

## Inverness West Link Stage 2 - July 2019 Update

### Progress

Works are progressing well on site despite the wet weather we have been experiencing this summer. Fill material is being placed for the new General Booth Road to the North of the A82. Drainage continues across site. The demolition of the clubhouse has now commenced.

The site establishment is now complete.

### Planned Works

The planned works for the next month will consist of:

- The demolition of the club house.
- Installation of drainage and services across the site.
- Installation of trial piles on the canal bank.



Topsoil Strip on the New General Booth Rd



Drainage installation on the new canal access



Aerial photo of the site

## Archaeology

The following is a summary of the archaeology uncovered on the site over the last month.

- Neolithic pit groups: contents of prehistoric ceramic sherds, occasional struck flints and also varying amounts of burnt hazelnut shells, grain and charcoal;
- Prehistoric pit groups: with single fills containing charcoal, fire-cracked stone and the occasional prehistoric ceramic sherds and struck flints; These results are comparable to other sites in the Inverness area; most of them will be Neolithic in date (c.3600-3000 BC) but within the earlier pits there are certainly feature from later prehistoric periods (Bronze Age/Iron Age) and potentially some earlier Mesolithic features
- One definite post-defined roundhouse – expecting this to be Bronze Age or Iron Age
- Flint tool preforms of plano-convex knives and arrowhead
- Very large post-hole alignments – linear or curvilinear – prehistoric, but unclear, possibly Neolithic on the basis that more likely ritual in nature –
- Early Bronze Age Cremation cemetery: group of 8-10 pits, intercutting and containing either unurned or urned cremated bone deposits. It looks like the earlier burials are the pits with unurned cremations deposited in base of pit along with a grave good placed within the cremation (one contained the decorated funerary cup and the other the fragments of a Cu alloy object). Five urns were recovered, two almost whole, the others truncated, with about ¼ surviving.



Perforated Funery Cup

The results are fairly consistent with the other areas of the Torvean Golf Course and IWLR Phase 1 works, and are greatly improving the understanding of the use of the landscape along the Ness on both sides of the glen during multiple periods in prehistory. The small perforated funerary cup is rare indeed.