

May 2021

the official newsletter of the Black Isle Partnership

AGM

This is the final reminder to register for our AGM which is being held on Tuesday 4th May at 7.30pm. It is an online event so we need your contact details in order to send out the agenda and a secure Zoom link. Please register here. Deadline Monday.

This is an opportunity to hear about:

- * Activities over the last 18 months
- * The launch of our Strategy for a Self-reliant Black Isle
- * Views from our guest speaker Artemis Pana of Scottish Rural Action

This promises to be a dynamic evening. Not all AGM's are the same!

Farewell to Asia

Asia Cielecka's role as Community Resilience Coordinator has come to an end. Over the last twelve months she has played a crucial part in keeping everyone connected, distributing funds in an equitable way, and generally bringing passion and commitment to the role. The partnership has developed massively during her time with us. We thank her for her significant contribution and wish her well in the future.

There will be an opportunity to say a formal goodbye very soon.

Black Isle Wellbeing Week - 24th-28th May



The Wellbeing project has evolved since reported in the last newsletter. Given the very tight timescale (2 months), it was agreed a more strategic approach was needed to make the most of the funding. Our primary focus now is to establish a robust local support network that is sustainable for the long term.

A week's programme consisting of three conference-style half-day sessions plus two evening live-streamed 'broadcasts' is being worked up by a steering group. The themes for the daytime sessions are: Looking Out For Our Young People, Taking Care of the Vulnerable (developing a befriending scheme), and Looking After Ourselves (promoting good mental health). The evening sessions will be a fun and informative insight into a range of examples of activities run by local groups that support positive health and wellbeing.

Make a note of the dates. The full programme is due to be announced in the next week to ten days. In the meantime if you'd like to find out more, or are willing to get involved with helping to make the event a success drop us a line: community@black-isle.info

Wellbeing is at the heart of the Strategy for a Self-reliant Black Isle, so it is appropriate this project is officially at the forefront of our work over the coming months and years.

Strategic Partnership Meetings

The regular Tuesday meetings continue. However, on 20th April this was replaced by the Tourism Team's Spring Networking event, which attracted over 50 attendees.

Excellent presentations from three volunteer groups and three businesses provided concrete examples of how communities and businesses are genuinely working together to tackle tourism issues on the Black Isle. Plans for a 'Pledge - to be a responsible tourist' were also revealed. This backs up the Venture Safely campaign launched last year which is still 'live'. Keep those posters and banners looking presentable folks!

A full report of the Networking event will be available soon from BITT.

This week (27th April) we returned to a more standard meeting and the tourism theme continued, as we were joined by Katrina Taylor (THC) and Kevin Wickham (Waste Operations Manager for Highland North).

Some really useful pointers around litter and what we can do to keep on top of the situation. A full record of the meeting, including a round up from the different communities, can be viewed here.

Thanks for reading - and please feel free to share this far and wide.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM!



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This edition of Black Isle Bulletin was edited by Jon Palmer

Image: Roskill Trees by Julian Paren

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