

LOCHABER TRANSPORT FORUM

Minutes of Executive Meeting held

Friday 11th May 2018 – 10.00, The Duncansburgh Church Hall, the Parade, Fort William

Present - Brian Murphy
Benny MacDonald
Arthur Cowie
Mike Cooper
Flora McKee

Apologies - Tony Dobson
John Barnes

- **Minutes of last meeting** held on 20th March 2018 were approved by the Board.

- **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

- **Bus Services**

Mike was asked to give an update on the current situation. He passed around timetables of two routes which HC are offering short term contracts for 1st July to 19th August. This has been done by using 'Quick Quotes' with full contracts being set up to begin with the new school term.

The Stagecoach 44 service, Fort William/Kinlochleven will be operated by Shiel Buses mainly every two hours. This is less than at present but budgets had to be re-arranged to provide this cover.

The second route is the Stagecoach 41 service, Fort William/Roy Bridge. Invitations are open to quote for this service until midday 16th May. This follows closely the current timetable.

- **Development Worker's Report**

Benny went through his report.

With the change in dates for the next two meetings to Friday Highland MSP's were asked if this would be more suitable to attend. There was a reply from the office of Kate Forbes to say she is already booked up but would be interested to attend at a later date. It was agreed all Highland MSP's should be invited to the August meeting.

Regarding the problems with the number of breakdowns on local buses Arthur gave notice of a cross party meeting set up by SATA in the Scottish Parliament on 30th May to discuss improvements to accessible buses.

- **Correspondence**

Additional correspondence was received.

There are added problems for pedestrians with the new shopping area at Marks & Spencers. Walking past National Tyres the pavement stops with options of a verge or walking around the delivery area of Aldi to access the shops. The Forum should contact dot Ferguson, HC.

Benny had another request to provide a MiDAS course to a local group. He asked Mike if the new HC trainers due to be trained can provide courses to Community Transport groups. Mike said this will be ok.

- **Data Protection**

Benny explained the only data he holds are email addresses with occasional telephone numbers and very few postal addresses, large email messages in connection with Forum Meetings are sent out BCC. Also, most contacts gave their details as they wanted to receive information.

It was agreed Benny should send out a short note to members explaining these details.

- **Meetings - HITRANS STAG Strategy & West Highland Line Review**

Brian attended the Strategy Meeting on 3rd May. All information is still being collected with a report due later in the summer.

Brian will attend the WHL Review on behalf of the Forum.

- **West Highland Community Rail Partnership**

A report will be given at the meeting to follow.

- **AOCB**

Flora gave notice of a meeting the previous day with groups from the Strontian area and the local Ambulance Service. There have been problems with providing transport for health care journeys with many being cancelled at short notice and therefore appointments cancelled. One option discussed was for a local group to access funding for a vehicle and provide a Community Transport Scheme. Flora asked if the Forum can provide a letter to support funding applications.

- **Date of next meeting**

The following meeting has been changed to a Friday;

		Venue
Friday 22nd June	Exec Meeting and Bus Group Meeting	Duncansburgh Church Hall
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	

From meeting 22nd June

Minutes of last meeting held on 11th May 2018 were approved by the Board.