

MID ARGYLL & KINTYRE AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 30th January 2019 at 6.00pm Dalriada House, Lochgilphead

Attendees

Betty Rhodick, Independent (BR) Fiona Devlin, Tenant (FD) Gillian Hutton, Tenant (GH) Sandra Johnston, Tenant (SJ) Sandra MacKenzie, Tenant (SMacK) Councillor Donald MacMillan, Council Representative (DMacM) (from agenda item 7)

Staff in Attendance

Yvonne Angus, Regional Manager (YA) Jenna Philips, Administration Officer (JP)

1.	Welcome & Apologies Betty Rhodick (BR) welcomed all members to the Mid Argyll & Kintyre (MAK) Area Committee meeting.	
	Jenna Philips (JP) advised apologies were received from Michael Roberts & Tommy MacPherson.	
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting – 28 th November 2018 The minutes from 28 th November 2018 were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
	Proposed by: Sandra MacKenzie (SMacK) Seconded by: Fiona Devlin (FD)	
3.	 Matters Arising (including information pack) Carried forward from 9th November 2018: Agenda Item: 6, Page 3: Duncholgan Travelling Persons Site - Lighting Councillor MacMillan (DMacM) again raised concerns about the lack of lighting at Duncholgan Travelling Persons site and urged that something is done as soon as possible. Update: YA confirmed that the Director of I&R had advised that this work would take place this financial year. 	
	28 th November 2018: Agenda Item: 7, Page 4: Regional Managers Report: Investment Programme SMacK noted that the average repairs done per day are greater in Kintyre compared to Mid Argyll. YA explained that this is likely as there are significantly more properties in Kintyre compared to Mid Argyll.	
4.	Conflicts of Interest to Declare There were no conflicts of interest declared by members.	

	orrespondence		ondonco	rocoivod			
5. Ch BR me Fu	JP confirmed there was no correspondence received. Chairpersons Report BR provided members with an update from the Board of Management meeting held on 13 th December 2018. Furthermore, BR advised members that a new In-house Grounds						
the be this but	Maintenance team have been employed by AHFA. BR explained that in the winter season when no grass cutting was required, operatives would be able to carry out further grounds maintenance services. By bringing this service in-house, it may be cost effective in saving Area Committee budgets as well as ACHA as a whole.						
	gional Managers Up ouncillor MacMillan joi		eting.				
YA	v provided members v	vith an upda	ate on the	following:			
Inv	vestment Programm	е					
	Investment Works Package	Area	a	Estimated Target 2018/19	Completed by end Nov 2018		
	Windows/Doors	Mid Argyll 8	k Kintyre	44	1		
	Kitchen/Bathroom	Mid Argyll 8	k Kintyre	19	17		
	Heat/Re-wire	Mid Argyll 8	k Kintyre	53	35		
	Roof/Roughcast	Roof/Roughcast Mid Argyll & Kintyre			54		
		Total	ls	240	107		
	Repairs & Maintenance Contract	Annual repair numbers at the end Nov 2018		Average repairs per day (Nov 2018)	day		
	Mid-Argyll	1921	240	11	11		
	Kintyre	2607	326	16	17		
	Totals	4528	283	13.5	14.5		
	% of Total Repairs 29.20%						
	 Windows & Doors: this contract is ongoing and is expected to be completed soon; Kitchens & Bathrooms: where tenants previously refused to have these works carried out or where access wasn't provided, the Investment team are picking these up as properties become 						

void;

- Heating & Rewire: almost complete, although some additions;
- Roof & Roughcasting: The contract is currently out on tender.
- Average repairs done per day (Mid Argyll) November 2018: 11
- Average repairs done per day (Kintyre) November 2018: 16

Comparing figures from last year:

- Average repairs done per day (Mid Argyll) November 2017: 11, which is the same when comparing to the average repairs done per day in November 2018;
- Average repairs done per day (Kintyre) November 2017: 17

Cyclical Maintenance Programme

- **Gas Contract**: The Gas servicing regime is progressing well, and we have 100% properties currently with Valid Landlord Gas Safety record (LGSR). Staff are working hard to ensure we maintain this standard;
- **Solid Fuel**: The solid fuel contract is progressing and staff are committed to maintaining the 100% properties visited and serviced target we currently hold. We are still experiencing a large volume of chimney failures which impacts on our resources;
- **Gutter Cleaning**: The new gutter cleaning contract is well under way and works in conjunction with the Painting contract. There are issues over quality which are being addressed with the contractor;
- **Painting and Pre Paint**: The paint and pre paint contract are progressing. There are concerns with quality of work and these are being highlighted to the contractor;
- Electrical Period Inspection (EPI) Testing Contract: The EPI contract is running reasonably well, though behind projected target figures and budget spend. It is hoped that the shortfall will be addressed by the contractor.

Regeneration

• Tower View, Inveraray (Phase 2)

A retendering exercise is proposed to take place for a phase 2 of 10 units before the end of 2018/19, further to an agreement with the Roads Department being achieved on the road improvements requested out with the site. This will require the acquisition of a small section of garden ground from a private owner. Subject to funding and statutory approvals this project could commence onsite in spring 2019. We currently await the outcome of the new planning application due to the change in housing mix.

• Oakhill, Tarbert (Phase 2)

Planning approval has been received for 4 three bedroom houses on a Council owned site adjacent to the new build properties. Tenders were issued this summer and after a cost savings exercise being undertaken a Housing Association Grant (HAG) funding offer has been received. The HAG offer results in a funding gap and a request is being made to the Council to consider meeting this from the Strategic Housing Fund. Subject to funding and statutory approvals being obtained a project could commence onsite before end March 2019.

• Kilmartin

A design & build contract has been agreed with MacLeod Construction for 4 units on a site owned by the developer. Planning approval has now been obtained and subject to funding and other statutory approvals a site start could take place early in 2019. Pictured cutting the turf was Councillor MacMillan BEM, alongside Councillor Roddy McCuish, Douglas Prophet, Councillor Jim Lynch, Chief Executive, Alastair MacGregor and Kenny MacLeod, Managing Director of MacLeod Construction.

It was clarified the development consists of four 2-bedroom semidetached homes.

• Cairnbaan

A design & build contract has been agreed with MacLeod Construction for 5 units on a site jointly owned by ACHA and the developer. Planning approval has now been obtained and subject to funding and other statutory approvals a site start could take place early in 2019.

• Lochgair

Feasibility work is underway on a site for 4 units. This project could be progressed onsite during 2019

• Achnamara

Dialogue remains on-going with a local group who are exploring various uses for ground within and around the village including the local school that is mothballed. Subject to further discussion on demand for a small number of units, feasibility work could be undertaken on a site owned by the Forestry Enterprise Scotland during 2018/19.

Kintyre & Bute Low Demand Strategy - Demolitions

- We are demolishing properties at Queen Street, Princes Street and Saddell Street. This was part of our Low Demand Strategy. We had no tenants or applicants wishing to live in these areas for many years. Therefore, the Board of Management took the decision, following consultation with the community, to demolish these properties.
- The contractor is working on clearing the sites, which includes asbestos checks and the internal stripping of the flats
- Demolition of these properties due early January 2019
- 7-10 Millpark, Southend demolition will commence once the last remaining tenant moves to their new home

Kintyre & Bute Low Demand Strategy - Dalintober area

• YA advised members there was no further update since the last meeting. However, the Board of Management are considering a report on 7th February. YA will provide members with an update following this meeting.

Rent Increase 2019/20

- As highlighted at our last meeting, we consulted all tenants on the proposed rent increase for the coming year. The proposal is to increase rents by 4.3% for 2019/20. This is based on the current RPI+1% and reflects the expenditure requirement set out in the business plan.
- The Board of Management are due to agree the rent charge at their next meeting on 7th February. All tenants will be advised of the outcome but any changes will come into effect from 1st April 2019

Welfare Rights

- ACHA continues to deliver a Welfare Rights Service and is a partner with Money Skills Argyll. The primary objective is to assist vulnerable tenants in terms of maximising and stabilising income, and to assist them in maintaining their tenancies.
- Universal Credit: There has been a steady increase in the number of tenants in receipt of Universal Credit since Argyll & Bute became a full service area in mid-September 2018. It is taking approximately 6-weeks for new claims to be assessed and paid to landlords.

2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey

- 2018 Survey undertaken during August 2018
 - 400 tenants surveyed (1,331 tenants contacted)
 - 10 questions asked
- Interim report submitted to the Board of Management in December 2018
 - Satisfaction levels increased in 2 out of the 6 indicators
 - 3 out of the 6 satisfaction levels reduced by less than 1%
 - One satisfaction level reduced by 5.5%
 - We are below the 2017/18 Scottish Average on 5 out of the 6 ARC indicators
- A further report will be provided to the Board of Management at their next meeting on 7th February.

Your Voice Update

- Communication in relation to Investment & Regeneration (I&R) works. This exercise will take into account the Association's own tenants and factored owners
- The Group are looking at all aspects of communication
- Interviews with tenants, owners and staff will be undertaken
- Field trips to recently completed I&R works being organised
- Arrangements being made for a site visit to East Ayrshire

	2019 Tenants Conference	
	 2nd Tenants Conference being held on Saturday, 16th February 2019 	
	 Letter inviting tenants & members sent early November 	
	 Presentations this year include: 	
	 Is your rent value for money? 	
	 Planning services for the future Tenant Participation - How to get involved 	
	 ACHA staff and other agencies attending and stalls will have 	
	useful information for tenants & members.	
	Modern Apprenticeship Scheme	
	We have 2 Modern Apprentices in our Mid Argyll office. Rachael	
	MacIndeor started with ACHA in October 2016. Rachael has	
	recently attained the CIH Level 3 in Housing Practice. This qualification provides a broad knowledge and understanding of	
	key areas in delivering housing services.	
	 George Williamson started with ACHA in August 2017 and is also 	
	working towards the same CIH qualification.	
	Councillor Donnie MacMillan BEM	
	YA congratulated Councillor MacMillan, one of our Area Committee	
	members and Scotland's oldest serving Councillor who was recently awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to local	
	government.	
	Councillor MacMillan has served Argyll & Bute Council as a local	
	councillor for nearly 35 years and currently represents Mid Argyll.	
	DMacM commented that he had been overwhelmed by the letters and	
	good wishes which were well received and thanked everyone for the kindness.	
8.	Revised Scheme of Delegated Authority	
	BR referred members to the report within their agenda packs. YA	
	discussed the key changes within the report highlighting the:	
	 Amendment of Area Committee meeting quorum to reduce from 4 	
	members to 3 members;	
	 Amend review period from annually to three yearly, unless further review required in interim. 	
	Members were provided with a list of summarised amendments, in	
	addition to the minor amendments made to wording, numbering and	
	reformatting.	
	It was also highlighted that a list of locally known events is to be	
	obtained for members to note. It was agreed JP would create a list of	JP
	locally events for the next meeting for members to decide if it would be beneficial for them or staff to attend.	
	BR suggested asking "would tenants appreciate if ACHA was to attend	
	community events?" at the upcoming Tenants Conference.	
	YA advised the Tenants Conference Agenda had been prepared,	

		ver, there would be an opportunity for feedba cipation section and suggested BR raised it th				
	It was noted that on Page 6 of the Scheme of Delegated Authority Policy under item 4.3.2, members are to be informed on investment and development priorities. It was clarified this currently forms part of the Regional Managers presentation.					
9.		e Management Action Plans 2018/19				
5.		dvised members there were still 3 projects av :				
	•	Fencing at 8 Sinclair Drive, Lochgilphead: £	2,796.00			
	•	Fencing at 6 Easfield, Tarbert: £1,524.00				
	•	 Road markings within car park at Caledonia Court, Ardrishaig: £1,435.00 				
	fencir 2018/	discussion, members unanimously agreed to proceed with the ng at 8 Sinclair Drive. As a result, this would exhaust the budget for /19. It was agreed the other projects would be carried forward to ext financial year.				
	SC pi	rovided members with a verbal update on the	e remaining projects.			
		ARGYLL 00.00	Budget:			
	20,1	Address	£ / Contractor			
	1.	47 Union Street, Lochgilphead				
		Fencing to back garden carried over from	£945.00			
		2017/18 (agreed to be paid from 2018/19	Contractor: AHFA			
		budget)				
		Update: APPROVED - works completed.				
	2.	21 Glenfyne Park, Ardrishaig				
	۷.	Replace chain-link fencing	£2,280.00			
			Contractor:			
			E.Seator			
		Update: NO LONGER APPLICABLE - this	L [
		removed as the tenant has carried out the				
	3.	17 & 18 Ardpatrick Place, Lochgilphead				
	0.	Replace wooden fencing	£2,637.80			
			Contractor: AHFA			
		Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC				
		contractor completes works by end March	•			
	4.	3 Achagoil, Minard				
		Replace chain-link fencing	£1,080.00			
			Contractor:			
			E.Seator			
		Update: APPROVED - works issued. Contractor intends on				
		starting works early February. SC has requ				
		completes works by end March 2019.				
	5. 6 Manse Croft, Clachan					
		Replace chain-link fencing to front garden	£720.00			
			Contractor:			
L						

		E.Seator
	Update: APPROVED - works issued. Con	
	starting works early February. SC has requ	uested that contractor
	completes works by end March 2019.	
6.	49 High Bank Park, Lochgilphead	
	Replace chain-link fencing & garden gate	£780.00
		Contractor:
		E.Seator
	Update: APPROVED - works issued. Con	
	starting works early February. SC has requ	uested that contractor
-	completes works by end March 2019.	
7.	1 Ionad Shomhairle, Achahoish	0705.00
	Replace section of wooden fence	£705.00
	Lindato: ADDDOVED works issued SC	Contractor: AHFA
	Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC contractor completes works by end March	
	contractor has advised works should be co	
	February.	Simplete early
8.	8 Sinclair Drive Lochgilphead	
0.	Replace wooden fence to front garden	£2,796.00
		Contractor:
		DA MacDonald
	Update: APPROVED - as discussed above	
	completed by end March 2019.	
9.	6 Easfield, Tarbert	
	Supply chain-link fencing to front	£1,524.00
		Contractor:
		E.Seator
	Update: On Hold - as discussed above, to	be carried forward to
	the next financial year.	
10.	Caledonia Court, Ardrishaig (Sheltered	Housing complex)
	Road markings within car park	£1,435.00
		Contractor: AHFA
	Update: On Hold - as discussed above, to	b be carried forward to
	the next financial year.	
1/10-1		
		Budget:
£10,	900.00	0.10
4	Address	£ / Contractor
1.	Ralston Road, Campbeltown	0000 00
	Supply and fit dividing fence	£228.00
		Contractor: G.Allen
	Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC	
2	contractor completes works by end March	2019.
2.	3 Tosh's Park, Carradale	C2 E00 00
	Replace chain-link fence	£2,500.00
		Contractor: AHFA
	Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC	•
0	contractor completes works by end March	2019.
3.	2 Coastguard Houses, Southend	04 700 00
	Replace fencing	£1,728.32

	1		_	1 1			
			Contractor: AHFA				
		Update: APPROVED - works issued and due to commence					
		beginning of February. SC has requested that contractor					
		completes works by end March 2019.					
	4.	Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown					
		Supply divisional fencing	£504.00				
			Contractor:				
			G.Allen				
		Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC	C has requested that				
		contractor completes works by end Marcl	n 2019.				
	5.	15 & 16 Muasdale Cottages, Muasdale					
		Provide wooden divisional fencing	£780.00				
			Contractor:				
			G.Allen				
		Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC	has requested that				
		contractor completes works by end Marcl					
	6.	2 Millers Park, Saddell					
		Supply front garden chain-link fencing	£1,380.00				
		and gates	Contractor:				
			E.Seator				
		Update: APPROVED - works issued. Co	ontractor intends on				
		starting works early February. SC has rec					
		completes works by end March 2019.					
	7.	94/96 Millknowe, Campbeltown					
		Replace uneven path	£1,684.80				
			Contractor: AHFA				
		Update: APPROVED - AHFA have comp					
		the specification. They have therefore be					
		advised works must be completed by end					
	8.	15 & 17 Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown					
	•	Supply divisional fencing	£504.00				
			Contractor: G.Allen				
		Update: APPROVED - works issued. SC					
		contractor completes works by end March	•				
10.	Key F	Performance Indicators (KPI's)					
	-	Outcome of the Board of Management	Performance Report				
	,	Review	•				
		BR referred members to the paper circula	ted within their agenda				
		pack.	5				
		An ad-hoc committee consisting of Board	members was formed				
		to review the KPI's contained in the Board	d of Management				
		Performance Report. BR advised that sh	e was involved in this				
		committee as part of the review.					
		It was noted that 45 KPI's had been reduc	ced to 27 but increased				
		to 30 by new KPI's.					
		Area Committee members are only prese	nted with the KPI's for				

	 HNS (Housing & Neighbourhood Services) and is provided in the form of a scorecard. In terms of HNS KPI's, nothing has been removed, however, the following will now be reported: % of homeless offers that result in a let Abandoned tenancies Evictions 	
	b) Mid Argyll & Kintyre Scorecard: Quarter 1 - 3 BR referred members to the scorecard circulated within their agenda pack, this covered the period April to December 2018.	
	BR commented the arrears may be high as a result of Universal Credit.	
	FD raised concerns that she had received an arrears letters, however, her rent account was in credit. YA reassured that we would investigate how this happened as not only could cause upset to tenants but could also have an impact on the arrears figure being incorrectly reported.	YA
	SC left the meeting.	
11.	 Community Action Fund Applications a) Budget Update A balance of £500 remains for 2018/19. b) Consider New Applications There were no new applications received. c) Review Previous Applications As agreed at the last meeting, members were asked to review the applications previously presented to the Area Committee. i. Dochas Carers Centre Amount Requested: £500 Decision: Members believed this application should be presented to the Oban, Lorn & Isles Area Committee as the event/project falls within their area. Agreed to postpone decision until this is clarified. 	
	 Mid Argyll Youth Development Services (MAYDS) Amount Requested: £500 Decision: After discussion, members unanimously agreed to reject this application. YA clarified that the Area Committee would review any new or previous applications to utilise the budget before the year end. 	
	d) Correspondence: none received	
	SJ advised a letter of thanks would be sent to the Area Committee from 'Heads Up Mid Argyll'. As a result of the money awarded, a teacher had delivered craft sessions to the group.	

12.	Prior to t	ist of Policies for Review the meeting, members we due to be reviewed in the	ere provided with a	list of the policies	
	provided Area Co those the After dis	sed members that in Janu I with a list of policies due mmittee consider the 3 po ey would like to be consul cussion, members unanir policies:	to be reviewed. Yolicies due to be re plicies due to be re lted on during 2019	A requested the viewed and agree	
	Dept	Document Name	Month/Year Next Review Due	Type of Document	
	HNS	Tenant Participation Strategy	May 2019	Organisational Policy	
	FD quert still space advert in consider to all ten It was co potential suggeste	s to attend the upcoming ied if there were still spac ces available and would part of the local papers. YA con- red as a means of promot ants. commented the word "confe- lly discourage tenants from ed "information day"; "part ess official.	es available. YA c ass on the sugges nfirmed a radio adv ing the event as w erence" was forma m attending, howe	confirmed there were tion to place an vert had been ell as letters issued I and could ver, it was	YA
	opt-out s to an Are the annu previous opt-out s Governa	ed what was the incentive system. YA explained the ea Committee and Board ual report and free entry to sly suggested by the Mid A system, however, advice f ince rules don't allow for a	e benefits included of Management; re the annual hamp Argyll & Kintyre Are rom our Governan automatic member	standing for election eceiving copies of er prize draw. It was a Committee of an ce Manager was the ship.	
3.	Member	als for Garden In Bloom s were provided with a re- on, the following was agre	port prior to the me		
	• Ca 0 0	or container: Trophy for place), £20 (2 nd place) a Best Allotment: Garde	and £20 (3 rd place) clude window bo or winner. Prize m and £10 (3 rd place) n related prize and ben to all pre 5 Nur seeds will be sup	; x, hanging basket oney of £30 (1 st I £50 for 1 st place series (Age group 3- plied to Nurseries	

		,
	 One off Projects as Identified: There may be potential areas of communal land within the Mid Argyll & Kintyre areas that could be developed into community garden areas to benefit our estates. A competition could be aimed at primary or secondary school children, on how a community garden should look. FD suggested a 'Best Wildlife Garden' category, this would include gardens that don't use pesticides, "organic" gardens, gardens that encourage wildlife etc. YA agreed to liaise with FD out with the meeting to bring report back to next meeting. GH suggested tenants could include photos of wildlife to 	YA/FD
	support their application.	
	 Closing Dates It was agreed the closing dates should be similar to those agreed in 2018. It was agreed staff would continue to photograph gardens to allow members to judge the nominations at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). 	
	Promotion	
	 The schemes will be publicised: 	
	 In the Tenants Newsletter; In the local area offices with all staff proactively 	
	 encouraging tenants to participate; As an article on our website and a press release issued to the local media. BR agreed to provide a quote for the press release and pass to JP for inclusion. 	BR/JP
14.	Tenants Newsletters Article for Spring Edition Prior to the meeting, members were provided with a report detailing the previous articles that have been published within the Tenants Newsletter by all Area Committees.	
	SMacK suggested an article from one of the new members of the Mid Argyll & Kintyre Area Committee, e.g. giving their first impressions of being on the Area Committee. This may encourage members in other areas to join their Area Committee.	
	YA explained that we could gather previously used questions as a prompt and would collate suggestions for the next meeting. Given the timing of the next meeting, we may need to request an extension to submit an article.	YA/JP
15.	Judging of Employee of the Season – Autumn Award JP left the meeting.	
	Prior to the meeting, members were provided with a report which included the Employee of the Season nominations, job descriptions, Employee of the Season policy and scoring forms. Members were asked to score the submitted nomination prior to the meeting.	
	Members scored the nominations using the supporting documentation	

	provided.	
	JP re-joined the meeting.	
	Following collation of the scores, YA advised the placings were as follows:	
	3 rd : Alison MacQueen	
	2 nd : Stephen Hughes	
	1 st : Jenna Philips	
16.	Agenda Items for Next Meeting Members were provided with a report prior to the meeting. Following discussion, it was agreed the following agenda items would be	
	considered at the next meeting with no further items to add:	
	Welcome & Apologies	
	 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 30th January 2019 	
	Matters Arising (including information pack)	
	Conflict of Interest	
	Correspondence	
	Chairpersons Report	
	Regional Managers Update	
	Key Performance Indicators	
	Community Action Fund Applications	
	a) Budget Update	
	b) Consider New/Existing Applications	
	c) Correspondence	
	Garden In Bloom 2019 - 'Best Wildlife Garden' Tapanta Neurolattar Spring Article	
	Tenants Newsletter Spring Article 2010 Tenants Settisfaction Summer Deputts	
	2018 Tenant Satisfaction Survey Results	
	Mid Argyll & Kintyre - Local Events 2019/20	
	Agenda Items for the Next Meeting	
	Any Other Business Date & Time of Next Meeting	
17.	Date & Time of Next Meeting	
17.	Any Other Business Members agreed it would be beneficial at some point in the future to	
	receive presentations on topics such as rent arrears, mutual exchanges	
	etc.	
18.	Date & Time of Next Meeting	
10.	The Mid Argyll & Kintyre Area Committee meeting will be held at 6.00pm	
	in Dalriada House, Lochgilphead on:	
	Wednesday, 27 th March 2019	
	 Wednesday, 29th May 2019 	
	 Wednesday, 14th August 2019 (Annual General Meeting) 	
	 Wednesday, 27th November 2019 	
<u> </u>		

The meeting concluded at 19.45pm