

**Minutes Area Tourism Partnership Meeting held  
21 September 2006  
at Gales Restaurant & Hotel**

**Present:**

Alex Anderson, North Ayrshire Council  
Cllr Tom Barr, North Ayrshire Council  
Cllr Margaret Toner, South Ayrshire Council  
Nick Larkin, South Ayrshire Council  
Bob Leitch, Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Chair)  
Cllr. Eric Ross, East Ayrshire Council  
Michael Wright, Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire  
John Spooner, East Ayrshire Council  
Howard Wilkinson, ACTF Chairman  
Sandi Hellowell, VisitScotland  
Catriona Mackie, VisitScotland  
David Noble, VisitScotland  
Stewart Selbie, Turnberry Hotel  
Malcolm Simpson, Gales Restaurant & Hotel  
Carolyn Elder, Largs Yacht Haven  
Martin Hunter, Federation of Small Businesses  
Joyce White, Prestwick Airport  
Tricia Irving, Girvan Horizons (Horizons presentation only)  
Stuart Lindsay, Girvan Horizons ( “ “ “ )

**Apologies:**

Apologies received from: Glenn Wedlock, Prestwick Airport and Alastair Dobson, Taste of Arran.

B Leitch (Chairman) welcomed Cllr. Eric Ross as Vice Chairperson and looks forward to working with him. The chairman also extended a welcome to David Noble, Director of Operations, VisitScotland, and Tricia Irving and Stuart Lindsay of Girvan Horizons.

**1. Horizons**

Stuart Lindsay and Tricia Irving of Girvan Horizons, gave a presentation on tourism development in Carrick, explaining the purpose behind their project, stating their mission, and asking for support from the Area Tourism Partnership. Copies of presentation circulated at meeting.

The Chairman thanked Stuart and Tricia for their presentation, commenting on the enthusiasm for this project.

**2. Previous Minutes**

The previous minutes dated 8<sup>th</sup> August '06 were taken as an accurate account of events and approved.

At this point, D.Noble was introduced to the group. D. Noble took this opportunity to comment on the Girvan Horizon project and said it was encouraging to see a local community led initiative. He also thanked members of the Partnership for the

excellent progress that has been made with the Partnership Plan and for giving so much of their time and commitment to it.

### **3. Tourism Conference**

The Chair advised that the Clydesdale Bank have agreed to contribute £5,000 to the Tourism Conference. Chamber of Commerce have agreed to offer administration assistance and VisitScotland are contributing £3,000.

A Conference sub-group was established comprising of:-

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| C. Mackie/representatives | - VisitScotland,           |
| B. Leitch/representatives | - Chamber of Commerce      |
| Lynne Pringle             | - SEA                      |
| M. Simpson                | - Gales Restaurant & Hotel |
| S. Selbie                 | - Turnberry Hotel          |

The Chair asked for any additional volunteers and explained that this would involve a meeting once per month (5/6 hours). On this basis, Nick Larkin, SAC, volunteered. Joyce White also intimated that Prestwick Airport may like to have someone present. Howard Wilkinson would be happy to contribute on the food/lunch perspective.

The date of the first Sub-Group meeting will be advised as soon as possible.

#### **Action:**

- Date and venue of first Sub-Group meeting to be communicated.

**Responsible – C Mackie**

### **4. Local Industry Liaison**

This is the point in the meeting where feedback from the industry or issues raised by the industry can be discussed. There were no items raised for discussion today.

#### **Action:**

- Items for this agenda item to be sent to ATP email address at least 1 week prior to meeting to ensure it is on agenda.

**Responsible - All**

### **5. Partnership Plan**

The chair stated that the Final Draft of the Plan had been circulated to the Partnership Group for comment. There was no further input or response received from any member, therefore, the Chair recommended that this Plan now be submitted on behalf of the Partnership to VisitScotland. This was unanimously agreed by all present.

#### **Action:**

- S. Hellowell to channel the Plan to the Scottish Executive following inclusion of final appendices.

**Responsible – S Hellowell**

The chair proposed that this item (Partnership Plan) remain on the agenda and at every third meeting, a summary and action update be carried out. Some issues may arise from the Local Industry Liaison agenda item that could be added to the Action Plan.

Sandi Hellowell has been working on a reporting template, which will be issued to members as soon as possible. The Partnership will be required to monitor and evaluate their work and report back on the national targets in particular. This template can be used as a guide to assist in the overall collection of information. Sandi Hellowell will assist members, if required, in the monitoring and evaluation. The chair thanked Sandi for her help and work .

**Responsible – S Hellowell**

The chair thanked everyone for coming along to the meeting and Malcolm Simpson for hosting the meeting at Gales Restaurant and Hotel.

6. **Date of Next Meeting** \_\_\_\_\_ The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am at South Ayrshire Council Offices**, hosted by Nick Larkin. **Responsible - L. Boyle**

It was agreed that the following meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February will be held at Dean Castle, hosted by John Spooner.

7. **AOB**  
There was no further business