In relation to item 4 b) Area Community Planning Group Governance Arrangements, having received a late request from Sue Wallis of Volunteer Cowal (South West), the Group agreed to add her to the Membership list.

4.

The Group considered a briefing note which provided an overview of the discussion which took place at the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee meeting on 10 March 2021.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group noted the briefing note.

(Reference: Briefing note by Committee Manager, dated 4 May 2021, submitted)

5.

The Group gave consideration to a verbal update concerning the Action Plan Tracker and noted that the results from the Place Standard Engagement exercise that took place last year would efing note.

funding had been granted from the Scottish Government to put in place partnership working and support in anticipation of an influx of tourists into area over the summer months.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Police Inspector Mo Boyle – Police Scotland dated 4 May 2021, submitted)

(b) **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Cowal, Isle of Bute and Dunoon - FQ4 2020/21**

A report highlighting the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) FQ4 review of local performance within Cowal, Isle of Bute and Dunoon for 2020-21 was considered by the Group.

Further to the submitted update the Group noted that Test and Protect facilities delivered within the Dunoon and Rothesay fire stations had been in operation since February and March respectively and will be in place for the foreseeable future.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group reviewed and noted the contents of the report.

(Reference: Report by Watch Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service dated 4 May 2021, submitted)

(c) **Bute Island Alliance Update on Ardencraig Gardens**

The Group considered a verbal update from Jim Osborne, Bute Island Alliance (BIA), in relation to the position of Ardencraig Gardens. The Group noted that a meeting with BIA and the council's asset management team had been arranged for the following week in response to the BIA's expression of interest where it is hoped that they will be able to ascertain potential running costs. Jim stated that it was not the intention of the BIA to take on responsibility of the gardens but to facilitate the formation of a community trust should enough suitable volunteers be found.

Discussion focused on the council decision and what options were available to ensure the continuity of the gardens.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group;

1. noted the update; and

2. agreed to add Ardencraig Gardens to the agenda of the next meeting of the Group.

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Update by Community Learning and Development Assistant dated 4 May 2021, submitted)

9.

Police Inspector Mo Boyle updated the Group on the positon of the Police Scotland Community Engagement Team. The Group noted that the new team of community policing takes in a range of specialist officers who were looking to add value through new engagements and partnership working including a fraud awareness event due to take place online at 2.30pm on 18 May 2021.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Verbal Update by Police Inspector Mo Boyle, Police Scotland)

10.

(a) **UK-EU Post Transition**

The Group gave consideration to a report which set out the considerations of the EU Withdrawal Tactical Group with regard to identifying and assessing any risks relative to Argyll and Bute in relation to the UK exiting the EU.

Decision

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group considered the report and were assured that the Council and the HSCP were as well prepared as they could be with regards to having exited the EU and are actively engaged with partners through the local and national resilience frameworks.

(Reference: Report by Chief Executive dated 7 April 2021, submitted)

The Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group considered and noted the information provided.

(Reference: Verbal update by Vice-Chair of ColGlen Community Council, on behalf of Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust)

(b) **Forestry and Land Scotland**

John Hair, Forestry and Land Scotland, spoke to his submitted update describing their current priorities which included the management of Phytophthera ramorum and their land management plans on a 10 year cycle for individual forest areas.

Discussion focussed around keeping community groups up-to-date on roads closures and not only when there was a requirement for a consultation on the closure.

The Committee Manager read out questions that were submitted by Ian MacNaughton from Sandbank Community Council as follows;

1. Given that the Scottish Government declared a "climate emergency" over a year ago what action is FLS taking to plant trees in suitable locations across the Cowal peninsula and, in particular, the land within and above the Bishop's Glen and throughout Glen Fyne?

   Response from Mr Hair

   All land is managed and planted with trees unless the ground is too high for sufficient tree growth consequently the land will remain open if not suitable; there is a planting programme for the A83 Rest and Be Thankful that will start soon; and any trees felled are re-planted after 3-4 years with a greater range of species.

2. What arrangements are being made to set aside specific areas for native species

1. to support the promotion of Gaelic where possible;

2. to consider Gaelic as an option when looking at new and existing initiatives;

3. to connect interested parties with the Gaelic Development Worker;

4. to have an awareness of the Argyll and Bute Gaelic Language Plan and where possible support the objectives;

5. to note the information provided in relation to Colmcille 1500 funding and celebration which relates to initiatives linking Scotland and Ireland; and

6. to take forward actions, where appropriate, identified by the Gaelic survey.

(Reference: Report by Gaelic Development Worker, Argyll and Bute Council, dated 4 May 2021, submitted)

14.

The Group gave consideration to a verbal update in reaction to the uptake and usefulness

The Group noted that the next meeting of the Bute and Cowal Area Community Planning Group would take place at 10.00am on Tuesday 17 August 2021.