

<b>Inverness West Link Stage 2 - Community Liaison Meeting No. 8</b>	
<b>Monday 22nd March 2021, 7pm Virtual Meeting held via Microsoft TEAMS Group Chat.</b>	
<b>Present</b>	
Cllr Graham Ross (GR)	Councillor, The Highland Council
Malcolm MacLeod (MM)	ECO Infrastructure and Environment, The Highland Council
Colin Howell (CH)	Head of Infrastructure, The Highland Council
Bryan Stout (BS)	Principal Engineer, The Highland Council
Iain MacLennan (IM)	Senior Engineer, The Highland Council
Steve Scott (SS)	Project Manager R J Macleod Ltd
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.	<b>Chairman's Introductions &amp; Purpose of Meeting</b>	
1.1.	Cllr Graham Ross (GR) opened the meeting and welcomed those present to the last Inverness West Link Community Liaison Meeting; GR went on to thank all who have attended and contributed to the meetings over the last 5 years. Attendees have made a huge commitment and very valuable contribution to what has proved to be a very useful and productive group.	Note
1.2.	<b>Apologies</b> Cllr Bill Boyd                      The Highland Council Mike Stephens                      The Highland Council Andrew Smith                      Ballifeary Community Council	Note

Point	Item	Action
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes meeting 7</b>	
2.1	<p><i>(CLM7) 2.1 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></p> <p><i>BM said he had been invited to a meeting tomorrow 9<sup>th</sup> Feb to discuss the bollard position with CH and BS. BM to discuss with MDLT regarding any issues she may want raised.</i></p> <p><i>GR asked that the group be updated regarding the outcome of the meeting.</i></p> <p><b>Update</b> CH updated the meeting confirming a meeting had been held with SUSTRANS and that all the bollards would be placed in accordance with the agreement reached at that meeting. He also confirmed that no bollard would be placed at the end of the adopted road which connects to the tow path to ensure access to the Rowing Club for vehicles.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>BM CH BS</p> <p>BS</p> <p>Note</p>
2.2	<p><i>(CLM7) 2.2 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 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.</i></p> <p><i>MM said that parking charges will be discussed at the Project Board Meeting later this week.</i></p> <p><i>MDLT said that at the last meeting there would be public consultation regarding car park charges. MM confirmed this would still be the case</i></p> <p><b>Update</b> MM will attend the upcoming Highland Council Ward Business meeting to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> March at which he will discuss parking charges.</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>MM/CH</p> <p>MM</p> <p>MM</p>
2.3	The minutes from Meeting 7 were then approved.	Note

Point	Item	Action
<b>3.0</b>	<b>IWL Stage 2 Update RJ McLeod</b>	
3.1	Steve Scott SS, Project Manager RJ McLeod gave a presentation regarding the works progress to date. The report is appended to the minutes in Appendix 1.	Note
3.2	GR thanked SS for a very informative presentation and asked when the bridge would be open to traffic?  SS replied that the bridge was currently being commissioned and now it was scheduled to be opened towards the end of May.	Note
<b>4.0</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
4.1	PW asked could THC confirm that the Torvean Bridge would remain in the open position during regattas to allow boats to pass through?  BS said that the approach road and bridge were under the control of the Highland Council for the first two years after completion and THC would be responsible for ensuring that the bridge would remain open during regattas during this time.  BS will include this condition in discussions with Transport Scotland regarding transferring road and bridge responsibility to them under asset transfer.	BS
4.2	PW brought to the meetings attention that the recently placed buoys at the south end of the new wharf impeded rowing club boats access to their pontoons. He went on to say that the outermost buoy was 2 metres into the canal.  BS explained that the buoys were required to alert boats using the canal to shallow water and the danger of grounding.  IM confirmed that the wharf and canal had being constructed in compliance with the design.  It was agreed there was further discussions to be had regarding the placement of buoys in the canal.  BS said that a meeting would be arranged with Scottish Canals to discuss this matter to which the Rowing Club would be invited.	BS

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4.3	<p>BM said that the recently completed path at Holm Mills Bridge was completed to a high standard and that a wheelchair user had commented that it was useful for accessing that area.</p> <p>CH confirmed it was a best fit solution as there had been an obvious need for it based on demand.</p> <p>BM asked why the path had not been surfaced with asphalt?</p> <p>GR said this was down to cost, but the path would be monitored regarding winter maintenance requirements.</p>	Note
4.4	<p>RS asked about contingency money left in the West Link budget.</p> <p>CH stated that the project was some way from a final account as retention figures for the Contractor had to be calculated, maintenance responsibilities for landscaping for 5 years had to be agreed and compensation for land purchase was also ongoing. CH went on confirm that the project was on budget.</p>	Note
4.5	<p>PW asked had a conduit been placed under the approach road to the bridge to allow cables needed by the rowing club public address system to be pass under the road.</p> <p>BS, IM to confirm arrangements regarding this need and respond to the Rowing Club.</p>	BS/IM
4.6	<p>MDLT commented that it was good to see so much progress. She went on to ask about a pedestrian crossing at the roundabout which did not seem to be in place.</p> <p>IM said he would review the layout and contact MDLT to confirm the layout.</p>	IM

Point	Item	Action
4.7	<p>GR said that the nearly completed parkrun would be a fabulous asset.</p> <p>MM said that a community tidy up could be organised prior to opening to gather litter left by the public. He added discussions would be held with the relevant THC department nearer the opening.</p> <p>MDLT said that Lochardil &amp; Drummond Community Council would publicise any community initiative of this type.</p> <p>IM reminded the meeting that the parkrun would not be open to the public until the project was complete and people should be discouraged from entering this area during the ongoing construction phase.</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>MDLT</p>
4.8	<p>CH said that an opening ceremony would be held to celebrate the completion of the West Link Project and that Community Liaison Group would receive an invitation in recognition of the valuable part they have played over the years.</p>	<p>CH</p>
4.9	<p>GR then closed the meeting by thanking all those who have attended over the years, he said that West Link 1 had proved to be very successful in reducing traffic congestion in the city centre and was sure West Link 2 would equally beneficial to Inverness. He went on to thank both the Contractor, RJ McLeod, and Highland Council Staff for their contribution and for responses to questions raised by the Community Liaison Group over the years.</p>	<p>Note</p>