbon.

CHARLIE PROGRAMME SHOW, 25 April

I was delighted to pop in to see the latest Charlie Programme Exhibition on its opening night held on 25 April at Bridgegate and hosted by our wonderful Young Persons Support Team. This year, young people shared their feelings through the arts and pieces of creative writing. I am always inspired by how these pieces of work can interpret feelings and say so much.

Well done to all those young people who contributed to such a great exhibition and to Claire McGill and the rest of the support team for their great work and continued support to so many others.

KYLESHILL COURT OPENING, 29 April

On 29 April, I attended the official opening of the Kyleshill Court housing development in Saltcoats. North Ayrshire Council's £7.1million investment into redeveloping Kyleshill Court provides our residents with sustainable, fully accessible, level access homes which have also been designed with future adaptation in mind - where it's needed.



The 36, one and two bedroom, sheltered housing units are specifically designed to allow any residents with limited mobility to live as independently as possible. All homes at Kyleshill Court meet the Scottish Government's 'Greener Standard', meaning they have a low carbon footprint – helping the Council continue to be as environmentally friendly as possible. The development includes sustainable features such as:

- solar panels,
- energy efficient boilers,
- low energy lighting,
- internal recycling bins, and
- high levels of insulation.

Our aim is to keep our tenants' energy bills as low as possible, at the same time as being protective of our environment. The development includes a community hub, which will be operated by the Health and Social Care Partnership. The hub will promote social inclusion for the residents and the surrounding community through a range of activities e.g. Zumba and lunch clubs. In addition, a visiting services room allows services such as hairdressing, optometry and podiatry to operate from the complex. The building design has a pivotal role in ensuring the hub is used as a vibrant social space by the community.

I have said many times before how proud I am of our ambitious and innovative housing programme and Kyleshill Court is a fine example of why we are leading the way and providing for the needs of our local residents.

Congratulations to all those involved in this excellent work, in particular our Housing Development and Strategy teams and of course all those involved in the construction and building works: Ashleigh Construction and Hub South West.



Provost Clarkson with some of the residents at Kyleshill Court, Saltcoats.



**Councillor Joe Cullinane
Leader North Ayrshire Council**

LEADER'S REPORT



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

15 May 2019

North Ayrshire Council

Title: **North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board: Minutes of Meeting held on 28 March 2019**

Purpose: To submit the Minutes of the meeting of the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership Board held on 28 March 2019

Recommendation: That the Council notes the Minutes contained in Appendix 1.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 It was previously agreed that the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board be submitted to North Ayrshire Council for information. The key matters arising from the minutes have been highlighted for the attention of Council and are detailed in Section 2.1.

2. Background

- 2.1 Minutes of the meeting of the CPP Board held on 28 March 2019 are appended. Particular matters for the Council's attention include the following:-

Agenda Item 3

CPP partners heard about Positive Steps with Partners which supports those who are facing multiple barriers to finding employment. They provide training and support followed by work placements. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have worked with a number of these volunteers and the benefits for the individuals as well as the provider are notable.

Agenda Item 4

A presentation on Developing the Young Workforce Ayrshire was provided. Partners heard about the range of initiatives underway to reduce youth unemployment and the plans to extend provision and the employers involved over 2019.

Agenda Item 5

The Board heard about the public health reform programme. The reform programme aims to influence how we work across a number of areas as part of a whole system approach to improve the public's health, with an increasing focus on preventing ill health and promoting early intervention. In addition to the direct involvement of local partners the Board will submit a consultation response.

Agenda Item 6

An update was given on the work of the Locality Partnerships including recent Community Investment Fund bids. The Council's Cabinet and the Integrated Joint Board agreed to a joint Arran LP and LPF on a 12-month pilot basis.

Agenda Item 9

Attendees split into groups and participated in three workshops which focused on the Council Plan, Police and Fire and Rescue Performance Report and Service Updates.

3. Proposals

3.1 That the Council notes the Minutes contained in Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial:	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
Human Resources:	There are no human resource implications arising from this report.
Legal:	There are no legal implications arising from this report.
Equality: Children and Young People:	There are no implications relating to equality or children and young people arising from this report.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no environmental implications arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	The CPP activities detailed within this report support the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.
Community Benefits:	There are no community benefit implications arising from this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 No consultation was required.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive

For further information please contact **Morna Rae** on **01294 324177**.

Background Papers

N/A

Community Planning Partnership Board

Thursday 28 March 2019 at 11.00 am

Fullarton Connexions



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Present

North Ayrshire Council

Joe Cullinane, Elected Member **(Chair)**

John Bell, Elected Member

Marie Burns, Elected Member

Alex Gallagher, Elected Member

Scott Davidson, Elected Member

Ellen McMaster, Elected Member

Tony Gurney, Elected Member

Craig Hatton, Chief Executive

Department of Work and Pensions

Peter Galliford, Business Manager *(Sub for Audrey McGee)*

KA Leisure

Ashley Pringle, Chairman

Police Scotland

Chief Supt Mark Hargreaves Area Commander

Chief Inspector Stuart McGregor

Scottish Enterprise

Brian Connolly, Engagement Partner *(Sub for Mark Newlands)*

Scottish Fire and Rescue

Jim Scott, Area Manager

Skills Development Scotland

Andrea Glass, Regional Skills Planning Lead *(Sub for Katie Hutton)*

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Allan Comrie, Senior Transport Planner

Third Sector Interface

Vicki Yuill, Arran CVS

In Attendance

Morna Rae (NAC), Audrey Sutton (NAC), Jennifer McGee (NAC),

Apologies

Martin Cheyne (NHS), Katie Hutton (SDS), John Burns (NHS) Lynne McNiven (NHS)
Michael Breen (Ayrshire College) Audrey McGee (DWP), Stephen Brown (HSCP),
Stephen Gallagher (SG),

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minute of the Previous Meeting and Action Note

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, and the action note was discussed

3. Positive Steps with Partners

Cheryl Newall from The Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT) presented to the Board their partnership programme – Positive Steps with Partners - which supports those who have been long term unemployed, facing multiple barriers to finding employment. Referrals to the programme come from partners on the pipeline such as CEIS Ayrshire, Job Centre plus, Addictions and many others self-refer.

They deliver the cognitive behaviour therapy course - Steps to Excellence - this course helps to explore learned behaviours and attitudes towards employment. This is a powerful motivator in encouraging individuals to step out their comfort zones and learn how new experiences can promote personal and professional growth. Steps to Excellence is a four-day course, after the four days, TACT then tap into other provisions such as life coach sessions, mindfulness, stress reduction and The Ayrshire College provide a community tutor to deliver accredited training at the TACT Office. All the training/services sourced play a role in supporting the journey towards a voluntary work placement opportunity. Everything is delivered at a local level and accessible to all who participate in the programme.

Following the training programme, TACT then assist individuals explore the volunteer work placements available which in turn can help individuals gain knowledge and skills. Following their volunteer placement, some people progress straight into employment, signing up for college or progressing onto other programmes further up the pipeline such as skills for life.

Cheryl advised that Board that TACT are always keen to work with new partners and that should they be interested in participating in the work to contact her.

The Chair thanked Cheryl for her presentation.

4. DYW Ayrshire

David Smith, Chair DYW Ayrshire and Claire Baird, Project Executive, DYW Ayrshire presented to the Board the work of DYW Ayrshire.

DYW is the Scottish Government's Youth Employment Strategy which sits alongside GIRFEC & Curriculum for Excellence. The headline aim is to reduce

youth unemployment by 40% by 2021 – DYW Ayrshire achieved this target in 2017 – four years ahead of schedule.

During the 2017/18 academic session DYW Ayrshire have been involved in creating 1288 employment engagement partnerships and 294 employers engaged.

DYW Ayrshire have arranged events which assist young people in to employment such as:

Scotland's National Centre for Languages ran Broaden your Horizon events aimed at S3-S6 pupils across Ayrshire with an interest in foreign language. 80 young people from North Ayrshire attended to hear from a variety of professionals who utilise a language skill in a work context.

GSK have run a mock assessment centre, the aim to enhance employability skills for school leavers. Mock assessment lasts for half a day where they participate in a practical test, group test and short interview. All sessions are conducted under real assessment centre condition and feedback on performance is offered.

Accountant In Bankruptcy (AIB) in Kilwinning have a workforce who work predominately during term time, this presented the organisation with a number of challenges. In 2016 a programme was created to support the office during the summer holiday period by training a number of pupils in administrative roles. Awareness sessions for teachers and pupils were arranged, followed with an application process, which culminated in interviews and selection. AIB have taken on 5 young people since 2016 for a paid summer work placement.

DYW Ayrshire in partnership with The Princes Trust and Ayrshire college have funded 75 projects since its formation. Next steps for DYW Ayrshire is to continue the innovative projects, spreading the DYW message and getting more commitment for private industries.

David and Claire thanked the Board for the opportunity to present and invited the Board to sign up to attend the DYW Ayrshire conference in May.

The Chair thanked David and Claire for their very informative presentation.

5. Public Health Reform

Audrey Sutton provided the Board with a presentation on Public Health Reform in Scotland. Audrey also advised the Board that she currently Co-Chairs the Specialist Public Health Workforce Commission with Dona Milne who is the Director of Public Health, NHS Fife.

The Public Health Reform Programme an equal partnership between Scottish Government and COSLA. The programme is being taken forward as a collaborative process involving the wider system in designing the future public health landscape.

A new Health Body will be formed – Public Health Scotland. This will bring together NHS Health Scotland, ISD and Health Protection Scotland. Public Health Scotland's shared priorities and a focus on local partnerships and will provide strong leadership to improve healthy life expectancy and reduce health inequalities.

The reform programme aims to influence how we work across a number of areas as part of a whole system approach to improve the public's health, with an increasing focus on preventing ill health and early intervention.

A consultation will be launched in due course and it was agreed that a half day workshop would be arranged with the Board and CP Officers Group to formalise the North Ayrshire CPP response.

6. Locality Partnerships

Morna Rae provided the Board with an update on key developments in Locality Partnerships.

Morna highlighted that:

- The March cycle of meetings were now complete;
- Two CIF bids were approved by Cabinet - Travel Needs Analysis from the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership and Clearer Minds from the North Coast Locality Partnership;
- The Council's Cabinet and IJB agreed to a Joint Arran LP and LPF on a 12-month pilot basis;
- Damien Griffith will be taking the story maps to each of the Locality Partnerships who will then have an opportunity to discuss these at their June meetings and consider how they might best use them.

7. AOCB

Morna Rae highlighted that a Board decision tracker was included within the papers. The tracker will help focus and evidence the work of the Board during 2019 and identify any gaps.

8. Minutes/Reports for information.

Morna Rae advised that Board that a number of items were attached for their information.

9. Workshops

Attendees split into groups and participated in three workshops which focused on the Council Plan, Police and Fire and Rescue Performance Report and Service Updates.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

15 May 2019

North Ayrshire Council

Title:	North Ayrshire Ventures Trust Ltd
Purpose:	To approve the appointment of a new Director on the Board of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust Ltd
Recommendation:	That the Council agrees to approve the appointment of Zoe Nix to the Board of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust Ltd

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Articles of Association of North Ayrshire Ventures Trust (NAVt) stipulates that there will be five co-opted Directors. One of these Directors, Maggie Broadley, has now resigned. At the meeting held on 21st March, 2019 the Directors agreed to appoint Zoe Nix as a co-opted Director.
- 1.2 The Articles of Association for NAVt stipulate that for such an appointment to proceed the identity of the proposed Director be approved in writing by the Council, such approval to be demonstrated by a letter to be signed by the appropriate officer of the Council.

2. Background

- 2.1 The full Council has approved the appointment of all the co-opted Directors. The present Directors are Louise McPhater, Alan Hill, Craig Hatton, Audrey Sutton being Appointed Directors and the co-opted Directors are Billy Kirkwood, Derek McCrindle, Alan Macdonald and Ann Robertson.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Board has agreed to appoint Zoe Nix as co-opted Director. She is currently at university and as part of that, in a placement doing youth work with North Ayrshire Council. She is also a swimming teacher and lifeguard with KA Leisure. She has been an active member of her school's Pupil Council, a member of the North Ayrshire Executive Youth Committee, North Ayrshire Youth Bank, and a MSYP. She was a YOYP Youth Ambassador and a member of the Young Scot co-design team. Zoe led one of the YOYP Strategic Group workstreams through to delivery of the projects. One of her successes is a signposting resource for young people leaving school. Her appointment will benefit NAVt from the perspective of having a young person on the

Board and from the broader reach the Trust will develop through her advocacy and promotion. She has agreed to accept the appointment.

3.2 This appointment fills the present vacancy and brings the Board up to its full complement of nine directors allowed in the Articles of Association.

3.3 The Council is, therefore, invited to approve the proposed appointment in order that NAVT can comply with its Articles of Association and to authorise the Chief Executive to write to the Board of Directors of NAVT confirming the Council's approval.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial:	None arising from this report.
Human Resources:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	The approval of the Council is required so that the Board of Directors of NAVT can legally comply with their Articles of Association.
Equality/Socio-economic Duty:	None arising from this report.
Children and Young People:	The appointment promotes the importance of young people in our communities and the benefits and contributions that they bring.
Environmental & Sustainability:	None arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	None arising from this report.
Community Benefits:	None arising from this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 There are no consultations required.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive

For further information please contact **Aileen Craig, Senior Manager, Legal Services**, on **01294 324322**.

Background Papers

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NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

15 May 2019

North Ayrshire Council

Title: Ardrossan Harbour Improvements

Purpose: To update Council on harbour works at Ardrossan that will improve service reliability, long term port resilience and allow Ardrossan to remain the mainland harbour for the Arran and Campbeltown ferries as set out in the Council approved prospectus to Transport Scotland

Recommendation: That Council notes the update provided including:

- the approval of a design solution for Ardrossan Harbour by the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands, chair of the Ardrossan Taskforce
- the arrangements in place to facilitate the next steps in the harbour regeneration plans at Ardrossan

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council were provided with a report on 17th January 2017 which agreed the nature of the Council's support to facilitate the investment required at Ardrossan Harbour to ensure a continuation of the Arran and Campbeltown ferry services. This led to the submission of a prospectus to Transport Scotland making the case for the retention of the ferry services at Ardrossan Harbour over the long term. This submission informed a review of the location of the mainland port for the routes, which involved the Save Our Ferry campaign and ultimately led to confirmation of Ardrossan as the mainland port for the Arran and Campbeltown services in April 2017.
- 1.2 Considerable work has since been undertaken to further develop plans for investment in the Harbour infrastructure at Ardrossan. Significant analysis and technical studies have helped to consider a range of options for the configuration of the harbour infrastructure in terms of service reliability, operational efficiency and cost. This process has now identified a design solution for improvements. The design solution proposes:
 - The realignment of the Arran berth to significantly increase the level of manoeuvrability available for the turning of ferries when docking;
 - The continued use of the Arran berth as the primary berth, with the Irish berth also available for the Cambeltown service and for the berthing of vessels in easterly wind conditions; and,

- Landside infrastructure improvements including a redeveloped terminal building, improved car park/marshalling area, and improved public realm links into Ardrossan town centre.

- 1.3 The agreement on a design solution for the harbour works represents a significant milestone. The next stage is for detailed design work and the subsequent procurement process to proceed, with construction expected to begin in Mid 2020.
- 1.4 The completion of the new vessel for the route has been delayed and is the subject of procurement discussions between Transport Scotland and CMAL. The new agreed design solution will accommodate any of the vessels in the Caledonian MacBrayne fleet making it the most resilient choice. It is important that the harbour infrastructure work progresses to provide that additional resilience and is not delayed by the ferry negotiations.
- 1.5 Improvements to the harbour will be the first of a number of major investment proposals for Ardrossan. These include investment secured through the Ayrshire Growth Deal in marine tourism, investment proposals for the town centre and for improved active travel links, and potential proposals supporting a new community campus. These will be the subject of specific reports to Cabinet during 2019.

2. Background

- 2.1 Ardrossan has been the mainland port for the operation of the Arran ferry service since 1834. The route to Campbeltown which operates 6 sailings per week was also introduced in 2013. The Arran ferry link is the primary source of visitors to the town, with total passenger numbers of c.850,000 anticipated to grow to over 1,000,000 within the next decade.
- 2.2 Given ageing infrastructure and the need for additional investment to accommodate the provision of a new ferry on to the Arran route (MV Sannox), the Council championed the need for a Ministerial Task Force to be established to look at the operational effectiveness of the Ardrossan facilities in supporting lifeline ferry services and how improvements could be delivered. The Scottish Government agreed to the formation of a Task Force and duly appointed the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands as its chair in February 2016.
- 2.3 The Taskforce includes representation from North Ayrshire Council, the owner of the port assets Peel Ports (PPG), Transport Scotland, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), Caledonian MacBrayne and Kenneth Gibson MSP. The role and remit of the Taskforce is to review and ensure improvement of the Ardrossan ferry service including operation of the new vessel procured for the Arran route. The scope includes:
 - works required to make the harbour operationally effective;
 - continuity of integrated services during the period(s) of works;
 - possible ownership/lease and funding options; and,
 - the entry into service of the new vessel.
- 2.4 A bid to relocate ferry routes to the Port of Troon in August 2016 led to analysis of options for the mainland port by Transport Scotland. This considered a range of factors

including the impact on users in terms of travel time, fares, connectivity, reliability, socio economic impacts and costs to the public purse. The analysis found that the mainland port for the ferry routes should remain at Ardrossan and this position was confirmed by the Scottish Government in April 2017.

- 2.5 The Council led Save our Ferry Campaign resulted in an extensive community campaign to keep the ferry port at Ardrossan. This illustrated the importance of the operation of the ferry services to the town in terms of employment and profile, and also the impact that investment in the harbour area could make to the future regeneration of Ardrossan.
- 2.6 A joint bid by the Council and PPG during the review process set out the case for the retention of the services at Ardrossan, and indicated the improvements required to the ageing marine and landside infrastructure at the harbour. A commitment by the Council and Peel Ports to provide funding towards improvement works was made, subject to a long-term commitment to the routes.

Design Solution – Marine Works

- 2.7 Since confirmation of Ardrossan as the mainland port for the continued operation of the ferry services, an extensive options appraisal process has been developed which considered:
- An upgrade to the existing facilities of the same configuration;
 - The use of alternative berths; and,
 - The reconfiguration of the Arran berth to lengthen the berthing facility available, and to create additional manoeuvring space through the realignment of the harbour wall geometry to varying degrees.
- 2.8 The options analysis considered the impact on the reliability of the lifeline ferry services, on operations during the construction period, and operating/capital investment costs. It involved extensive consultation with Caledonian MacBrayne and their ferry captains, and simulations of how vessels would operate in varying weather conditions with a view to maximising service reliability on the route.
- 2.9 The options analysis has concluded that the Arran and Irish berths should be upgraded, with the Arran berth remaining the operational berth for the Arran service.
- 2.10 A plan of the preferred design option is included at Appendix 1. The Arran berth will be realigned by increasing its angle from its current orientation on a north west/south east axis, to roughly a north/south axis, with a new harbour wall constructed. This will increase the adjacent area for manoeuvrability by some 2,400 sq m, by reducing the adjacent land area by the same extent.
- 2.11 This reconfiguration will avoid the need for the ferry to make a sharp turn on its entrance and exit to the Arran berth, increasing reliability given the difficulty making this manoeuvre in certain weather conditions. The preferred option therefore future proofs Ardrossan, providing a better port configuration and an improved service with fewer cancellations due to bad weather.
- 2.12 The Irish berth will be refurbished in line with the recommendations of a condition survey. No major changes are considered to be required to its existing configuration, and the Irish berth will continue to be used as an alternative berth for the Arran ferry

during certain weather conditions (i.e. an easterly wind), by the Campbeltown service and as an overnight berth.

- 2.13 Other marine infrastructure works will include the provision of two new two lane linkspans, dredging, and the provision of new fenders and navigational aids/lighting.

Design Solution – Landside Infrastructure

- 2.14 In terms of the landside infrastructure, the intention remains to provide:

- a new terminal building in the vicinity of the existing building;
- improvements to the car park and vehicle marshalling areas to accommodate additional provision given increased passenger and vehicle use of the route; and,
- improved links to Ardrossan town centre via a new public realm link.

- 2.15 Consideration of the operational efficiency of the harbour including consultation with Caledonian MacBrayne as operator has confirmed that the existing layout (i.e. the location of the car park, marshalling space, access roads and the terminal building) will in general terms be retained. Construction works are expected to begin in mid-2020.

New Vessel

- 2.16 As widely reported, the completion of the MV Glen Sannox which is being constructed for operation on the Ardrossan to Brodick route, has been delayed. Transport Scotland and CMAL are in discussions with the construction yard Ferguson Marine to resolve matters. In the meantime, discussions continue to ensure an appropriate service utilising existing vessels until the MV Glen Sannox is available to be brought into service.
- 2.17 The preferred design option for the harbour infrastructure has been designed to accommodate not only the MV Glen Sannox, but the variety of vessels on the Caledonian MacBrayne fleet.

Next Steps

- 2.18 While a design solution for the marine works has been agreed by the Minister as chair of the Taskforce, the final design will be subject to ongoing review through the development of detailed technical studies and development planning requirements. Construction works are expected to begin in mid 2020.
- 2.19 The development of the new facilities will seek to minimise disruption and ensure continuity of service. Every opportunity will be taken to plan the works to take advantage of the full extent of the site and to phase works to avoid disruption and maintain services.
- 2.20 Detailed plans for the operation of the service during construction have still to be developed and further information will be provided once plans have been formalised.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 That Council notes the approval of a design solution for Ardrossan Harbour by the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands, chair of the Ardrossan Taskforce as a significant milestone in the implementation of the works, part of a national scale and transformational regeneration programme in the town.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial:	<p>The capital funding for the marine works will be provided by a combination of Transport Scotland and Peel Ports Group. Approval in principle for the funding package required to deliver the design solution has been secured with final approval expected later in 2019.</p> <p>Capital funding for the landside works will be provided by a combination of Peel Ports Group and North Ayrshire Council. Construction costs for the landside works are being updated from the original submission approved by the Council and made to Transport Scotland in January 2017 to reflect inflation and the implications of the now preferred option on the landside works. The final package is to be finalised with TS and will need to be state aid compliant.</p> <p>The overall final package of funding is to be agreed with Transport Scotland and will be subject of a Cabinet paper once the discussions have been concluded.</p>
Human Resources:	<p>A Regeneration Manager post to lead on the proposals for Ardrossan Coastal Regeneration has recently been appointed and this will provide dedicated resource to progress the Harbour redevelopment works as well as other investments within Ardrossan.</p>

Legal:	<p>To allow the Council to lead investment in the landside infrastructure and to secure external funding support, it is intended that a long-term lease agreement is entered into with Peel Ports. Approval for the terms of this lease will be sought from Cabinet.</p> <p>The Council's investment would be made on a commercial basis with the breakdown of capital investment reflected by income share. As this would represent a commercial venture, it is considered that the proposals comply with State Aid rules and regulations.</p> <p>Proposals for the procurement of works with Peel Ports will be further considered and subject of a report to Cabinet. This will also see a partnership agreement entered into with Peel Ports to ensure effective governance of the capital works programme.</p>
Equality/Socio-economic Duty:	<p>The importance of the ferry service operations to both the Ardrossan and Arran communities has previously been highlighted.</p> <p>The investment in the harbour will be the first of a series of major investments which has the potential to transform Ardrossan. Every effort will be made to ensure maximum socio-economic impact from the various proposals.</p>
Children and Young People:	<p>Ongoing consultation will consider the use of the proposed new facilities. An aim of the plan will be to consult with children and young people in support of the proposals. This will be advanced through the locality partnership model.</p>
Environmental & Sustainability:	<p>All works designed through the project development stages will ensure an approach based upon environmental sustainability including relevant environmental assessments. The new ferry will operate on dual fuel LNG, reducing the overall carbon footprint of the ferry service.</p>
Key Priorities:	<p>The Ardrossan Harbour redevelopment proposals have been identified as a key development site in the draft of the Council Plan.</p> <p>The proposals will support the Council Plan through developing an inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy. The proposals will also support national tourism priorities identified in the Tourism Scotland 2020 strategy by helping to make Scotland a "first choice destination for a high quality, value for money and memorable customer experience".</p>

Community Benefits:	Ardrossan Harbour supports community area regeneration priorities supporting increased visitor spend in the local economy, with an improved environment that supports local jobs and businesses.
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5. Consultation

- 5.1 Extensive public consultation was undertaken during the Save Our Ferry campaign, which illustrated the importance of the ferry services to the town, and the depth of support for their retention and for new investment
- 5.2 Further public consultation to update and engage with ferry users and stakeholders took place with events hosted at Brodick and Ardrossan 23rd /24th October 2018. Additional detail was provided on the project objectives, indicative layouts and the arrangements for project delivery. Details of the engagement and feedback are available on the Council website for the project.
- 5.3 There is significant interest from both the Arran and Ardrossan communities in seeing the successful delivery of the major investment in facilities at Ardrossan, in addition to those recently completed at Brodick. The main point of contact for representatives from Arran to discuss ferry matters with the national agencies and Scottish Government is the Arran Ferry Committee, with North Ayrshire Council represented on the Committee by an Elected Ward Member (Councillor McMaster).
- 5.4 In addition, as was the case with the delivery of the Brodick Harbour investment, engagement with the wider community will be maintained both in advance of and during the construction contract. This will include meetings and events on both Arran and at Ardrossan. The appointment of a dedicated resource to oversee the regeneration at Ardrossan will support and facilitate more and regular consultation and engagement.

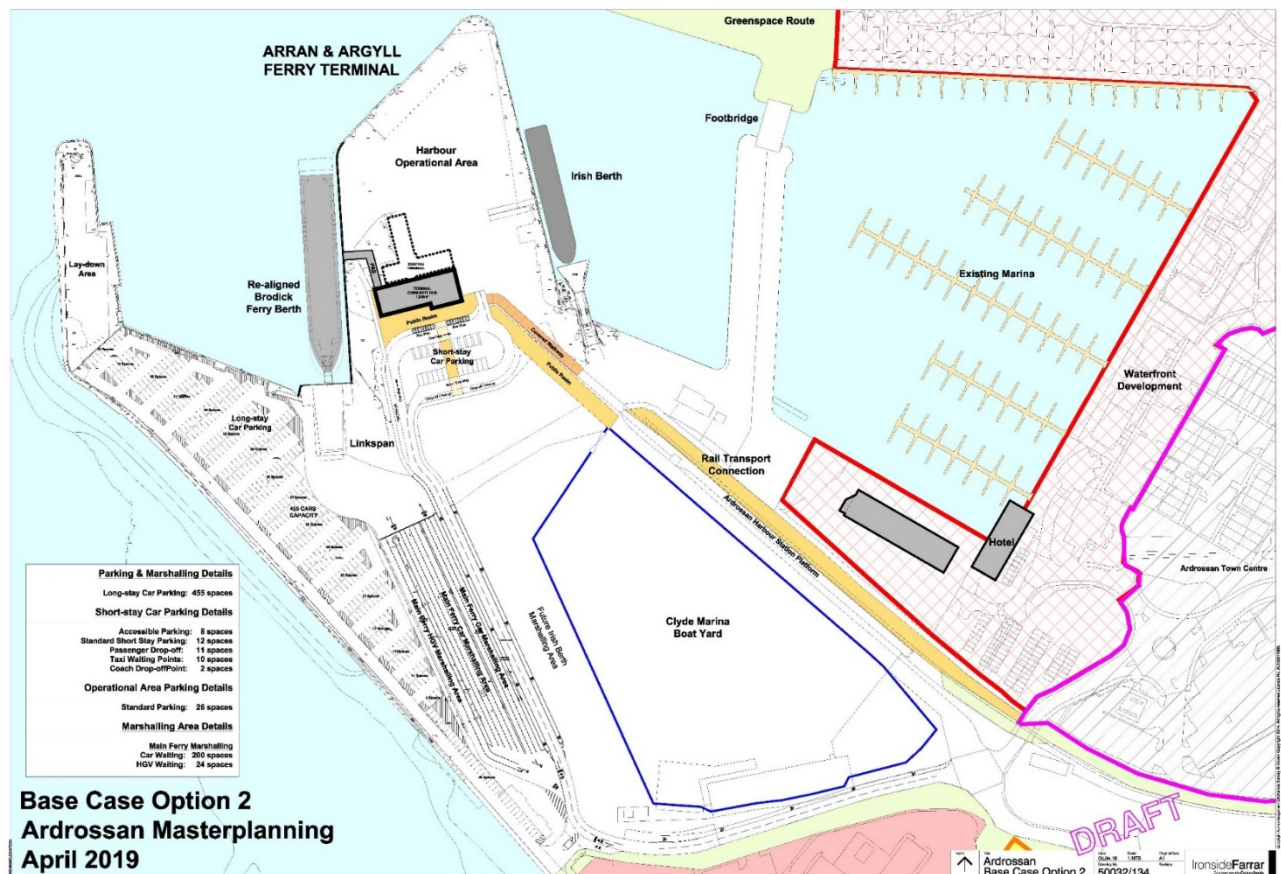
Karen Yeomans
Executive Director (Economy & Communities)

For further information please contact **Alasdair Laurenson, Senior Manager (Regeneration)** on **01294 324758**.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: Design Solution for Ardrossan Harbour Upgrade

Appendix 1 – Design Solution for Ardrossan Harbour Upgrade



The proposed design is based upon Sponsors Requirements prepared by Transport Scotland. The main elements and assumptions are as follows:

- Existing Terminal Building (retained in Base Case) is not retained
- New Terminal Building is located adjacent/on site of the existing building
- New PAS connects to MV Glen Sannox or other vessels
- Pierhead surfaces / pavement required repair/resurfacing post quay wall reconstruction and development of the LNG facility (CMAL)
- Irish Berth and linkspan to remain accessible and operational
- Developing simple general arrangement (marshalling/car parking) capable of safe operation that minimises pedestrian/vehicular conflicts and keeps control points to minimum whilst facilitating ready access/egress to ferry and facilities
- Strong connections to be provided between Terminal Bldg and Rail Station and thereafter Town Centre with a focus on active travel modes
- Access for HGV vehicles to LNG facility(assumed Wilton Pier Area)
- Multi-modal transport interchange developed to the Building frontage providing for public transport / taxi's / cycle-pedestrian access / DDA parking / Pick-Up-Drop-Down Zone / Emergency Vehicles
- Public realm and place-making suitable /reflecting a public facility
- Car Park to meet 450 + spaces plus staff parking
- Marshalling to meet 150% largest vessel capacity (HGV's/Cars)
- Sea wall repairs completed to include assessment of issues of over-topping and long-term resilience