



Update 16: January 2010



The Directors have discussed the issues raised at the community consultation meeting on the draft plans for the Atlantic Islands Centre held on 7 December 2009 and decided:

- to explore the offer from Shane Cadzow of land for the Centre outwith the conservation area. As a result, a meeting has taken place and further advice about the legality of moving the site is being sought from the relevant funders.
- to seek professional advice from our HIE adviser and business consultant about the issues raised. As a result, a date to meet them has been requested.
- to contact funders to seek additional time for the development phase of the project to enable these issues to be addressed. As a result, the Big Lottery Fund and LEADER have agreed to extend the end dates until the end of April 2010.
- to discuss with the Luing History Group Committee the size and nature of the building proposed for the Engine Shed site, and the programming of exhibitions in the Centre. As a result, a meeting has taken place and further discussions will be held with them and the Trust architect.
- to consider future methods of community consultation on plans for the Centre. More frequent updates will be posted, and the electronic circulation of information will be looked into.

Isle of Luing Community Trust directors

STOP PRESS – 14 Jan 2010

We have had unconfirmed press reports that our application to be considered for ERDF funding as part of Argyll & Bute's Community Planning Partnership (CPP) package of projects in Argyll has been successful. Last August the Trust was approached by the CPP with an invitation to be part of this bid, with the potential to provide 40% of the funding for each project within the package. For the Luing project, this would amount to about £450,000.

If this news is confirmed, the project has to be shaped up as discussed above in this Update, and approved by Highlands & Islands Planning Partnership on behalf of ERDF, before the funds are actually awarded. In addition the remaining 60% has to be found, which in the current financial circumstances remains difficult.

This is an important step forward, and further information will be published when we hear more.

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