



West Link Community Liaison Meeting No. 7

Monday 12th June 2017, 7pm Council HQ.

Present

Graham Ross	The Highland Council
John Stephens (JS)	Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd
Ronnie Johnson	Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd
Declan O'Malley	Coffey/EGS JV
Iain MacLennan (IM)	The Highland Council
Bryan Stout (BS)	The Highland Council
Roy Sinclair (RS)	Inverness Rowing Club
Alastair Maclean	Police Scotland
Maria De La Torre	Lochardil & Drummond Community Council
George Hawco	Inverness West Community Council
George Greig	Inverness West Community Council
Graham Mackenzie	Inverness Angling Club
Steven Clelland	High Life Highland
Cathy Shankland	High Life Highland

Point	Item	Action
1.	Chairman's Introductions & Purpose of Meeting	
1.1.	Cllr Graham Ross opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2.	Approval of Minutes	
2.1.	The minutes of the meeting of 23 rd January were accepted as read.	
2.2.	Roy Sinclair advised that while he had received a response to issues previously raised these were insufficient and a number of questions relating to stage 2 remain unanswered.	BS

Point	Item	Action
3.	IWL Stage 1 & Canal Parks Enhancement Works	
3.1.	John Stephens of Wills Bros provided commentary describing progress and work done while drone footage was shown. Overall the Works are currently ahead of schedule with opening looking likely to be achievable in December.	
3.2.	Graham Ross commented on good progress and on the benefit of being able to see the aerial footage.	
3.3.	Lochardil and Drummond CC asked if there was a footpath link from the bridge to Dores Road. It was confirmed that a public road extends part way and continues as a footpath to Dores Road providing a direct pedestrian/cycle link between the roundabout by bridge and Dores Road.	
3.4.	Lochardil and Drummond CC asked if the space between the river and road was to remain green space. The part nearest the Ness-side houses will be developed for housing but the remainder nearest the bridge, accessed from a layby on the new road would remain as green space.	
3.5.	Inverness West CC enquired about impact on the Mill Lade and it was confirmed that the Works have no impact on it.	
3.6.	Scottish Canals have restricted access to the Canal Towpath due to works on the Ness River Weir. Inverness Angling Club enquired about access under the bridge to maintain access to the riverside. The Contractor would be able to maintain access to the towpath as originally agreed but it is not possible to allow unrestricted access under the bridge at this time due to the nature and proximity of work underway there. Arrangements would be made to facilitate access if possible and access will be returned as soon as it is safe to permit.	
3.7.	Cllr Ross asked about the additional trees planted during the works and whether they were broadleaf or coniferous. A mix of tree species have been provided.	
3.8.	Roy Sinclair advised that the Rugby Club have a cup game programmed for 26 th August. This will be played at the High School as were the games at the end of last season.	
3.9.	Lochardil and Drummond CC asked if the old rugby car park would be available for parking again after the works are complete. It was explained that this area is now partially occupied by the road with the remainder transformed into part of the new car park. Access from this car park is available by steps and ramps to the new road and via underpass to the Canal towpath.	
3.10.	It was confirmed that work currently underway in Bught Lane would be complete prior to Status Quo concert on 23 rd June.	

Point	Item	Action
4.	Golf Course Construction and Housing Site Preparation Works	
4.1.	Work on levelling and blinding the housing site is now complete.	
4.2.	On the new golf course 90% of the earthworks are complete and about 70% of the drainage is done. Waterbodies have been now been lined and are being filled.	
4.3.	Work will soon be starting to complete the seeding of the new green on the existing course now that irrigation is being installed. Work will then progress topsoiling and installing irrigation in the rest of the course over the coming weeks followed by seeding as each area is complete.	
4.4.	Further ahead in September work will resume on reconfiguring areas occupied by the existing course.	
5.	Public Art	
5.1.	Cathy Shankland introduced a discussion on the subject of public art and potential to enhance the two new underpasses. Although CCTV is to be installed this is seen as a better way of reducing vandalism by encouraging community ownership as has been seen to be effective with the photographs installed at the Innes Street underpass. Discussion followed on potential sports themes and the group were keen that local people and schools and sports clubs be involved in the design. The link to the canal was also seen as a potential theme and also potentially a source of funding. The group agreed that funding for this should be explored and that local involvement in the design was to be encouraged.	
6.	Date of Next Meeting	
6.1.	Monday 18 th September at 7pm This meeting will be preceded by an opportunity to visit the new Rugby Clubhouse and possibly walk to the bridge. Anyone interested should come to the new Rugby car park for 6pm.	