

1.PRESENT: Norman Muir, Peter Brown, Roger Ferdinand, Tariq Durrani, Nigel Millar, John Tacchi, Norman McNally, Roger Clarke, Sarah Davies, Stewart Noble, Stephen Clayton, David Sinclair,		
Public: Cllr Lorna Douglas, Ross Hanvidge,(HA). John Macpherson (Rotary), Jackie Hood (Skatepark)		
APOLOGIES: Irina Agostinelli, David Allen, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None		
MINUTES: There were no minutes for the meeting held 17.12.20.		
2. TREASURERS REPORT No change from previous report 25.11.20	SN	DONE
3. POLICE REPORT Helensburgh CC Police Report Jan 2021 General crime and incident statistics remain favourable year on year, no particular spike in any crime trends.		
Cont/		

POLICE REPORT Cont/

Fraud and attempted fraud are rising, with random phishing phone calls, texts and emails seeking payment to allow access to bank details. E.G.

- Numerous methods from HMRC promising a tax return or notifying of outstanding tax to be paid.
- Alleged bank protocols, online accounts alleged to be hacked but the caller is in fact the hacker looking for access.
- Amazon Prime outstanding invoice to be paid.
- Investment opportunities

It is bordering on impossible for police to detect, most fraudsters seem to be sitting abroad. Police are looking to get more warnings onto social media and into traditional media to alert people.

Numbers of public nuisance calls this year has spiked, 100% down to covid regulation breaches and the reporting of same.

Police are aware of common speeding locations and now have 2 laser speed detection devices out regularly.

We are issuing fixed penalties for flagrant breaches of the travel restrictions and will continue to do so. Numbers have eased off in the last couple of weeks. Traffic volume through the town will never be low due to the shift numbers attending Faslane, Coulport and the Glen Mallan jetty expansion.

CCTV; A&B have taken delivery of a brand new CCTV camera that is being trialling down at the front.

Overall the covid situation and the associated restrictions continue to dictate police operations.

N.Millar: Requested more details on drunk driving and drugs. **NM** to request

- **SD.** Requested more info on phishing emails on Covid vaccinations
- **RC.** Stated that he thought most people were now savvy about Covid Scams.

NM

4. SKATE PARK PRESENTATION: Jackie Hood

Helensburgh Skatepark Project (HSP) formed in 2018 to raise awareness of the problems and received 1,800 signatures of support to keep the facility.

Two open days have been held and received good support and publicity. Third open day postponed due to Covid.

Since 2019 HSP has continued to work with John Gordon to identify temporary alternative sites. However the East Bay, Kidston Park and Hermitage Park have all been ruled out. The equipment has been removed from the site and stored by Heron Bros. The skatepark will be out of commission for 22 months until 2022.

There is a commitment to restore the skatepark to an area 22m x 23m once work has been completed on the Swimming Pool. However the site is yet to be identified, a section 41 application for full planning permission required. A long term lease will be a requirement. The cost of a concrete park would be approx £150k.

Funding of £50k would be required prepare land for a temporary location, Heron Bros are on board and John Gordon understood to be supportive.

NMCIN: Attended both Open Days

Asked if it were exclusively for skateboarders / roller skaters and what are differences between concrete and existing equipment.

Ans. Concrete or metal is best , skatelite is good but wooden ramps would be subject to rot at waterfront site. Local skater Chris Kyle is a Red Bull rider and uses the existing ramps.

RF: Has experience of organising roller skating from the 1980's and would be happy to assist.

CIIrLD: How much control does HSP have over space?

Ans: Ideal area would be 53m x 27m but likely to be reduced to 26 x 23. Once land has been raised land to be prepared once tarmaced equipment to be re-instated. Planning permission and lease required.

PB: Need to define location before applying for Sec 41 planning. A&B has decision if it goes ahead.

5. TOWN ENTRY SIGNS PRESENTATION: John Macpherson (Rotary)		
In a joint initiative between HCC and Rotary Norman Muir, John Macpherson, Tariq Durrani and Roger Ferdinand have been working on a proposal to replace the Town Entry signs that are looking very dated and hard to read. Hermitage Academy and Lomond Schools were invited to offer input into the initial design stage. John Macpherson gave a presentation of the development of two design options that resulted and asked for preferences and comments from the meeting. Those who offered opinions were unanimous in their preference for the option that they considered to be the more clear and simple. The consensus was for John and Roger to work together to progress to a final design that incorporates suggestions made at the meeting with regard to typography, inclusion of graphic of the Comet, Hill House and to leave out the Dolphins logo. The blue wavy lines to be placed beneath the Hill graphic. The result to be presented at the February meeting.	RF/ JMP	
 6. TV Centenary: Stewart Noble Further consideration was given to suggestion that events and an exhibition be held in 2026 in the town to mark the centenary of the invention of television by John Logie Baird. A decision need to be made as to the location of the exhibition taking into account the security of the exhibits. NMillar: Suggested that BBC and STV to be approached to become involved. Project team of SN, NMillar, TD, SD, JT. 	SN	

7. CYCLEWAY HERMITAGE TO TOWN CENTRE

Further discussion of this ongoing subject to try to establish a strategy to move it forward. HCC are currently focussing attention on the route between Hermitage Academy and the Town Centre. Available information indicates that this would be the last part of the project to be completed in 2026/27.

Comments:

NM: A&B appear to be not interested.

JT: Has NMcIN any stats on the cycleway from the Vision for Helensburgh Survey.

Ans. Few mentions of cycleway in survey.

JT: Re-iterated that his grandson who attends Hermitage states there is no demand for cycling - considered 'not cool'

RC: Asked if there is a need?

SN: Bike shelters are being removed.

SD: Does not want to drop it. Primary pupils are cycling and one day will be going to Hermitage.

PB: Primary pupils are being encouraged to cycle.

NM: To write to Colin Young to explain concerns over delay and attempt to kick start the project.

NM

AOB:		
SD: Will attend the Community Planning Group Meeting. Suggested she refers to NM article in the HA and raises the subject of the cyclepath.		
NM: Asked that we make more use of the website. Progress co-option of new members Ann Langley and Stewart Steel.		
SN: Can we establish if Taylor Wimpey will be installing gas fired heating at Golf Club development or use nett zero systems.	N. Millar	
JT: A&DH met 28.01.21 and have made contact with Taylor Wimpey.		
SN: PPSL - 11 of 15 rejected Portincaple Development		
WEBINARS The next webinar will be held at 7.00 pm Thursday 4th February. The subject will be Henry Bell and the comet presented by Stewart Noble.		
Prepared by RF.		