

LOCHABER TRANSPORT FORUM

Minutes of Executive Meeting held

Tuesday 6th February 2018 – 10.00, The Duncansburgh Church Hall, the Parade, Fort William

Present - Brian Murphy

Benny MacDonald

John Barnes

Arthur Cowie

Mike Cooper

Tony Dobson

Cllr Allan Henderson

Apologies -

- **Minutes of last meeting** held on 5th December 2017 were approved by the Committee.

- **Matters Arising**

Under Matters Arising – Benny said all correspondence with ScotRail is up to date.

Under MiDAS – Benny had contacted local Community Transport Groups regarding a MiDAS Assessor but not received any responses.

Arthur gave notice of John MacDonald leaving the CTA. John has been in charge of the work in Scotland and was familiar with the Highland & Islands as he originally came from Uist.

- **Development Worker's Report**

Benny went through his report.

He mentioned some of the local articles in the HITRANS Winter Newsletter. Work will begin soon on a study to identify how best to improve all modes of transport movement in and around Fort William. HITRANS responded to three bus consultations including free travel passes.

Regarding Arisaig CC request for more bus services to Mallaig Mike has spoken to Shiel Buses and they will look in this.

John asked when bus timetables will be updated. Mike explained he does not work on infrastructure but is helping as much as possible. There was a printing fault with a recent batch. Timetables have now gone to Shiel Buses.

There was a discussion on finance. Allan emailed later to confirm HC are about to bring the work on timetables currently done by HITRANS back in-house.

Mike will be working on the timetable changes which have not been easy to fix to date.

Mike – HC will be adding staff to the Transport Unit with a second Transport Office and a Senior Officer for Infrastructure.

- **Correspondence**

Reports of recent breakdowns on the Citylink 919 service to Inverness were quickly dealt with by managers. There have been some faults on the new vehicles which have been difficult to trace and not showing on the on-board computer. Late 919 services will be discussed at the Open meeting to follow.

A report of a delay on the 44 service to Kinlochleven was explained by a Stagecoach manager. The original bus had a window smashed on an earlier journey and a replacement vehicle was used running 30 minutes late.

It was reported work will start on the drop off and pick up points for touring coaches at the west end of town.

Brian gave an update on the bus shelter at the Medical Centre. After enquiries he was told the delay was due to the insurance company' loss adjusters and a replacement shelter will be erected soon. The shed which had been used as a shelter was vandalised and removed. The area was still not suitable as broken slabs and kerbs were just blocked off by barriers.

- **Meeting with Alex Hynes, MD, ScotRail Alliance**

There was discussion on the draft agenda and issues to be discussed. Benny will update and send to the Exec Committee members attending. Brian said the meeting should focus on important strategic issues. Benny - there are around 5/6 others who have emailed to attend.

- **MiDAS**

Benny will continue with the courses currently booked. There have been no responses to the email to Community Transport Groups regarding the CTA D1 Project for younger volunteer minibuss drivers. He will continue to look for a new local MiDAS Assessor.

- **West Highland Community Rail Partnership**

There will be a full report in the Open Meeting to follow. The CRP has advertised for a consultant to help with Development work.

- **AOCB**

There was no AOCB.

- **Date of next meeting**

Possible dates for 2018 meetings are as follows;

		Venue
20 th March	Exec Meeting and Bus Group Meeting	Duncansburgh Church Hall
8 th May	Exec Meeting and Open Forum Meeting	
19 th June	Exec Meeting and Bus Group Meeting	
7 th August	Exec Meeting and Open Forum Meeting	
11 th September	Exec Meeting and Bus Group Meeting	
30 th October	Exec Meeting, AGM and Open Forum Meeting	
11 th December	Exec Meeting and Bus Group Meeting	

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From Meeting 20th March 2018

Minutes of last meeting held on 6th February 2018 were approved by the Committee.