

Inverness Royal Academy Stakeholders Group

Meeting No 6.

Note of meeting on the 19th March 2013:

Those present:

Ron MacKenzie (RM), Ken Allan (KA), Bill Allan (BA), Marlene Stewart (MS) , Alastair McKinlay (AM), Gordon Piper (GP), Philip Shannon (PS), Alasdair Christie (AC), Janet Hackel (JH) and Kenny Murray (KM).

JM Architects – Brian Thomson (BT)

Apologies – Alastair McKinlay (AM), Fraser Parr (FP), Norrie Donald (ND), Catherine Fenwick (CF), Clifford Cooke (CC), Simon Swanson (SS) and Emma Thomson (ET), Jean Slater (JS)

Actions agreed:

- 1. Minute of previous meeting** – the minute of the meeting on the 5th February 2013 was agreed as an accurate record of that meeting.
- 2. Matters arising** – the traffic assessment was outstanding and will be carried forward as an action – **action PS**

Also Steve Barron to be asked to confirm the date for Hub North Scotland Limited's (HNSL) presentation to a full Highland Council meeting – **action RM**

3. Meetings with Community Councils/Parent Councils

The meetings compromised a 10 minute presentation followed by questions.

Largely low-key meetings with main issues raised relating to - timescales, disruption during construction, light pollution, archaeological artefacts, ASN facilities

AC suggested that 2 feeder-Primary School Parent Council reps are invited to join the Stakeholders Group - **action BA**

4. Project update

The New Project Request (NPR) document will be formally submitted to HNSL upon receipt of a signed Key Stage Review document from the Scottish Futures Trust.

This was expected by 22/03/13 – **action RM**

Meeting with TEC Services on 20/03/13 – **action KA**

BT/KA/PS/BA/GP – presentation to IRA staff on 19/03/13 – display boards left in school – staff feedback requested by 28/03/13 – **follow-up actions to be co-ordinated by KA**

BT presentation to Group prompted the following questions:

- ASN – lessons learnt from Drummond School factored into initial layout- follow-up meeting with Bernadette Cairns on 21/03/13 to further progress ASN requirements - **action KA/BA**
- Admin block – it was confirmed that the Admin Block would receive natural light
- Feedback from IRA staff – largely positive
- Staff Room and Library - it was confirmed that they would be inward facing
- Cooking smells in atrium – M&E technology is now so efficient that there would be no obvious cooking smells evident within the building
- Storage space – combination of in-class storage and strict resource management
- Trees – concerns that the building might be too close to trees to north of the site – the site could accommodate the school building being located further south
- Pre Application Planning meeting on 20/03/13 would allow opportunity for initial Planning issues to be raised
- Zebra crossings – are moveable
- Lockers – size and sufficiency
- Natural day-light and thermal comfort – early days, however natural light at 4% could be a challenge in the deeper classrooms on the ground floor. As design progresses these issues could be addressed

Thanks to the project/design team for the excellent progress to date

5. Programme

RM advised that the current intention was to aim for the timescales stipulated within the funding letter received from the SFT. However, it was agreed that this timescale would be reviewed on an on-going basis. On this basis construction start date remains at Spring 2014 with the completed school handed over in either October/November 2015 or March/April 2016

6. Community Benefits

Action – **RM to establish when Miller Construction plan to hold a “meet the buyer” in Inverness equivalent to the event taking place in Wick on 27/03/13**

7. Communication strategy

The following actions were agreed

Communications with press to be routed via Gordon Fyfe in the Highland Council

Web-site - IRA project link to be established in which all project documents would be available . **Responsibility for web-site resides with BA**

Any other competent business – there were no issues raised

Date of next 3 meetings:

23rd April at 18:00

28th May at 18:00

18th June at 18:00