

YEHAC5002 - CAOL & LOCHYSIDE FPS - COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Approved Minutes for liaison Meeting held on **Thursday 24th June 2021 at 19:30Hrs**
Meeting held virtually on Microsoft Teams due to current restrictions.

1	Introductions
	<p>Allan Henderson (AH) – Councillor – The Highland Council John Gillespie (JG) – Chairman – Caol Community Council Colin Strange (CS) – Secretary - Caol Community Council Joan Laing (JL) – Member - Caol Community Council Garry Smith (GS) – Principal Designer – The Highland Council Iain MacLennan (IM) – Project Manager – The Highland Council Gary Kennedy (GK) – Project Manager’s Representative – The Highland Council Steve Scott (SS) – Project Manager – RJ McLeod</p>
2	Apologies
	<p>Denis Rixson – Councillor – The Highland Council Ben Thompson – Independent Councillor – The Highland Council Dot Ferguson – Ward Manager – The Highland Council Mike Stephens – Project Manager – The Highland Council Florence Cargill (FC) – Assistant Project Manager’s Representative – The Highland Council Carolyn Smith (CS) – Senior Technician – The Highland Council Andrew Ross – Technical Manager – Scottish Canals Linda Campbell – Secretary – Kilmallie Shinty Club Robert Osbourne – Contracts Manager – RJ McLeod Greg Riddle (GR) – Member - Caol Community Council</p>
3	Review of Previous Meeting’s Minutes
	No comments received.
4	Progress
	<p>Overview of project presented by SS, including progress made to date. The presentation is available on THC website (detailed below): https://www.highland.gov.uk/caolandlochysidefloodprotection</p> <p>Programme 1 current Accepted Programme. Programme 2 due to be submitted imminently.</p> <p>SS confirmed that the site is due to close completely for the ‘Trades Fortnight’ holidays. These run from 24/07/2021 until 08/08/2021.</p> <p>JG requested copies of RJM presentation for local circulation. SS committed to provide these.</p>

GK confirmed that the presentation, and approved meeting minutes, would be uploaded to THC's project website. GK committed to have minutes available by end of following week. Approved minutes and RJM presentation will be emailed to all meeting attendees.

JG queried the bund of material along the line of the removed water pipe on the shoreline. Is it likely to be there for long? SS confirmed that any suitable material would be retained on site and that all unsuitable material would be removed from site and taken to an approved tip off site.

GK committed to include THC's Local Area Office in Traffic Management consultations, once a date/time/venue has been confirmed. SS to advise.

5 Transport Management

SS and GK both confirmed that RJM/THC had received the email sent by Greg Riddle, Member of the Community Council, regarding the proposed Construction Traffic Management Plan. The following discussions are partially based around the points raised in the email, and partially on points raised by those attending the meeting.

SS confirmed that proposals to route material deliveries along the unnamed road parallel to the canal, servicing properties on Glenkingie Street/Glenkingie Terrace, had received minimal resident feedback following the recent letter drop. Feedback received included pedestrian safety when using the adjoining footpath accesses to the canal. SS confirmed that signing would be erected and physical chicane arrangements installed on each footpath prior to the commencement of any deliveries.

JG queried the proposed movements for HGV deliveries to the Kilmallie Road section of the works. SS confirmed that HGV deliveries to Kilmallie Road would use the signalised junction of the A830/B8006 (at Lochaber High School) to enter and exit site, after turning within the works traffic management. SS confirmed that the turning activities would be off-route and would have a very limited impact on traffic flow.

JG queried the proposals for pedestrians and cyclists on Kilmallie Road during the execution of the works. SS confirmed that the intention was for cyclists to continue to use the carriageway, and that temporary traffic lights timings would be optimised to provide sufficient time for cyclists to clear the lights. SS confirmed that provision of a segregated footway/cycleway during construction was unachievable in the available space. GS reminded all that the area was 30mph speed limit. GK confirmed that there was limited scope for enhancement of the pedestrian/cyclist provision during construction however the completed scheme would be much better than the current arrangement.

JG queried whether a temporary speed limit would be introduced during the works, and what that speed limit may be. SS committed to liaise with Highland Traffic Management (HTM) and advise of any proposed restrictions prior to the deployment of any traffic management.

JL suggested possibly other routes for schoolchildren accessing Lochaber High School. Along Blar Mhor proposed due to existing footpath provision and levels of illumination. CS suggested through the back of industrial estate could be an option. GK highlighted lack of controlled crossing options on A830 and committed to investigate the status of the new crossing point adjacent to police station with Transport Scotland (currently not operational). GK highlighted lack of illumination and possible safety concerns with path through industrial estate.

JG suggested compliance with social distancing measures difficult with current pavement provision, however GS highlighted that restrictions were due to ease imminently (currently 19/07/2021) so may not be such an issue moving forward.

CS queried whether a convoy system was planned for the TM on Kilmallie Road. SS confirmed that a convoy system was not proposed, that he was enquiring about any possible speed restrictions with the Traffic Management sub-contractor HTM following an earlier enquiry and that it was the expectation of RJM/HTM that traffic speeds would be self-regulating.

GS suggested that signing could be erected to advise pavement user to share the available space. Cyclist Dismount signs could be erected at the approach to each traffic light deployment to reduce any potential risk of conflict between pedestrians and cyclists. SS confirmed that it was RJM/HTM's intention that cyclists would use the carriageway and pedestrians would use the footpath. Signing would be erected to advise cyclists of this, and traffic light timings would be optimised to allow enough time for cyclists to clear any controlled area.

GS reminded all that the completed scheme was designed to improve provision for pedestrians/cyclists however during construction, maintenance of the existing provision was all that was possible due to the various site constraints present.

JG confirmed that the points raised in Greg Riddle's email had been addressed and requested that SS reply to Greg. SS highlighted post-meeting that the meeting minutes would contain all information from Greg's email, along with the discussions and responses associated with each query, so may be a more appropriate method of recording the queries raised and responses given. JG confirmed he was happy with this proposal.

GK confirmed that the sections under traffic management control were reasonably short and that traffic flows, both vehicular and pedestrian/cyclist, would be monitored on site and optimised to ensure that any delays and disruption was kept to a minimum.

JG queried level of feedback received from residents adjacent to the water main pipe welding activities adjacent to Erracht Drive. SS confirmed that no feedback had been received to date.

GS queried access provision to the shorefront during the water main installation works. SS confirmed that existing access points would be maintained wherever possible and that temporary access points would be provided where existing access points are unavailable. GK commented that RJM staff were ever present along the shoreline during works activities and were doing a very good job of informing the public and redirecting them as necessary.

6	Community Liaison
	<p>SS stated a query from a local resident regarding temporary bus stops during traffic management deployment. GK confirmed that the contract included requirements for the provision of temporary bus stops (Appendix 1/17, Item 2.6).</p> <p>JG queried whether AH had received any feedback regarding the scheme. AH confirmed that he has not received any comments to date.</p> <p>JG queried whether the proposed traffic management was likely to happen prior to the proposed site shutdown. SS confirmed that due to the timescales for consultations with stakeholders, etc, the traffic management would not be deployed until after the proposed shutdown (mid-August).</p> <p>JL thanked RJM for their efforts in installing the Community Council notice board, however highlighted that the installation of the associated slabs was still outstanding. SS committed to have the slabs installed ASAP. JL confirmed that the slabs were in RJM's possession.</p> <p>GS highlighted the requirement for community liaison on the proposed landscaping associated with the scheme, particularly along the shorefront section. GS noted that it was some time away, however early engagement would yield the best results. JG asked GS to upload the landscaping plans to the project website inviting comments from the public. GS confirmed that the landscaping plans would be uploaded to the website along with RJM's presentation and the approved meeting minutes. GK confirmed that Landscaping would be retained in 'Community Liaison' for future meetings, to ensure that community feedback is received.</p>
7	AOCB
	<p>GK highlighted the presence of two benches along the shorefront that are not detailed in the contract. One is adjacent to the shopping area and appears to be a memorial bench, and the other is adjacent to the shorefront play park. Both appear to be well used by the public. GK hoping to liaise with owners prior to removal to reassure them that it is a temporary measure. JL to liaise with owners and advise GK.</p> <p>JL raised concern about the Thursday meeting preventing Linda Campbell from attending, as she presents a radio show on a Thursday evening. SS agreed to review meeting dates/times moving forward to enable Linda to attend, however next meeting would still be a Thursday. GK to contact Linda prior to next meeting to keep her updated on developments.</p>
8	Date of next meeting
	Thursday 22 nd July at 19:30 Hrs via Microsoft TEAMS.