

WEST LINK COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Highland Council Headquarters

Monday 23rd May 2016

Present

Cllr Graham Ross	The Highland Council	Cllr GR
Roy Sinclair	Inverness Rowing Club	RS
George Hawco	Inverness West Community Council	GH
George Greig	Inverness West Community Council	GG
Jimmy Smith	The Highland Council	JS
Iain MacLennan	The Highland Council	IM
Maciek Mackiewick	Wills Bros	MM
Graham Mackenzie	Inverness Angling Club	GM
A/Insp Alastair MacLean	Police Scotland	AM
John West	Lochardil & Drummond Community Council	JW

Apologies

Colin Howell (THC), Mike Stephens (THC), Jonathan Wills (Wills Bros), Gordon King (Ballifeary CC), Graeme Ambrose (Inverness & Loch Ness Tourism BID), Inspector Andrew Blakey, Inspector Ian Graham, PC Ross Polworth. PC Steve Mowat (Police Scotland), Mike Smith (BID Manager)

Point		Action
1	Chairman's introductions & purpose of the meetings	
1.1	Cllr GR opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, and added that to date the Community Liaison meetings had been well received.	
1.2	All attendees introduced themselves to the group.	
2	Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising	
2.1	The minutes of the meeting of the 14 th March 2016 were accepted as read.	
2.2	RS stated that at the last meeting it was agreed that a Works Programme would be provided. IM apologized for not having a Programme available for the meeting but would arrange for RS to visit the site in June to view the Programme and be updated with progress.	IM

3	Inverness West Link Stage 1 and Canal Parks Enhancement	
3.1	MM updated the meeting on Wills Bros progress to date. The works on the A82 at Bught Drive were on Programme to be completed in the next 3 weeks. Wills Bros are to use a pontoon system anchored in the River Ness to facilitate the bridge construction. This system had been discussed and approved by SEPA.	
3.2	GM asked if the canoe club had been consulted. MM confirmed that they had and were content to portage canoes as required during construction.	
3.3	IM stated that access to the river for fishing would be maintained for as long as possible but that there would be times when access would unavoidably be restricted due to the construction process. River Ness Angling Club would be kept informed.	IM
3.4	JS confirmed that cofferdam construction would be progressed during the in river works between July and October. Following the construction phase for the bridge piers the cofferdams would remain but be cut down to river bed level.	
3.5	IM said that every effort would be made to minimize the risk of silt entering the river. However it would be appreciated by both the Wills Bros and THC that if any water discoloration was noticed that the site be informed.	
3.6	IM commentated that there had been some vandalism on site, but hoped that now there was 24hr security present that this would be reduced. AM said that if available they would visit the site when possible to deter vandals.	AM
3.7	MM confirmed that the bridge steel deck elements would be delivered to Inverness Harbour and be transported to site by lorry. Deliveries would be to both sides of the river and the Police would be fully consulted regarding delivery proposals well in advance.	JS
3.8	JS confirmed that Bught Road would be permanently closed to traffic as soon as the A82 junction works with Bught Road are completed. RS reminded the meeting that there was a regatta taking place on the canal on the 19 th and 20 th of November, and asked if pedestrian access could be guaranteed. IM to check on provision for pedestrian access in the Works Information during the construction phase and would discuss arrangements with RS at their meeting in June.	IM
3.9	A discussion was held regarding advising the meeting on the details of Wills Bros. programme for the Works which is an extensive and detailed document. JS advised that for future meetings a summary programme would be prepared highlighting the key items of activity to be carried out during the period following each meeting.	IM
4	Associated Projects, Golf Course, Golf Club and West Link Stage 2	
4.1	JS said that the Tenders for the Golf Course and Housing Preparation Works are out to tender and would be returned soon.	

4.2	JS said that the works currently being undertaken on General Booth Road are a watermain diversion for the Housing Preparation Works.	
4.3	JS confirmed that whole West Link Project was programmed to be completed in 2020.	JS
4.4	Cllr GR confirmed that the Golf Course had to be in place and operational prior to Inverness West Link Stage 2 commencing.	
4.5	JS confirmed that General Booth Road would be realigned at its junction with the A82 and that the access to the new housing scheme would be south of the underpass on General Booth Road.	
5	AOCB	
5.1	RS proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of those present to Jimmy Smith, who is retiring in June, who as Project Sponsor has managed the West Link Project. RS paid tribute to JS's professionalism and way he conducted discussions. Cllr GR also echoed those words and expressed his thanks to JS	
6	Date of next Meeting	
6.1	Monday 3rd October 2016 Highland Council Headquarters Committee Room 1, at 7pm	