

Venue: Troon Committee Room, County Buildings  
Date & Time: 2pm Tuesday 12 August 2008

## MINUTES

### Present:

#### Forum members

Cllr John McDowall	Chair, Sustainability & Environment Scrutiny Panel
Ken Gibb	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Dev.)
Joanne Balmer	NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Liz Marquis	Energy Agency
Ruth Sutherland	Energy Saving Scotland advice centre
Janice Gray	Paths for All Partnership
Norma Duncan	Ayr Fairtrade
Valerie Stewart	South Ayrshire Council (Chief Executive's)
Michael Hitchon	Kyle & Carrick Civic Society
Yvonne Irvine	SEPA
David Holtom	Barrhill Development Association

#### Guests/Observers

Adrian Shaw	Church of Scotland
Gordon Lodge	St Leonard's Church
Margaret Goodlad	Monkton & Prestwick North Church
Cllr Helen Moonie	South Ayrshire Council

### Apologies:

Cllr Peter Convery	South Ayrshire Council Sustainability & Environment Portfolio
Fiona Ross	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Dev.)
John Collie	SNH
Eleanor Pate	Energy Saving Scotland advice centre
Andrew Marnie	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Dev.)
Annabel Beattie	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Dev.)
Gordon Lauder	South Ayrshire Council ( Environmental Health)
Lynn Sproat	NHS, Ayrshire & Arran
Sarah Longair	Stagecoach

Item	Minute	Action
1	<b><u>Apologies</u></b> Apologies as recorded above.	
2	<b><u>Welcome and introductions</u></b> Cllr McDowall welcomed the guests and new recruits and invited introductions round the table	
3	<b><u>Minutes of previous meeting</u></b> Minutes of previous meeting approved and adopted.	
4	<b><u>Matters arising</u></b> <b>Item 6.</b> Community Planning Day scheduled for 20 <sup>th</sup> August, Links Road. Arrangements to be confirmed. Ken Gibb and Liz Marquis nominated to represent Forum. <b>AOCB.</b> Forum Leaflet circulated..	<b>VS</b>

5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sustainability Forum Objectives Update</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Biodiversity</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan now finalised by Ayrshire Biodiversity Group and due to be launched 26 September at Culzean.</li> <li>• Galloway and Ayrshire Biosphere economic feasibility study complete and due to be considered by partners in advance of UK Biosphere meeting to take place in Dumfries late November. Meeting with Minister to be arranged.</li> <li>• “Batwatch” event arranged with Bat Conservation Trust for Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August, Rozelle Estate</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Climate Change</i></b></p> <p>See presentation and discussion below</p> <p><b><i>Sustainable Design &amp; Construction</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting has now taken place with new SAC Planning Manager re implementing SPP6 renewable Energy requirements for new developments. Training has been arranged with EST for Planning Officers on 16<sup>th</sup> September. Brief will subsequently be developed for a Developers Pack.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Sustainable Travel</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A detailed assessment of the implementation of the Sustainable Travel Plan is in preparation, but initial reports of the uptake of the SAC Cycle to Work (CTW) scheme are 68 recruits, which exceeds initial expectations.</li> <li>• Local Travel Strategy is expected to be launched for consultation late August/early September in two formats – a detailed technical version for planners and developers, and a plainer guide for the general public.</li> </ul>	
5b	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Responding to Climate Change – Church of Scotland project</u></b></p> <p>Adrian Shaw, Church of Scotland Climate Change Project Officer, explained the Church of Scotland’s work on the Climate Change agenda. This is driven by Social Justice, Fuel Poverty and third world climate impacts as much as by energy efficiency in the churches estate. The project aims to help the Church identify and address climate change, support congregations to respond, and work with others in Scotland and beyond.</p> <p><b>GL</b> queried the robustness of CO2 data from 1000 yrs ago, based on ice-bubbles, and the true role of CO2 in atmospheric global warming. <b>KG</b> indicated that there was no value in entering a detailed scientific discussion that no-one present was qualified to engage in, but to note that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change comprised eminent scientists from all disciplines subject to a rigorous peer review process. <b>KG</b> would seek further detailed information sources and advise.</p> <p>Discussion ensued around how to engage the church community in Ayrshire effectively. There are no formal eco-congregations, but an event is to be held in Ayr on 6<sup>th</sup> September to promote this and there are existing links to the Fairtrade movement. <b>ND</b> has agreed to act as informal representative on the Forum for the time being. <b>RS</b> indicated that a renewable energy seminar was to be held with St Leonards on 30<sup>th</sup> September. <b>HM</b> was keen to develop links where possible with the Fuel poverty agenda. <b>VS</b> agreed that the Churches are a valuable community of interest that we should seek to engage within the Community Planning framework. <b>KG</b> advised that the Climate Challenge fund could be a useful means of supporting projects, and that Council would be happy to advise on bids. He was unaware of any at present, but South Ayrshire’s position would not be clear till first round of awards announced probably next month.</p>	<b>KG</b>

6	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Barrhill Community Action Plan</u></b></p> <p>Dave Holtom informed the Forum on the process whereby the Barrhill Development Association had been set up by the Barhill Community Council and a Community Action Plan had been formulated following an extensive Community Survey.</p> <p>Based on the need to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the village, a range of 7 themes have been identified, as set out in the summary paper, each of which has a number of specific actions attached. Many of the actions are directly relevant to the objectives of the Forum.</p> <p>The Plan will be launched on 28<sup>th</sup> August</p> <p>Chair thanked Dave for his presentation and commended the excellent work that had been undertaken in producing the initiative. He asked what expectations of support they had of the Windfarm development funds. <b>DH</b> responded that the Community felt the plan was required regardless, and was not predicated on any expected funding from any one source, but of course windfarm money would be most welcome if forthcoming. There was an intention to develop a Climate Challenge Fund bid.</p> <p><b>KG</b> commented that the attraction of the Action Plan for the Forum was the wide range of actions that were relevant to our remit, with 4 of the 7 key themes directly relevant, from large scale energy projects to small scale environmental and waste management improvements requiring minimal resources. Michael Carr of the Energy Agency and Andy Marnie of SAC have had initial discussions on potential renewable energy projects. <b>KG</b> agreed to scope the plan for possible support options and have further discussions with colleagues, partners and the BDA regarding this.</p> <p><b>JB</b> advised that the Carrick Community Learning Group might be able to support some elements of the plan, and suggested Ronnie Sinclair in Community Education as the initial contact.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>KG</b></p>
7	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>AOCB</u></b></p> <p>a) <b>KG</b> advised the Forum of the publication of a consultation from the Scottish Government on potential Legislative Measures to implement a “zero waste” society. It outlines 7 specific proposals aimed at reducing consumption of raw materials, recovering value from waste, and improving data collection and regulation. Views are sought by 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008. It can be accessed on the web at <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/07/24155248/0">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/07/24155248/0</a></p> <p>b) <b>LM</b> distributed flyers for the Sustainable Energy Fair scheduled to take place at SAC Auchincruive on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September</p> <p>c) <b>MH</b> distributed details of Doors Open Day Ayrshire which will take place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September as part of European Heritage Days</p> <p>d) <b>VS</b> requested an opportunity to report on the outcomes of the Community Planning thematic workshop at the next meeting to enable the Forum to revisit the actions and indicators in the Community Plan section ‘A Clean and Attractive South Ayrshire’ which are relevant to the group.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>KG</b></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 2pm, in the Prestwick Committee Room, County Buildings.</p>	