

The Highland Council

Charleston Academy Stakeholder Group

Minutes of Meeting No.3

Wednesday 18th August 2021 at 7pm

Via Microsoft Teams

| Attendees | Initials |
|---|-----------------|
| Highland Councillors | |
| Councillor Alex Graham – Chair | AG |
| Councillor Colin Aitken | CA |
| Councillor Emma Knox | EK |
| Parent Council and Community Representatives | |
| Kate Morris | KM |
| Charleston Academy | |
| Gordon Stewart, Head Teacher | GS |
| Helen Hunter, Depute Head Teacher | HH |
| Shaun Foster, Principal Teacher | SF |
| Jonathan Richards, Principal Teacher | JR |
| Highland Council Officials | |
| Robert Campbell, Estate Strategy Manager | RC |
| Jane Day, Estates Officer | JD |
| Kenny Murray, Education Officer | KM |
| Philip Shannon, Consultancy Manager | PS |
| Fiona Shearer, Area Education Manager | FS |
| Highlife Highland Officials | |
| Simon Swanson | SS |
| Apologies | |
| Councillor Helen Carmichael | |
| Councillor Margaret Davidson | |
| Minute: | |
| Jane Day | |

| Item | Discussion and comment | Action |
|-------------|---|---------------|
| 1.0 | Introduction | |
| 1.1 | Councillor Alex Graham opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and introducing Councillor Colin Aitken to the group. | |
| 2.0 | Minutes of previous meeting | |
| 2.1 | The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 rd June were approved. | |
| 3.0 | Project and design masterplan update | |
| 3.1 | The Project Team have continued to develop the design masterplan working closely with colleagues in Planning.. | |

| Item | Discussion and comment | Action |
|------------|--|--------|
| 3.2 | An updated masterplan is being finalised and will include an area for a long-term replacement of Kinmylies Primary School adjacent to the campus. A copy of the masterplan will be distributed when available. | RC/JD |
| 3.3 | A meeting was held with GS to review the impact of an increasing school roll on individual subjects and to identify where additional classrooms would be required. This helped to confirm the subjects to be prioritised for inclusion in the new building, and the number of classrooms required. | |
| 3.4 | £7.7M of capital funding has been allocated for the project. A bid for additional capital funding is being prepared that would allow a larger extension block to be built as part of the first phase. It is planned that a report on the capital programme will be submitted to the Council meeting on 28th October. | |
| 3.5 | This larger extension block would incorporate Science, Technical, Art and Music, with the single storey block at the front of the main building demolished and the car park area extended. The vacated classrooms would be used for other subjects, external changing rooms and other ancillary areas. Home Economics will be improved with a newly formed corridor and an entrance to the front. | |
| 3.6 | Replacement roof coverings will be required on the main building. An asbestos survey will be carried out which will help to determine the scope and timing of the work. | |
| 3.7 | It is likely that there would be a review of secondary school catchment areas across Inverness if a new school at East Inverness is approved. This may only have a marginal effect on Charleston Academy. | |
| 3.8 | KM: Is the project being funded by Highland Council and the Scottish Government, and will the bid be up against Culloden Academy? RC: The Highland Council is fully funding both of these projects. A commitment was made at the Council meeting in June to allocate additional funding for Culloden so Charleston will have to be considered along with other priorities that have been submitted for the review of the Council's capital programme. | |
| 3.9 | There was a discussion on what lobbying could take place to support the bid for additional funding, by highlighting the conditions in the main building to raise the profile of the project. | |
| 4.0 | AOCB | |
| 4.1 | The next meeting will be held on 15th September at 7PM via Microsoft Teams. (Subsequently rearranged to 17th November 2021, with interim update provided to Parent Council representatives) | |
| 4.2 | The meeting was concluded at 19.30. | |