

# LOCHABER TRANSPORT FORUM

## Minutes of Executive Meeting held

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – 10.00, the Duncansburgh Church Hall, the Parade, Fort William

**Present** - Brian Murphy

Benny MacDonald

Arthur Cowie

Flora McKee

Bryan Gregg

**Apologies** - Tony Dobson

Ali MacDonald

Allan Henderson

- **Minutes of the meeting** held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were approved by the Committee.

- **Matters Arising**

Under Development Worker's Report, Benny said there continues to be a huge amount of email discussions on various timetables. The Real Time Boards are not up to date, hard copies at stops are misleading and Citylink winter timetables are not showing at all relevant stops.

**Action – Brian advised this should be taken further with a letter to Kate Forbes, MSP, HC and HITRANS.**

There needs to be a central point of contact.

Under AOCB, Arthur met with David Devine, Transport Scotland (TS), and walked along Belford Road to discuss the lack of accessibility for wheelchair Users and people with disabilities. There isn't money available this year but it can be included in the TS budget next year. The current Active Travel Masterplan should highlight all drop kerbs, etc. TS will write to Sustrans regarding the issue of cyclists using the pavement along Belford Road.

- **Development Worker's Report**

Benny added the following to his report.

He gave further update to timetable issues. HC have issued invitations to tender for the contract which includes the Real time Board at Fort William bus station. It's hoped this will be in place early next year.

Also, Ali MacDonald gave his apologies as he's attending training on a new online software programme to simplify the use of timetables for all who require them.

- **Correspondence**

Several transport representatives confirmed they are attending the Forum Meeting to follow. Most recently Chris Hoon, WCM, expects to attend, also, Scott Prentice and Derek Glasgow, ScotRail, will attend, arriving on the midday train.

- **West Highland Community Rail Partnership**

The WHCRP were represented at the second meeting in Glasgow to discuss a Scotland wide network for Community Rail.

The competitions involving school children for the 125 years Anniversary of the West Highland Line were very successful with many entries. There was a prize giving in the Highland Book Shop and the winning poster entry will be made full size and hung in Fort William Railway Station.

- **AOCB**

Ahead of the AGM to follow there was discussion on the Constitution. Though it was written several years ago it was agreed it is still relevant to the work done by the Forum.

- **Date of next meeting**

There will be an Executive Committee Meeting at 10.00 on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00 in the Duncansburgh Church Hall.

The first meetings of 2020 will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February. The Executive Committee Meeting will begin at 10.00 followed by an open Transport Forum Meeting at 11.00. Again this will be in the Duncansburgh Church Hall.

**Meeting from 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**Minutes of the meeting** held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 were approved by the Committee.