

Beauly Primary Stakeholder Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting No. 9

Microsoft Teams

28 April 2025 at 5:45 pm

Present:	
Stakeholders	
Jenny English	Parent Council
Siobhan Grieger	Parent Council
Catherine Rait	Parent Council
Jane Cumming	Chair of Beauly Community Trust
Seona Fraser	Community Council
David Cameron	Senior Case Worker for Kate Forbes MSP
Councillors	
Chris Ballance	
Helen Crawford	
David Fraser	
Emma Knox	
Highland Council	
Robert Campbell	Service Lead Capital Planning & Estate Strategy
Tracey Fraser-Lee	Head Teacher
Dorothy Gibb	Team Leader, THC Estates Team
Fiona Sangster	Estates Co-ordinator
Fiona Shearer	Area Education Manager
In Attendance	
Angela Blake	Beauly Childminder
Hayley Brown	Senior Manager Early Years
Apologies	
Donna Forbes	Beauly Toddler Group
Susie Lockett	Teacher (Beauly PS)
	Beauly Toddler Group

1. RECORDING OF MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC informed the group that the meeting would be recorded for the purpose of the minutes. 	
2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies – Donna Forbes, Beauly Toddler Group, Susie Lockett, Teacher. 	

<p>3. Actions from Previous Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC met with HB and AB to discuss childcare requirements and subsequently invited them to the stakeholder meeting. 	
<p>4. ELC/After School Care in Beauly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC introduced HB who is the Senior Manager Early Years and also AB who is a local childminder in Beauly with aspirations to expand from a home based setting. • HB explained that historically THC had delivered nursery for 3 and 4 year olds directly in THC buildings. • In some instances THC have provided breakfast clubs and after school clubs that are now known as SACC – school aged childcare. • Moving forward there will be opportunities for providers to express a note of interest to deliver the service in a THC building. How this will work in practice is currently under discussion. • AB asked if this was for ELC or SACC and HB replied that it would depend on what the provider wanted to deliver – either or both could be considered. • A recent school build in Aviemore has an ELC facility operated by a Community Group. • HB noted that THC did not build standalone rooms for SACC but that existing rooms such as the ELC room or the dining area were used for that purpose. • RC agreed that THC are looking for a flexible design for spaces to be used for educational purposes during school hours and then for a different purpose at other times e.g. Breakfast club taking place in the dining area before the space is required for school meals. • AB expressed an interest in providing an all day service but could be flexible if for SACC alone. • RC noted that the change to provision of 1140 hours of ELC in recent years came with Scottish Government Funding and that there could be something similar in the future for additional SACC. • HB agreed that a notification had been received about funding for breakfast clubs for existing settings and this was to begin in some locations from August. • JE expressed the need for provision for children under nursery age in Beauly and asked if that would be a possibility during the day. • HB said that as there was no statutory obligation for under nursery age, it was unlikely. • RC agreed that this would not be provided unless there was a change in local government policy. • AB suggested that 2 year old provision might be a possibility. 	

- DF informed the group of a situation where Balnain parents were choosing to enrol children in Drumnadrochit Primary because of issues with wrap around childcare and transport had been provided to resolve the situation.
- DF added that it was important to have breakfast and after school clubs available so that children didn't have to move school.
- HB noted that there was previously an after school club at Beaully Primary but it had closed due to lack of demand.
- JC had understood that community facilities would be part of the school building and that if the consultation showed a demand for something, it would be part of it.
- RC replied that yes, there would be opportunities for co-location in the new building and a case could be made for something that was in demand and additional funding could be sought.
- THC will be looking at this over the next few weeks and will also be looking at other existing buildings in Beaully that could potentially become surplus and available for alternative uses if for example the library moved in to the new school building.
- JC noted that AB has already looked at some other building options for a childcare facility but none were suitable.
- RC suggested that more dialogue on the subject should be had with HB, AB and others to agree on what was the preferred option.
- HC asked about which other buildings were being suggested.
- RC replied that the only THC building would be Phipps Hall.
- JC added that there was also the Church Hall and the Church as well as possibly the Masonic Hall.
- HC wanted to reiterate that it was very clear that the community wanted wrap around care provision and if that can be incorporated she would definitely be backing it.
- RC said that although THC had been looking at various provision for PODs, this was the first time for this type of request.
- HB noted that there would have to be a competitive process and that the provision couldn't simply be agreed with one individual.
- At present THC have an annual contract with partners but that is likely to change to a 3 year contract and added that the provision would need to meet the national standards if 3 and 4 year old provision was to be provided.
- Donna Forbes had provided a question by email in her absence at the meeting – would SACC be provided by THC or Private providers – this had already been covered by HB.
- Donna also added that EQ Sports were currently in the process of setting up an after school club for Kirkhill, Tomnacross, Beaully and Muir of Ord and were planning to transport children to Kirkhill as there was no suitable venue in Beaully at present.
- FShearer noted that EQ sports currently use some other THC buildings. The provision is more activity based but might be a possibility if we had appropriate space.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG confirmed that EQ sports are proposing a mix of various activities and homework support and have issued a questionnaire locally asking what is needed/desired. There are plans to operate on a trial basis in June to determine what works. • DG suggested that there might be possibilities for EQ Sports or similar going forward either as a school let or with a lease of space in the new building as long as there wasn't the need for too much infrastructure to be provided to accommodate it. • DF asked for an update at the next meeting as to what could be provided. 	
<p>5. Site Options - Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC provided a brief recap of the programme and site options. • Site Investigations are ongoing looking at flood risk, transport etc. • Initial feedback shows that there are no major concerns with any of the sites and they are all still on the table. • The planned public event is therefore even more important to get feedback from the local community. • THC have provisionally booked Phipps Hall for 14 May for the event and there will be a period beyond that for feedback forms to be returned. • RC expects to be looking at valuations and comparisons in early June. Site valuations should all be similar as they are all potential housing land so a figure can be estimated based on the number of house plots that could be available. • Hopefully by the end of June a Heads of Terms could be agreed with the landowner and THC can be ready to start design in July. • SG suggested that advertising for the event could be expanded by displaying posters/leaflets in local businesses as it was important to reach people who weren't currently parents/grandparents of pupils in the school. • RC agreed this could be considered to get as much interest as possible. • JC and HC also agreed to assist with publicising the event. 	
<p>6. Works in Existing School – Robert Campbell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC noted that the new kitchen dining unit was due to be handed over this week. Catering staff will take some time to prepare it for use but it should be available to pupils soon. • TFL confirmed that keys for the new unit were to be handed over on Wednesday. The new toilet block has also been added and demolition of existing canteen is planned for the summer holidays. Gate access should also be completed in a few weeks. • RC to set up a call with TFL and Jane Day, Estates Officer, to discuss any additional works required in the existing building. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC is also planning to address miscoding of budgets as part of the financial year end/start. • SG raised concerns about potential plans for the Braeview Car Park to be a drop off point for workers involved in the wind farm and battery storage projects planned in Beaully as this will be the same drop off point currently used by pupils for the school. • DF suggested that as these projects were currently live planning applications, the community should make their concerns known and submit comments. 	
7. Education/School Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F Shearer noted that it was time for Education to finalise staffing allocations etc. and confirmed that she would be in touch with TFL to discuss shortly. 	
8. AOCB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 28 May at 5.45 pm 	