

Uig Harbour Redevelopment - COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Minutes for liaison Meeting held on **Thursday 31st March 2022 at 1900Hrs** Meeting held virtually on Microsoft Teams due to current restrictions.

1	Introductions
	<p>Councillor Munro thanked everyone for attending the meeting and opened the meeting with introductions from the members, contractor and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Callum Munro (CM) – Councillor – The Highland Council (Chair) Andrew Maciver (AM) – Principal Engineer – The Highland Council Iain MacLennan (IM) – Project Manager – The Highland Council (THC) Bruce Greig – Site Supervisor – The Highland Council Audrey Holmes – Site Supervisor – The Highland Council Steve Scott (SS) – Project Manager – RJ McLeod (RJM) Sean Melville – Sub Agent – RJ McLeod Man Yim – Engineer – RJ McLeod Owen Nicolson – Engineer – RJ McLeod Stuart Macpherson (SMa) – Head of Strategic Projects – HIE Martin Madigan (MM) – Local Campsite Owner Angus Ross (AR) Local Resident Margaret Freestone (MF) – Local Resident Alan Macrae (AMac) – Local Resident</p>
2	Apologies
	<p>Colin Howell – The Highland Council Garry Smith Andrew Norman Senga Currie</p>
3	Review of Previous Meeting's Minutes
	<p>Previous meeting minutes accepted. Responses to several items from previous minutes below:</p> <p>AR thanks RJM for dealing with issue of bright lights from compound set up so promptly.</p> <p>Following on from last meetings discussions of 7 day working, a drop in session has taken place ahead of this meeting to gauge feedback from local residents. Around 10 people attended the session.</p> <p>SMac asks if 7 day working is required for the entire period of the contract and if a staged lookahead can be provided</p>

	<p>SS confirms that 7 day working will be required for most of the contract and that a high level programme will be shared at future CLG meetings</p> <p>MM expresses that he would prefer if Sunday was used for quieter activities.</p> <p>SM explains that where possible Sunday working will be used for maintenance and proprietary works that allow works to progress at full capacity on Monday.</p> <p>SMac asks has there been any further progress with regards to reducing the speed limit going through the village</p> <p>AM explains that feedback has been passed to Transport Scotland and that further consultation is required before they can promote the order but confirmed that the proposals for a 30mph speed limit to replace the current 30/40/30mph speed limit was supported by the community. CM also expressed that it would good to see this order come to light.</p> <p>AR asks if there has been any progress on stopping cars from turning in driveways before getting to the ferry carpark. MF and MM also express their concerns on this issue.</p> <p>AM has been in contact with CalMac and awaits an answer.</p>
4	Progress
	<p>SS gives update on the project and shows presentation on the current and upcoming works. Presentation added to THC website.</p>
5	Community Liaison
	<p>AR asks if Andrew Normans emails and calculations regarding the dredging have been taken into account.</p> <p>AM confirms that Aecom have been passed the email to review and a respond is awaited.</p> <p>AR asks for the position of the new waiting shelter on the pier, the current shelter is inaccessible during some berthing operations as a gate is closed in front of the shelter.</p> <p>SS and AM discuss that as a 16m extension to the existing berthing structure is being added that there is more space around the new waiting shelter and it shall not need to be closed off. AM adds that a walkway shelter is planned to be installed to provide shelter along the length of the existing Approachway and follows the path of the existing footpath</p>

MM asks why the outage is planned for 10th October when this is the day the schools break up for holidays, would it not be a better idea to wait until after the holiday period?

SS explains that the outage has been pushed back and the dates are based around the ferry being operational again for the following Easter period

MF asks when lorries are planned to begin taking material down to the pier

SS replies that approval of the CEMD which is a requirement of the marine license is yet to be received from Marine Scotland but hopefully this coming Monday 4th April.

AMac questions what the plan shall be for the CalMac staff during the outage period?

CM explains that there shall be a meeting in the Uig community hall next Wednesday 6th April that will discuss in more detail CalMac's plans during the outage period. CalMac are currently broadcasting their plans and visiting all the communities that shall be affected by the outage.

MF questions the plans for the section of croft land that has been purchased by the highland council and what will this be used for?

AM explains that the planning process has begun and that more information is required by the planning department to process the application. The section of land is planned to be used as a temporary compound area during the new terminal building works.

MM responds asking if the planning approval will take as long as the resident next door that took a substantial amount of time for process to be completed.

AM replies that the information requested by the planning service is currently being reviewed by the new terminal building project team and will be provided following review. AM confirmed that MF would be notified when this was uploaded onto THC's planning portal.

AMac asks if there has any further discussion regarding the Island impact assessment.

AM confirms that the need for an Islands Communities Impact Assessment (ICIA) only became a statutory requirement from December 2020 by which point the project was already out to tender for a second time. However, THC have agreed with Transport Scotland's Island's Communities Team that an ICIA will be completed and the process which the project has gone through from development, including consultations carried out as part of the project from 2017, will be formalised within the ICIA. CM also confirms the assessment will be undertaken even though this is not a statutory requirement for this project.

AMac expresses his feelings that this should have been carried out prior to works starting and questions why there is a need to shut the pier for a 6 month period and that this period would never have stood in Ullapool.

AM explains that RJM, THC and the designer have explored every option during the design process and the period of 6 months cannot be reduced due to the complexity of the project. The current closure timescale represents the teams most realistic and deliverable programme.

AMac responds to ask if there shall be a passenger ferry during the outage period.

CM replies stating that this will be discussed in CalMac's meeting next week.

SMac asks if there is a date for this Islands Communities Impact Assessment to begin.

AM replies that the ICIA will follow when CalMac's service continuity plans during the outage are confirmed.

SMac responds explaining that it should be key to do the best we can with regards to influencing the need for passenger ferries and extra transport during the outage period. Also asks how the meeting has been advertised

AM replies that all parties are aware of the issues that are involved with the outage period and that they are working hard to minimise disruption where practicable. The meeting has been advertised on the CalMac website and in the Uig Hall.

CM asks if there are any more questions.

None.

6	Public Relations
	<p>SS reminds everyone that RJM do have an ‘open door policy’ and that If there are any issues that anyone would like to discuss please don’t feel that it is required to be kept until the next meeting. Over the course of the project we will also plan to visit local schools and engage with the local community to ensure everyone is kept informed over the course of the project.</p> <p>CM asks how many staff should be expected to be working on the project?</p> <p>SS replies that over 100 staff will be working on the project not including the terminal building.</p>
7	AOCB
	<p>AM confirmed that HITRANS had identified active travel improvements in Uig which included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speed limit reduction on A855 from 30mph to 20mph from around 225m west of River Rha bridge to junction with A87. 2. Park Terrace to Old Pier Road: On-carriageway pedestrian path delineated by road markings, 1m - 1.5m wide with greater width at pinch points to encourage traffic to slow down (inc vegetation clearance and check existing drainage). 3. Formalised shuttle system with directional priority on River Rha bridge, through signage and narrowing of carriageway with road markings to accommodate pedestrians, and space for queuing vehicles. 4. Signage on the Idrigil Road, directing ferry traffic straight on. 5. Drop kerbing improvements at Uig pier footway/Bakur Bar and the existing pedestrianised area adjacent to the car park, 6. Improve the existing pedestrianised area around the memorial statue. 7. Develop a formalised access path between the proposed compound area for the harbour works and car park – this will require agreement with HIE as landowner. 8. Upgrade the existing bus stop – provide kerb and hardstanding area connected to the adjacent footway. <p>The active travel improvement proposals were welcomed by all parties. SMA requested that when the plans are further developed that the community are consulted on these.</p> <p>SMA asked if the 20mph speed restriction on the A87 would be included within Transport Scotland/BEAR plans for the new 30mph speed restriction throughout Uig.</p> <p>AM advised that this would be confirmed with TS/BEAR.</p> <p>CM closes the meeting and suggests another meeting 12th May and shall be again in person.</p>