

# Newsletter for LORN – and agenda for AGM

Our 2011 AGM is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at the Victory Hall, Benderloch and everyone is welcome

11 am – come and share a cuppa

11.30 am – meeting starts

We aim to keep this AGM brief and to the point, but welcome all questions and contributions from any part of the community or related organisations.

We will have a Light homemade lunch for all after the meeting so you can chat, and find out more about what is going on.

PLEASE RSVP to [agm@lorn.org.uk](mailto:agm@lorn.org.uk) so we know how many chairs to get out, how much heat to put on and how much grub needs to be cooked.

## 2011 in Local Origins Rural Network

It is exciting times with the development of the Network - this is the year to "give" to "get"

- 1 - GIVE your business details and images for website, leaflet and directory to GET more promotion
- 2 - GIVE your news, pics, scenery, funny stories, awards, anything at all, to GET promoted on the LORN Facebook and Twitter pages
- 3 - GIVE some time to get to know your way around the LORNcommunity site, so the growing population can GET to know you, your interests, your skills, your products, and services
- 4 - GIVE your ideas for how we can get LORN working for you and yours, the chances are others have similar or complementary thoughts
- 5 - GIVE your support to others in the Network at every opportunity to GET same consideration back.
- 6 - GIVE other businesses and organisations you know encouragement to join LORN, to GET a stronger network.
- 7 - GIVE some expertise to the network to help us build our future and GET a more sustainable community

What is LORN -- aims, aspirations, plans and projects –click here - [http://www.lorn.org.uk/whatisLORN\\_AGM.pdf](http://www.lorn.org.uk/whatisLORN_AGM.pdf)

## LORN projects for 2011

### STRUCTURE and CONSTITUTION

A number of LORN members have been working away to develop the wider LORN structure with the aim of formalising its status and allowing us to develop the community areas as well as the enterprise.

We are working on creating Local Origins Rural Network as a charity, as an umbrellas organisation, with the aim of creating a sustainable community in North Argyll.

The various business activities that have been the engine of most of LORN activity so far, will be brought under a trading arm - **LORN enterprises**, which will have primary produce and skills, and sustainable futures, as their emphasis.

--- **LORN market** - build on our success so far, develop more activities, and attractions

--- **LORN Larder** - a range of areas of development here, such as Pasture to Plate (sorting out the logistics of getting more locally grown meat, eaten locally) - as well as veggies, preserves, seafood, etc

--- **COUNTRY COURSES** - creating a network of activity courses around the area - spinning, felting, poultry keeping, gardening, beekeeping, photography etc

--- **LOCAL Business Forum** - develop a regular meeting of members to improve our business skills

--- **LORN Crafts** - crafters working together to create more successful ways to market and sell their wares

We are proposing that LORN enterprises is set up as a company limited by share, with LORN the charity as its sole beneficiary; income from the enterprise activities to be used to facilitate and develop projects under LORN community.

## **LORN Community**

**HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE LIVING IN 2020? How do we become more sustainable in our communities of North Argyll?** How do we make a difference in our own lives, how can we work together to make it happen?

LORN community brings together all the activities that are important to create a sustainable future for our communities throughout the North Argyll area. There is already so much that is happening, but often fragmented, but so much more we can do within our own communities. LORN can be somewhere to share our ideas, be a resource to help each other, able to get funding for shared equipment or labour.

Whether it is growing more of our own food, using our resources better, supporting our heritage, culture and environment, or just looking after each other, we can improve our own communities together.

As an organisation LORN wants to be open to everyone in the community who supports our aims, and will be creating a membership structure to cover all. We are very grateful to all our supporting Friends. We have already built strong relationships with many local and national organisations, but will be working to strengthen the connections and facilitate bringing good ideas from other places to Lorn, and helping to make them work here.

There will be a GREAT deal more going on this year, far too much to keep sending out as emails for each activity.

The predominant place for sharing activities etc will be the LORNcommunity website (and we strongly urge EVERYONE to join (it is simple and free) the community, then join ALL the relevant groups to your interests and activities. If there is a group missing – start one, and join up with others that share your ideas.

It is a dynamic community, the more activity the better and it is up to each of us to encourage as many of our friends, family and neighbours to join in.

<http://lorncommunity.ning.com> – join, use it and bookmark the site and visit it regularly.

Our formal website is <http://www.lorn.org.uk/> which we hope to develop extensively in 2011 to be a much more useful resource for all.

LORN is embracing the social networking to connect with more in the community and beyond.

Facebook – look for Lorn Argyll

Twitter – LORNtweets

Linkedin - Local Origins Rural Network

### **LOCAL BUSINESS FORUMS and social evenings**

We want to start these again as soon as possible and will be posting information on the LORNcommunity about the dates. We will work with other training providers to make sure we let everyone know what is happening through the area, and that we fill in the gaps of provision. If you have ideas for talks, workshops, people to come let us know. If you have the time to organise these, you would be very welcome.

Some immediate we have proposed are - Social Networking ; Book-keeping ; Business networks and you, the Art of Selling and possibly Using the Press.

The idea at the moment is have them every 2nd and 4th Friday evening, continuing the supper and social evening afterwards -- but if you have strong feelings for other times of day or week, let us know.

There is plenty going on with LORN, and even more possible, if YOU will volunteer some time and expertise to help.

This is YOUR network, it is entirely up to each of us how well it grows.

We are planning an exciting and personally challenging Open Day later in the year so we can all, individually and collectively explore the possibilities about each of our communities sustainability and our future resilience. Join us for the journey.

The volunteers we have for the 2011 LORN committee and activities so far are :-

Chair : Cath Thomson

Secretary : Jill Bowis

Treasurer : Steven Greener

Membership Secretary : Varinia Greener

Market Organiser : Tim Bowis

Development Officer : John Connolly

Marketing : Website : Janice Stewart

Marketing : Promotional materials : Louise Macbrayne

Crafts Liaison : Ada Daly

Constitution and Legal : Corryne MacLean

the roles we would like to fill

Events coordinator

Marketing : Press relations - possibly found someone wonderful !

organising Local Business Forum

Helping to organise and put on the MEGA markets - Spring Fayre, Woolfest, 6 days Orienteering, 3rd birthday, Apple Day

Social Networking - sharing all the interesting news from the various sectors and the membership

Schools / Education , Newsletter Editor, Fundraising, Community Coordinator, Food Liaison, Farming Liaison

Island Liason, Recruitment, Web - using Drupal , Skills Liaison

and anything else you can think of. – we know there is LOTS

we welcome all volunteers - however large or small your possible donation of time, expertise, energy. LORN is about us all creating a sustainable community - each one of us is part of it, and we are all needed to make the changes to build our future.

We also welcome everyone in the community who is just beginning to think about what they might do – curious about the ideas of being more sustainable, growing something, even running their own business, and those wanting to support others who are working in the area.

minutes of last AGM meeting <http://www.lorn.org.uk/AGM2010minutes.doc>

What is LORN -- aims, aspirations, plans and projects the MIND MAP !!!! --

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