

In the absence of a representative from Hunters Quay Community Council the Committee

Outcome

The Forum noted the update from SPT.

Public Transport

Kerris Bone highlighted that residents of Strone, Blairmore, Ardintinny, Kilmun and surrounding areas would like to have the bus service back to pre-pandemic timetables. Ms Bone advised that the lack of bus services are causing problems for people getting to and from jobs.

Martin Arnold advised that he is in continual discussions with bus operator's to determine the right level of service for the areas served and that he would discuss with West Coast Motors to explore how the issues raised could be solved.

Kirstie Reid highlighted the lack of bus services in Strachur on a Saturday and asked if the Saturday services could be restored as the current service is not practical.

Martin Arnold advised of the Pingo bookable service, which can be accessed by calling 01289 385506, and that he would take Kirstie's comments away and provide an update at the next Forum meeting.

Discussion took place in relation to connectivity and the size of service vehicles available. Mr Arnold advised he is working with operators to get the right sized vehicles for the routes to ensure passenger demands are met.

The Chair reported that he had been advised by South Cowal Community Council that the bus service (489) no longer goes up North Campbell Road and asked why the decision to cut this was made. Mr Arnold advised that he was aware of some issues with the buses travelling the road due to them being low floor accessible and that the size of the vehicles was also causing problems due to poor manoeuvrability within such a tight area. Mr Arnold further advised of the Pingo provision which allows a more suitable vehicle travel to use this loop, adding that he would take the comments back to West Coast Motors.

Outcome

The forum noted that the Contract Manager would liaise with West Coast Motors to explore whether the bus service issues highlighted can be resolved and that an update would be provided at the next meeting of the Forum.

6. ROADS UPDATE

The Committee Manager advised that he had passed the questions onto colleagues in the Roads Department and would circulate the response to the Forum once received.

Councillor Sinclair highlighted that Transport Scotland had advised that both carriages at the Rest and Be Thankful would be open to traffic this month. Neil MacFarlane advised that he was not aware that there was a date for this and highlighted that Bear Scotland are working as quickly as possible, advising that road resurfacing would commence on the 31st of May at the Rest and Be Thankful following the removal of the protective fencing.

Kirsty Reid, Strachur Community Council advised that she had been approached numerous times by a lady with disabilities who had been struggling to use the pavements in Dunoon due to street furniture, cars being parked on the pavements and cyclists. Mrs Reid advised she had reported it to the Council and had received an acknowledgment email but no formal reply.

The Committee Manager requested that Mrs Reid forward the acknowledgement email and he would request Colleagues expedite the response.

Liz Neilson, resident in Sandbank, enquired about the speed assessment in Sandbank and asked if it had been done and if so when the results would be available.

The Committee Manager advised that he would take note of the question and would pass it to the relevant department on behalf of Liz.

Councillor Sinclair advised that there was a speed survey carried out with new radar equipment which monitors both ways and highlighted that he still does not have the information back but would follow it up.

Outcome

The Forum noted that the Committee Manager would circulate a response to Hunters Quay Community Council's questions to the Forum once received.

7. POLICE SCOTLAND

It was noted that there was no representative from Police Scotland at the meeting.

8. TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

Neil MacFarlane from Transport Scotland provided the Forum with a verbal update. Mr MacFarlane advised that that road resurfacing would be getting carried out at the Rest and Be Thankful from the 31 May until the 11 June, with no works being carried out on Friday and Saturday nights. The update also highlighted that layby and cycleway vegetation cut-backs had been carried out on the A82 Loch Lomondside with more planned and solar bollards had been installed at Loch Lomondside laybys with an overhaul of the brown and white tourist signage at the same location also in planning. It was also noted that overnight resurfacing works would be taking place along the A83 at Campbeltown during the summer.

Outcome

The Forum noted the update.

9. TIMBER TRANSPORT GROUP

In the absence of Iain Catterwell the Chair provided the following update which was submitted before the meeting:

The normal timber haulage season is just starting and is going well in the Cowal area. The Strategic Timber Transport Scheme hasn't reported yet, and until it does I'm unaware whether or not the A8003 improvement proposal has been successful.

Outcome

The Forum noted the update.

10. ANY OTHER