

Argyll and the Islands LEADER Local Action Group Meeting
HIE The Enterprise Centre, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilhead, PA31 8SH
Monday 5th December 2016 at 10.00 AM – 12:30PM

MINUTE OF MEETING

LAG Attendance

Iain MacInness (Chair)	Cowal Area Network (non-public)
Stuart Shaw	Scottish Natural Heritage (public)
Lucy Sumsion	NFU Scotland (non-public)
David Adams McGilp	Visit Scotland (public)
Alastair Fleming	Scottish Islands Federation (non-public)

LAG Apologies

Arlene Cullum	Argyll & Bute Council (public)
Hannah Robinson	LLTNP (public)
Alison McGrory	NHS (public)
Iain Johnston	Kintyre Cultural Forum (non-public)
Colin McLean	HIE (public)
Glenn Heritage	Third Sector Interface (non-public)
Jim Nichols	Arran Council for Voluntary Services (non-public)
Reeni Kennedy Boyle	Fyne Futures (non-public)
Marina Curran Colthart	Argyll & Bute Local Biodiversity Partnership (public)
Gordon Gray Stephens	Community Woodlands Assoc. (non-public)
Stewart MacLennan	MacLennan Motors (non-public)

In Attendance

Colin Fulcher	Strategic Co-ordinator
Ishabel Bremner	Argyll & Bute Council (Accountable Body)
Kirsty Moyes	Development Officer
Kwasi Addo	Development Officer
Annemarie McLean	Compliance Officer (minutes)

1) Welcome and Introductions , Sederunt / Apologies

1.1 Welcome

I MacInnes welcomed all to the December meeting.

He thanked the LAG members attending, for their support and time for this extra meeting to discuss the four projects held over from the LAG on 10th November due to quorum issues.

1.2 Sederunt and Apologies

Attendance and apologies were noted as above.

CF thanked everyone for their attendance and explained how crucial it was at a decision making meeting to obtain a quorum. As 5 LAG members were in attendance, 3 of whom were non-public members and 2 public members, the meeting was quorate.

2) Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest are noted at each application.

3) Minutes of previous meetings (10th November 2016)

Action

No points were raised

Decision

Minutes were proposed by David Adams McGilp

Minutes were seconded by Iain MacInnes

Minutes were signed by Iain MacInnes

4) Strategic Co-ordinator's Report

CF confirmed that this meeting was being held as a direct result of Quorum and Declarations of Interest issues from the LAG held on 10th November. In the two decision making meetings that have been held, 10 projects have been approved with a total LEADER award value of £348,109.22. The split is noted below:

CF confirmed that he will issue a press release giving details of the projects approved at the LAG meetings held in October, November and today.

Moving forward a proposed timetable will be issued to LAG members. This will take into account the processes, the LARCs system and the feedback from the decision making meetings held so far. The timetable will be posted on the website and make it easier for potential projects to know when they can apply.

5) Accountable Body Report

IB gave update on LARCS issues raised by Accountable Body representatives at the HIEP board meeting. Scottish Government are proposing to set up three sub groups to look at LARCs; Financial Issues; and Communications.

CF to circulate the slides from the Audit Scotland presentation, to LAG members.

General discussion regarding the current structure of the minutes. As the LDS is the key document members decided that the Theme and Objective met for each project should be noted in the minutes in addition to the scoring details already provided. All members agreed.

6) Consideration of Applications

6.1 – 04/P00007 – Argyll and Bute Council - Argyll and the Isles CHArts Place Partnership Plan

No declarations of interest.

LDS Theme
Theme 1: Strengthening the rural economy by maximising the sustainable use of our natural, cultural and heritage resources as an economic driver.
Objective
Objective 2: To improve collaborative working to increase opportunities for sustainable economic growth

Scoring submitted prior to meeting			
Average Score	Number Scoring	High	Low
35	8	38	30

Comments

High Value project, fits well with the LDS;

Exit strategy depends on members paying a fee;

There is a need in Argyll for this project, good to see it come together. Creative Scotland have put their weight behind it;

There are clear and shared objectives, concern is that it is a lot of money;

The exit strategy may not be strong enough to support the jobs being created in this project;

The project has been scored quite highly by members and there is a need for a co-ordinating project in Argyll.

All members agreed to approve.

Approved

6.2 – 04/P00015 - Argyll Small Woods Cooperative - Feasibility study into the establishment of a Shared forester resource in Argyll and Bute

Lucy Sumsion noted a low level of interest as NFU have issued a letter of support, no funding is being provided.

LDS Theme
Theme 1: Strengthening the rural economy by maximising the sustainable use of our natural, cultural and heritage resources as an economic driver.
Objective
Objective 1: To support capacity building, research and development to identify and implement development opportunities.

Scoring submitted prior to meeting			
Average Score	Number Scoring	High	Low
34	10	41	23

Comments

Very good project, fits well with LDS and is precursor to larger funding applications;
 Is good as there is an established need, happy to approve;
 There's so much forest in Argyll, there's a definite need for this.
 All member agreed to approve.

Approved



6.3 – 04/P00019 - Argyll and Bute Council - Dunoon Town Centre Community Engagement Programme

No declarations of interest.

LDS Theme
Theme 1: Strengthening the rural economy by maximising the sustainable use of our natural, cultural and heritage resources as an economic driver.
Objective
Objective 1: To support capacity building, research and development to identify and implement development opportunities.

Scoring submitted prior to meeting			
Average Score	Number Scoring	High	Low
35	8	40	28

Comments

Makes perfect sense and is a logical conclusion to project works in Dunoon. It might just be the opportunity for community to understand what these developments represent for business community and show what it means for them.

Strengthens community buy in.

All members agreed to approve.

Approved

6.4 – 04/P00020 - Argyll and Bute Council - Rothesay Cultural and Heritage Engagement Programme

No declarations of interest.

LDS Theme
Theme 1: Strengthening the rural economy by maximising the sustainable use of our natural, cultural and heritage resources as an economic driver.
Objective
Objective 1: To support capacity building, research and development to identify and implement development opportunities.

Scoring submitted prior to meeting			
Average Score	Number Scoring	High	Low
34	7	42	18

Comments

Wide range of scores;

Might be some cross over with the CHArts project but this talks of the creation of a hub whereas CHArts doesn't;

Anything that supports/develops the local people understanding and promoting the varied culture and in particular the heritage that Rothesay has, is a good thing;

These two projects should complement each other;

Business and market needs study was well presented;

Provides an opportunity to sit down and look at what the assets are and this is very much needed.

All members happy to approve.

Approved

7) **Next meetings**

General discussion regarding timescales for future LAG rounds and the process of scoring.

LAG members feels that the main issues are:

Rural areas have internet connectivity issues; the lack of a print function and the timeout issue causes frustration and increases time taken to assess the projects.

Members agreed that a possible solution could be the use of Sharepoint to upload key documents, project plan and cashflow and milestone information. It was agreed this approach would be tried for the next round of scoring.

CF to circulate the Scottish Government press release regarding Cap Pillar 2 to the LAG members and put out feelers to LAG members to test the demand for training.

The next meeting will be held on 16th March 2017 with the venue to be confirmed nearer the time.



I MacInness thanked everyone for their attendance and input to the meeting and closed the meeting.

Signed _____ date _____

