



West Link Stage 2 - Community Liaison Meeting No. 1

Monday 25th March 2019, 7pm Council HQ.

Present

Cllr Graham Ross	The Highland Council
Cllr Bill Boyd	The Highland Council
Donna Manson	The Highland Council (Part of meeting)
Colin Howell (CH)	The Highland Council
Bryan Stout (BS)	The Highland Council
Iain MacLennan (IM)	The Highland Council
Scott Dalgarno	The Highland Council
George Greig	Inverness West Community Council
Maria De La Torre	Lochardil & Drummond Community Council
Brian MacKenzie	Highland Cycle Campaign
Paddy Walsh	Inverness Rowing Club
Robert Gordon	Inverness Rowing Club
Roy Sinclair (RS)	Inverness Rowing Club

Point	Item	Action
1.	Chairman's Introductions & Purpose of Meeting	
1.1.	Cllr Graham Ross opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2.	Stage 2 Contract Award	

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2.1.	Tenders have been returned. The tender includes a Quality submission (60%) as well as price (40%). These have now been reviewed and report prepared. The next step is for an Intention to Award letter to be issued to the highest scoring Contractor. Similar debrief letters will be issued to the other contractors and this will start a 10 day standstill period in case of challenge to the award. Only at the end of this period, or later if challenged, will the Contract will be formally awarded.	
2.2.	The Intention to Award letter has not yet been sent so we are not currently in a position to advise the group who the preferred Contractor is.	
3.	Programme	
3.1.	We have reviewed the programme and can therefore advise on likely timescales for the work	
3.2.	Much of this is governed by constraints we have placed on the Contractor.	
3.3.	Following tender award it will be approximately 4 weeks before the contractor starts on site which would take us towards the end of May. The contract period is 82 weeks so looking at completion late December 2020.	
3.4.	We have a separate contractor going to be constructing the control building. Possibly starting in April.	
3.5.	Canal Closure is permitted between 18 th November 2019 and 1 st March 2020.	
3.6.	Transport Scotland won't allow traffic control on the A82 during July and August for obvious reasons.	
3.7.	Golf Club – The new clubhouse and maintenance building are nearing completion and should be ready for the planned handover on 1 st April. They then plan to take a couple of weeks to move in before opening. The golf club are already maintaining the new course. The intention is to bring holes into play in phases so they still have access to the majority of the existing course until 8 th July. The club have already vacated holes 1 to 4 which has allowed the trees to be removed prior to the start of the main contract to ensure that work can progress unhindered. The Contractor doesn't expect access to the clubhouse until 8 th July either so their demolition programme is governed by this.	
3.8.	Before starting on site the Contractor will develop various method statements and detail how he is going to address the environmental and planning conditions.	
3.9.	First action on site will be to form an access off the A82 to allow establishment of the site compound between the proposed new A82 link and the road giving access to the tow path. Associated with this is installation of tree protection measures and service diversions.	

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3.10.	All of the Contractors looked carefully at the cut fill balance and how best to reuse material generated on site to construct the new road embankments. Excavation to form the drainage ponds will be used to construct the realigned General Booth Road and then the old road construction used to form the roundabout and new A82 link road leading to the new swing bridge.	
3.11.	Underpass construction won't start until the clubhouse is demolished so we are looking at October/November for construction. Two way traffic will be maintained on the A82 by building largely off line though this will require the road to be pushed slightly to the North over a short length to complete the work.	
3.12.	Traffic control with traffic lights is anticipated for the road tie ins only.	
3.13.	While there will be test piles driven early on these will be to confirm drivability and educate the design. The main piling work will not be carried out until nearer the canal closure which starts in November.	
4.	Torvean Development Brief	
4.1.	All groups present have been involved with the ongoing consultations. Scott Dalgarno highlighted the different potential land uses for each of the areas as the plan has evolved during the consultation process. Comments are still being assimilated but it is intended to be able to take a final draft plan to the Inverness City Area Committee on 30 th May.	
5.	AOCB	
5.1.	Roy Sinclair requested up to date drawings of the scheme. Bryan advised that they are the same as previously shared with the club but will forward copies of the canal infrastructure drawings once these are up-revved for construction use and issued to the Contractor.	BS
5.2.	Brian Mackenzie commented on the staggered bollard arrangement proposed instead of the large hoop style fences used at stage 1 which Sustrans were not so keen on. Bryan to forward bollard layout detail to Brian.	BS
5.3.	Roy Sinclair and Robert Gordon commented on a potential conflict issue when rowing boats may enter the restricted space between the bridges and felt there is a need for discussion with Scottish Canals to see how this can be managed. SC to be invited to next liaison meeting.	BS
6.	Date of Next Meeting	
6.1.	Monday 3 rd June at 7pm	