

Inverness West Link Stage 2 - Community Liaison Meeting No. 6 Monday 23rd November 2020, 7pm Virtual Meeting held via Microsoft TEAMS Group Chat.	
Present	
Cllr Graham Ross (GR)	The Highland Council
Colin Howell (CH)	The Highland Council
Bryan Stout (BS)	The Highland Council
Iain MacLennan (IM)	The Highland Council
Steve Scott (SS)	R J Macleod
Andrew Smith (AS)	Ballifeary Community Council
Barry Kane (BK)	Dalneigh & Columba Community Council
Brian MacKenzie (BM)	Highland Cycle Campaign
Paddy Walsh (PW)	Inverness Rowing Club
Roy Sinclair (RS)	Inverness Rowing Club
George Greig (GG)	Inverness West Community Council
Maria De La Torre (MDLT)	Lochardil & Drummond Community Council

Point	Item	Action
1.	Chairman's Introductions & Purpose of Meeting	
1.1.	Cllr Graham Ross (GR) opened the meeting and welcomed those present; GR went on to thank CH and his team for arranging this virtual meeting, as required by the current pandemic. He commented that the last meeting was held on February the 24 th and great progress had been made since that time despite the period of lockdown.	Note
1.2.	Apologies Malcolm MacLeod The Highland Council Mike Stephens The Highland Council	Note

Point	Item	Action
2.0	Approval of Minutes meeting 5	
2.1	<p><i>(CLM4) 5.2 DR asked if anyone attending the Rowing Club would have to pay parking charges once the new car park was constructed.? Over 600 people attended the recent regatta. At present the Rugby Club and Golf Club do not pay for parking.</i></p> <p><i>CH responded that it was not his area of responsibility and DR should raise the matter with Shane Manning THC Principal Traffic Officer.</i></p> <p><i>(CLM5) PW stated that if parking charges were applied that this would seriously impact on the Rowing Club. It is not unusual for members to attend the rowing club for up to 10 sessions per week. The proposed parking charges per year would potentially be more than the Rowing Club membership fees.</i></p> <p><i>GR said that the proposal for parking charges was being reviewed at the moment, however he believed if given the choice people would rather pay for car parking rather than lose jobs and services.</i></p> <p><i>PW commented that other sporting facilities did not pay parking charges for example the Rugby Club and Aquadome. GR replied that he understood the issue and that consultation would be held.</i></p> <p><i>MDLT said that part of the problem was a lack of buses to the area.</i></p> <p><i>GR replied that Community Partnership were looking into bus provision along with SUSTRANS, HITRANS and Stagecoach.</i></p> <p>Roy Sinclair (RS) said that consultation on parking charges would not be carried out until April 2021 after IWL2 was complete and the Rowing Club would not want their members charged for parking in common with people visiting other sporting venues such as Highland Rugby Club. CH said he would arrange for Shane Manning to contact the Rowing Club.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>CH</p>
2.2	<p><i>(CLM5) 5.4 BS and BM to convene a separate meeting to enable BM to get his points regarding cycling provision tabled.</i></p> <p>BM said this meeting did not take place. BS said this was due to restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, however he would contact BM to arrange a meeting.</p>	BS

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2.3	<i>(CLM5) 5.5 BM said there was no justification for bollards and suggested a guardrail at the end of the path. BS said this would be discussed at a separate meeting BM asked that the minute be changed to record he said that there was no justification for any barrier on the path</i>	Note
2.4	The minutes from meeting 5 were then approved.	Note
3.0	IWL Stage 2 Update RJ McLeod	
3.1	Steve Scott SS, Project Manager RJ Macleod gave a presentation regarding the works progress to date. The report is appended to the minutes in Appendix 1.	Note
3.2	GR asked, following the impact of delay relating to Covid-19 when was the project likely to be completed? SS responded that the project was on programme to be completed at the end of March 2021	Note
3.3	AS asked why the road surfacing was not carried out after the new bridge was open to traffic. SS replied that programming of the works was dependant on canal closures and there were constraints in the Contract regarding timing of the works. AS thought it could have been arranged better and wanted to register his disappointment.	Note
3.4	AS stated that the cope stones on the new wall did not match the wall on Inverness West Link Stage 1. IM commented that this was correct, however they did match both the existing walls and demolished walls within the Inverness West Link 2 project and their appearance was a planning condition that had to be met.	Note
3.5	AS commented on the recent traffic delays and that he felt that although some delay was to be expected there was no consideration given to traffic management at the Tomnahurich Roundabout. GR said that there were a number of ongoing roadworks throughout the city including the installation of high-speed broadband and pedestrian crossings which contributed to delays. GR added that it was good to see traffic flow getting back to normality.	Note
3.6	GR closed this item by thanking SS for the presentation and commented on how well the project was progressing	Note

Point	Item	Action
4.0	AOCB	
4.1	Roy Sinclair (RS) said that consultation on parking charges would not be carried out until April 2021 after IWL2 was complete. The Rowing Club would not want their members charged for parking while attending the rowing club in common with people visiting other sporting venues such as Highland Rugby Club. RS went on to say that some members attended the club in excess of 10 times a week. CH said he would arrange for Shane Manning who is the THC Principal Traffic Officer responsible for car parks, to contact the Rowing Club.	CH
4.2	RS went on to thank RJ McLeod and the Highland Council for maintaining access for the rowing club. This had allowed one member to prepare for Olympic qualification for the upcoming games in Tokyo.	Note
4.3	RS expressed concerns about boat safety when using the canal during bridge swinging. CH said that a meeting had been held between the rowing club and Scottish Canals to confirm arrangements. BS confirmed that a warning light was to be placed on the bridge warning rowers that the bridge was in operation. RS was concerned that because rowers face backwards on a coxless boat this light would not be seen. IM asked RS to collate any questions the rowing club may still have, and a further meeting will be arranged if necessary, to which Scottish Canals will be invited.	RS
4.4	GR mentioned that the SUDs ponds adjacent to the golf course were full of water. BS said that ground investigation works were to be carried out to ascertain if the ponds were functioning as designed. CH explained any investigation would establish the availability of free draining material to allow water to percolate away.	IM
4.5	AS commented that the landscaping works were good	Note
4.6	MDLT thanked SS for his presentation and highlighted the need to maintain access to the canal and crossing points. MDLT went on to ask about plans for additional bus stop on the West Link projects. IM confirmed that there were two new bus stops on General Booth Road. BS explained that it was the intention that buses are routed through the housing estate currently under construction vis the Ness-side and Holm Mills roundabouts. IM agreed to provide clarification of the bus stop locations on IWL2 to BM. SS said that it was the intention to have the East tow path open before the Christmas shut down.	IM

Point	Item	Action
4.7	MDLT asked about the park run in Torvean Park. SS confirmed construction would start in 2021 once the majority of the civil engineering works were complete. CH stated the park run would not be available for the public until the project was complete in March 2021	Note
4.8	MDLT asked about the location of the toucan crossing points on the Trunk Road. IM confirmed that there were three crossing incorporated in the project. CH said that Transport Scotland would not approve the placing of crossings on the A82 Trunk Road at the new roundabout. CH went on to say that ducts had been laid at the roundabout so that if pedestrian crossing were installed in the future there would be no need to dig up the carriageway or footway. GR added that THC may approach Transport Scotland in the future to see if they were more amenable to installing additional crossings.	Note
4.9	BM said he had contacted both BEAR Scotland and Transport Scotland to let them know that the ramp at the newly installed pedestrian crossing on Glenurquhart Road at Smith Avenue was too steep. As yet BM had not received a reply. CH said he would discuss this with Transport Scotland and BEAR Scotland. SS mentioned that there was sometimes an issue with installing pedestrian crossing if there is public utility plant in place which can sometimes result in the ramps being steeper than they should be.	Note
4.10	AS said the paint on the Tomnahurich roundabout was beginning to fade. IM will inspect the roundabout and a decision will be made regarding any action that may be required.	IM
4.11	AS asked if the new section of road accessing Torvean Bridge was to be named? BS responded that it would become part of the A82 and as far as he was aware there was no intention to name it. CH said that naming the road would be a decision for Transport Scotland as they will be ultimately responsible for the road	BS
4.12	AS asked had any consideration been giving to constructing a pedestrian crossing at the end of the new path and the canal cottage close to Tomnahurich Bridge. BS said will review this however it was the intention to have the underpass reopened before Christmas to give pedestrians and cyclists an alternative route.	Note

Point	Item	Action
4.13	IM confirmed that a new path will be constructed by the Contractor, RJ McLeod, at the Holm Mills Bridge to allow access from the canal park up onto IWL1. BM asked for a copy of the plans, IM said he would email a copy of the plans to BM.	THC/ RJMCL
5.0	Date of Next Meeting	
	GR closed the meeting commenting on the progress made despite the impact of the pandemic and thanking those attending and confirmed the date for the next meeting as the 8 th February 2021 at 7pm, due to covid-19 restriction this meeting would also be virtual.	Note