

Venue: Girvan Committee Room, County Buildings
Date & Time: 2pm Wednesday 3rd December 2008

MINUTES

Present:

Forum members

Cllr Peter Convery (Chair)	South Ayrshire Council Sustainability & Environment Portfolio
Cllr Mike Peddie	South Ayrshire Council
Ken Gibb	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Development)
Liz Marquis	Energy Agency
Ruth Sutherland	Energy Saving Scotland advice centre
Eleanor Pate	Energy Agency
Valerie Stewart	South Ayrshire Council (Chief Executive's)
David Holtom	Barrhill Development Association
Stuart Brabbs	Ayrshire Rivers Trust
David Graham	BTCV Scotland
Yvonne Irvine	SEPA
Lynn Sproat	NHS, Ayrshire & Arran
John Collie	SNH
Eleanor Pate	Energy Agency
Gordon Lauder	South Ayrshire Council (Environmental Health)
Fiona Ross	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Development)
Clare Strain	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
David Rackham	Scottish Agricultural College, Auchincruive
Annabel Beattie	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Development)

Non Forum members

Chris Doyle	South Ayrshire Council (Chief Executive's Strategic Office)
Kenny Campbell	South Ayrshire Council, Planning & Transportation

Apologies:

Cllr John McDowall	Chair, Sustainability & Environment Scrutiny Panel
Cllr Helen Moonie	South Ayrshire Council
Stuart Lindsay	Horizons
Ian Williams	Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce
Brian Shaw	Ayrshire Rivers Trust
Joanne Balmer	NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Norma Duncan	Ayr Fairtrade
Andrew Marnie	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Development)
Roddy MacDonald	South Ayrshire Council (PPP Team)
David Graham	BTCV Scotland

Item	Minute	Action
1	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies as recorded above.	
2	<u>Minutes of previous meeting</u> Minutes of previous meeting approved and adopted.	
3	<u>Matters arising</u> KG informed the Forum that the Community Planning Board had been updated on the Sustainability Forum activities. A number of Community Plan partners are willing to engage with the Forum. KG will seek further dialogue through VS	KG

3a	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Update on Community Planning Single Outcome Agreement</u></p> <p>Pressure of time meant that VS gave the Forum a brief update on the CP SOA ahead of Agenda Item 5, and also gave a brief overview of the aims of the Single Outcome Agreement. The SOA is at the stage of putting forward proposed indicators, to be discussed at the CP Board. VS circulated an updated National Outcomes document and asked the Forum to consider South Ayrshire's challenges and priorities.</p> <p>KG added that a key part would be to identify challenges. The last SOA was Council focussed and service based. The current SOA is in overall context, setting local priorities. Further challenges will be expected following on from the imminent publication of the Scottish Climate Change bill.</p> <p>FR queried whether the SOAs were solely for South Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>VS confirmed that they would be for all Community Plan Partners, and hoped that the partners would align their service plans to the overall SOA and that the outcomes set would encourage partners to collaborate to achieve the objectives.</p> <p>Cllr Convery commented that a great deal of work requires to be done to clarify the SOAs. VS: there will be a secondary action planning level, and possibly a third one, to help weed out duplication by partners. It is very important that the SOA is for South Ayrshire and relevant to South Ayrshire. CD added that the finished document whilst complex, would not be an end product, rather would be an evolving document, which was community led. VS invited Forum partners to the next Community Plan workshop, to be held on the 16th December.</p>	
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sustainability Forum objectives update</u></p> <p>4(a) Biodiversity</p> <p>Stuart Brabbs of Ayrshire Rivers Trust gave a presentation on the three invasive species in Ayrshire Rivers, detailing the reasons how they came to be there, and efforts to contain them. The full presentation can be viewed on the Sustainability Forum website, here: http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/sustainabilityforum/meetings.htm</p> <p>Cllr Convery queried how ART dealt with landowners who don't comply with ART's requests to eradicate invasive species. SB: the landowner has a responsibility to stop the spread of the species. Whilst ART can spray up to the boundaries of the land, it becomes a problem if the landowner will not co-operate. The Tweed Group (a partnership of 30 or so organisations) can help in these instances and are effecting some eradication. ART will continue to spray, providing they continue to receive funding, however it would be useful to set up a steering group to elicit involvement from interested parties.</p> <p>Cllr Convery asked SB how he envisaged the steering group working and how South Ayrshire Council could become involved. SB indicated that the group would help ART determine the correct course of actions and that Council collaboration would ensure that work could be co-ordinated and effected timeously. Cllr Convery suggested that further discussions be held with ART.</p> <p>4(b) Sustainable Travel</p> <p>AB briefly updated the Forum on the achievements to date of the Sustainable Travel Plan and outlined the opportunities for further joint working with organisations such as SPT, North & East Ayrshire, transport operators, the Energy Agency etc. SPT will be launching their journey sharing scheme in January 2009. On the back of this, South Ayrshire Council will be launching their own private car and journey sharing scheme, along with a joint Ayrshire private scheme. This will capitalise on the potential for sharing journeys throughout Ayrshire. There is scope to link South Ayrshire's scheme with an eco-driving message delivered by the Energy Savings Scotland advice centre.</p> <p>YI queried whether any Council car leasing scheme would consider limiting the CO₂ emissions of potential purchased vehicles. KG confirmed there was a possibility of limiting emissions to below 150g CO₂ per km. Cllr Convery advised of a recent change in DEFRA limits to 162g CO₂ per km.</p> <p>YI offered the use of SEPA's video conferencing link in Miller Road, Ayr. The room could accommodate 6 attendees.</p> <p>CS asked the Forum to note that SPT's scheme will match not just car journeys, but cycling, walking, business, and taxi journeys.</p>	<p>KG</p> <p>AB</p>

5	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Single Outcome Agreement</u></p> <p>(DH left the meeting)</p> <p>With the aim of collating a draft by the end of December 2008, KG explained that this workshop was an opportunity for the Forum to comment on the work done so far, and to raise issues relevant to South Ayrshire.</p> <p>Forum partners took part in a robust discussion with regards to National Outcomes 10, 12 and 14 as detailed in the documents circulated with the agenda. LM queried whether the objectives could be aspirational, similar to Fife's desire to be the leading green Council in Scotland. CD counselled against setting aspirations that may not be achievable, and explained that Audit Scotland would monitor and audit all documents, which would mean a requirement to demonstrate that resources were committed against any aspirations.</p> <p><i>Suggested amendments, additions and other observations were captured and noted in an updated document which will be circulated for information and final comment. Suggestion for evidence sources and suitable indicators to support outcomes and objectives are also sought.</i></p> <p>(LS left the meeting)</p>	ALL
6	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AOCB</u></p> <p>KG circulated a report from DH of the Barrhill Development Association, detailing the establishment of the village's climate champion's network. This document will be placed on the Forum webpage, here: http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/sustainabilityforum/meetings.htm . Cllr C requested that this be placed on the next Forum agenda.</p> <p>FR made the Forum aware of the Fair Trade shop on the corner of Ayr High St and the Sandgate, which will be open for another week.</p> <p>AB circulated SL's Horizon's Activity Report and also the Carrick Economic Development Strategy & Action Plan. The Forum was consulted on the feasibility of a presentation from the Chair of the Forum on the strategy at one of their early 09 meetings.</p> <p>AB asked the Forum to forward any comments and potential questions for the South Ayrshire 1000 questionnaire, by no later than Friday 5th December.</p> <p>KG informed the Forum of the Sustainable Development Commission's publication "A review of progress by the Scottish Government". This document will be placed on the Forum's website. Also more information can be viewed here: http://www.sd-commission.org.uk/pages/whats-the-health-of-our-nation.html</p> <p>LM advised the Forum that the draft programme for next year's Continuing Professional Development was nearly complete, and invited all Forum partners to come along.</p> <p>YI detailed a Dumb Dumpers seminar which she attended, and highlighted a successful pilot scheme which had involved a collaborative partnership between police, Local Authority and community. This, together with heavier fines dispensed by the Procurator Fiscal's office, seemed to be having a positive effect on illegal dumping. YI asked Forum partners to contact her if there was any interest in this. Contact details are: Yvonne.Irvine@sepa.org.uk or telephone 01292 294000.</p> <p>Cllr C thanked the Forum for their contributions.</p>	AB
11	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The following dates are put to the Forum for consideration, for 2009:</p> <p>Wed 25th Feb Wed 29th April Wed 24th June Wed 26th August Wed 28th October Wed 16th December</p>	