



**Minutes**

Venue: Maybole Room, County Buildings, Ayr  
 Date & Time: 10am Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013

**Present:**

Cllr John McDowall (Chair)	South Ayrshire Council
Liz Marquis (Vice-Chair)	Energy Agency
Cllr Peter Convery	South Ayrshire Council
Valerie Stewart	South Ayrshire Council (Community Planning)
Lorna Jarvie	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Development)
Fiona Ross	South Ayrshire Council (Sustainable Development)
Marion Young (Minutes)	South Ayrshire Council (Community Planning)
Dr Mary McKenna	VASA (Sustainability Mirrored Theme Group)
Ruth Sutherland	Energy Saving Scotland Advice Centre
Mark Hornby	Strathclyde Police
Phil Matthews	CAG Consultants
Yvonne Russell	SEPA
Dorothy Simpson	NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Lesley Fisher	Ailsa Horizons
Heather Lowther	National Trust for Scotland

**Apologies:**

Claire Strain	SPT
Norma Duncan	Ayr Fair Trade Partnership
Kev Theaker	SRUC
Andrew Elliot	NHS

Item	Minute	Action
1	<b><u>Apologies</u></b> Apologies as recorded above.	
2	<b><u>Minutes of previous meeting</u></b> Minutes of previous meeting were approved and adopted.	
3	<b><u>Matters arising</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that in section 5, under Green Deal the paragraph regarding wall insulation should read 'There is concern that houses that don't have a cavity wall have to use other options which can be messy and expensive'. This will be amended in the previous minutes.</li> <li>• Ruth advised the group that Green Deal has launched an incentive of cash back vouchers. For further information you should contact Energy Saving Scotland Advice Centre.</li> </ul>	

<p>4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Localising the RPP presentation (follow up to December workshop)</u></b></p> <p>Phil Matthews of CAG Consultants delivered a presentation, updating the Partnership on progress with CAG’s research on climate change.</p> <p>In the first part of his presentation he outlined what CAG believed were the 4 main reasons that the CPP should continue to act on climate change. These were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing climate change is a requirement on all Scottish public bodies</li> <li>• Climate change is a useful framework for integration across a range of areas from economic development to housing</li> <li>• There is scope for drawing in new funding for work on energy, transport, forestry and farming</li> <li>• The CPP is the obvious home for action on climate change, given its cross cutting remit – with clear links to the priorities of the new draft SOA</li> </ul> <p>Phil then went on to outline 15 projects that could be developed by the CPP or individual partners. The group discussed the projects, the action already underway and the scope for their development. Members of the group then voted on the three projects they felt had most potential. This will be used by CAG in deciding which 3 projects to turn into full project plans as part of their final report.</p> <p>The following comments/suggestions were made regarding some of the proposed projects:</p> <p>Area retrofit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current free insulation schemes replaced by national retrofit programme and linked with utility money. This will start in April</li> </ul> <p>Corporate energy awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scottish Borders Council has made a 10% reduction in energy – talk to them find out what they’ve done</li> <li>• Encourage people to switch off whenever they can – behaviour change campaigns</li> </ul> <p>Ayrshire Heat Mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential funding from Scottish Government</li> </ul> <p>Smarter working</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope to use video conferencing more</li> </ul> <p>Low carbon transport loans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scottish Government announced millions for plug in points within 50 miles for all electric vehicles</li> </ul> <p>The group were invited to submit any further comments on the draft report to CAG by the 15<sup>th</sup> February. A final report will be prepared by the end of February.</p> <p>Lorna to pass contact details of consultant to group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Lorna Jarvie</b></p>
<p>5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Development of new SOA</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valerie spoke to the group about the draft framework SOA report that went to the Community Planning Board meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> February, highlighting the following 6 key priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Economic recovery and growth</li> <li>○ Employment</li> <li>○ Early years</li> <li>○ Safer and stronger communities, and reducing offending</li> <li>○ Health inequalities and physical activity</li> <li>○ Outcomes for older people</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Valerie made reference to a diagram which links the Council Priorities to the Scottish Government Priorities and maps these to some of plans and current or draft strategies that the partnership uses.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference was also made to the draft example logic model and the group were advised that the next stage in the SOA for them would be to complete a logic model for Sustainability. There is a short timescale as the draft SOA will be taken to the CPP Board Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> March followed by a 3 month consultation period with Scottish Government and agreed by 28<sup>th</sup> June.</li> <li>• A series of public engagements in the 8 ward areas within South Ayrshire have been arranged and the Theme Leads may be asked to be involved in these.</li> <li>• A discussion took place about the requirement for a SEA to be built into the timetable. The group were advised that as there will no longer be a Community Plan and that the new SOA will include long term high level outcomes. As the SOA will be the top level of the planning hierarchy, and a scoping has already been submitted in relation to the plan which fills that role, an SEA Environmental Report and associated consultation is likely to be a requirement at this stage. Valerie will liaise with SNH as they are a consultation authority and seek advise. Fiona Ross and the SEA Gateway can also both assist.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Valerie Stewart</b></p>
6	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Heather Lowther, NTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heather Lowther from the National Trust for Scotland gave a presentation on the bats that are roosting at Culzean.</li> <li>• Culzean has proved to be an important location in relation to this species with 8 of the 9 bat species found in Scotland having been recorded in the country park.</li> <li>• Bat surveys are undertaken regularly and in recent times 2 major surveys were undertaken specifically to confirm the presence of Leisler's bats – this included mist nets and an acoustic lure to attract the high flying Leisler's bats down to ground level and radio tagged the three Leisler's bats caught in order to follow their nocturnal movements over the following nights.</li> <li>• When undertaking this survey the team caught Nathusius' pipistrelle – a first for Culzean.</li> <li>• If people wish to learn more about bats then the Culzean Rangers undertake a number of bat walks per year for the general public.</li> </ul>	
7	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Biodiversity in South Ayrshire</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiona presented a report which highlighted the importance of biodiversity both directly and indirectly to communities and that over the past 20 years there have been significant developments in relation to the drivers that are in place to conserve and enhance biodiversity.</li> <li>• The report asked the Partnership to support the following recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Sustainability Partnership strengthen working relationship with Central Scotland Green Network and the Galloway and Southern Biosphere to protect and enhance biodiversity in Ayrshire and South Ayrshire specifically.</li> <li>• That the Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan core document (2001) is used as a framework for action in South Ayrshire, and that future work in relation to the development of the LBAP document is concentrated on a biennial South Ayrshire update document to put this in context for those referring to it.</li> <li>• That all Public Body Partners utilise the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process to ensure the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<p>consideration of biodiversity in plans, policies, programmes and strategies going forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That reporting of progress in relation to biodiversity, and in particular the key developments listed above, is referred regularly by the Sustainability Partnership to the Community Planning Board, linking strongly to the proposed underpinning theme of sustainability which is to run through the new SOA.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All agreed</li> </ul>	
8	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Earth Hour 2013</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lorna informed the group that Earth Hour will take place on the 23rd March and encourages all the partners to sign up and participate. Callum is preparing a comprehensive plan for this event which includes a ghost walk and a candlelit putting competition. Callum will circulate details to the partners. An press release is being prepared and will be sent electronically.</li> </ul>	<b>Callum Robertson</b>
9	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ACOB</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no other business.</li> </ul>	
10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next meeting will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May and Stratton MacDonald will be the lead officer due to Lorna being on maternity leave.</li> </ul>	