



MINUTES OF HCC MONTHLY HYBRID MEETING 31.03.22	ACTION	STATUS
<p>1. PRESENT IN PERSON FOR HCC: Norman Muir, Roger Ferdinand, Norman McNally, Roger Clarke, Tariq Durrani, Nigel Millar. Cameron Foy, Sarah Davies, David Allen, Stewart Steel.</p> <p>HCC PRESENT BY ZOOM David Sinclair, Stewart Noble, Elizabeth Lambert, Maurice Corry,</p> <p>PRESENT BY ZOOM FOR A&B COUNCIL Cllr Richard Trail. Cllr Lorna Douglas.</p> <p>PRESS / PUBLIC BY ZOOM: Vivien Dance, Tristan, Christine Woods, Tracey Mayo, Clive Charters</p> <p>IN PERSON: Martin O'Brien</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Peter Brown</p> <p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None</p> <p>MINUTES: TD had requested an amend to the minutes with regard to the Rotary not being included in VFH. RF replied that he had checked his notes and could not support the request also it had been shared to all HCC effectively making the change. The minutes of the February meeting stand. Proposed by David Allen as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>		
<p>2. FINANCIAL REPORT SN ; Treasurer's Report was circulated 30.03.22 changes from previous report are self explanatory.</p>		
<p>3. VISION FOR HELENSBURGH NMCN Gave a powerpoint presentation illustrating the timeline of VFH and the findings of the exhibition held 12/13 March. Approximately 1000-1200 attended the exhibition. Overall feedback was positive, upbeat and forward looking. Outcomes from Dot Sticking showed that Amenities and Attraction were the priority closely followed by the Environment with Maintenance and Repair and Mobility and Opportunity also showing a good response and communications the least.</p> <p>Cont/...</p>		

4. VISIONS FOR HELENSBURGH Cont/...

Four main issues resulted from those attending:

- > **Waterfront strategy** : Kidston to Craigendoran in particular The Pier and no retail on the front.
- > **Environment**: litter, maintenance, planning, surroundings, townscape, water quality.
- > **Amenities** : for youth, visitors , young families.
- > **Local Connectivity/ mobility**: local transportation formats

Things that fall apart: the initiatives and reports prior to VFH lost momentum and were not driven forward through the development and delivery stages.

Old Swimming Pool Area: Use for retail was firmly rejected and it was proposed that the space be regarded as stalled space until an acceptable permanent vision is developed.

NOW WHAT

VFH has completed their job .

It is now the responsibility of the whole of HCC to accept ownership of the initiative and to lead the project forward.

Each HCC member to consider which of the 4 areas they wish to be involved in then form a project team to deliver the outcome.

RF Proposed a vote of thanks and congratulation to Norman McNally and his team for a job well done and delivered.

Asked when the analysis of the **MC** data would be ready.

NMiller Suggested Pop Up retail could be considered.

NMcN Commented that would be dependent on scale and purpose.

CFoy Asked if it was known how much revenue A&B are looking to generate from the site.

NM Understood they are looking for £1m.

RF Remarked that A&B were let off the hook for £5m by the money **MC** received from Westminster. If A&B were to put £1m back in the pot it would resolve the issue.

NM

SS Stressed that it was important to take the results to the council.

NM To write to Douglas Henry to insist that HCC be involved and to get a sit down with him .

SD Remarked that it was an amazing weekend with excellent discussion and engagement.

It was noted that thanks to the independent retailers and entrepreneurs that Helensburgh town centre did not die during the pandemic.

Viv Dance representing the Chamber of Commerce

This is a watershed moment for the town.

No budgets were set to implement the findings of the Ice Cream Survey

CONT/....

VFH cont/...

Viv Dance

We now have a clear steer from the VFH Exhibition and need to resolve what happens to the rest of the site once the old pool is demolished. Douglas Henry seems to regard use for retail as set in stone by the master plan but does not accept that planning moves on. HCC need to resort to Scottish Govt planning to amend the master plan to reflect the views of the public.

NM Agreed with Viv and stated that it was important for HCC and the Chamber to work together.

NM To go to A&B with VFH results .

Starting position to be that the 'grey area' be set aside at the moment until proposals get the agreement of the community.

NM proposed to circulate his letter to DH asking for a meeting between A&B, HLCC and HCC.

RF seconded and was passed unanimously.

4. WATERFRONT

The subject had been comprehensively covered under VFH.

5. COUNCIL ELECTIONS

DA Suggested that the views of the candidates on important issues should be known in advance of the elections.

RC Advised that the list of candidates had been posted on the A&B website.

SD Declared that she is standing as a candidate for Helensburgh Central.

SN Concerned that if candidates stated their position the developer could then ask to exclude them from the process.

Viv Dance Explained that prior to election candidates can express their views but cannot do so once elected.

We need to know their views if elected on the 'grey area' of the waterfront.

Nigel Millar Declared that he is also standing as a candidate for election as a councillor.

SD Advised that postal votes will go out mid April.

MC Declared that he is standing as a candidate for Lomond North. If elected he would still wish to lead on the Pier project.

SS Stated that it is incumbent on us to have a two pronged approach.

6. HCC CONSTITUTION

NM Has circulated and informs that the only change is to allow Hybrid meetings.

SD Suggested that the minutes of HCC meetings should be placed on the notice boards.

NM Stated that only what had been agreed should go on the notice boards with a note that the full minutes are available on the HCC website.

7. PLANNING

NMillar **Golf Course**

An extension to the end of April has been requested.

A&DH are preparing their assessment on the design of the houses and the clubhouse.

Their opinion is that the clubhouse is good but not good enough as it will be visible from the town.

As soon as it is ready it will go to the planners.

SN Offered to lead on the subject of site access. He has already completed a transport assessment and has 30 signatures on a petition to propose a link from the clubhouse to the Blackhill site.

There is no firm definition of 20min to shops, all facilities in town do not meet this requirement.

As previously stated the application runs to 270 pages of which 240 are appendices.

Apparently there is no definition of what comprises a queue.

NM Whatever is done it needs to be circulated to HCC.

SN To distribute.

DA Asked why the developer has not put infrastructure such as shop, chemist, play park in place at the start of the build for example as in the development at Torres Glen Inverness.

RC Agreed this is a good argument but HB is restricted by green belt and does not have a brown site available.

SS Asked what is the developer doing for the community?

NM Advised that it is in the LDP as to what is accessible in 20min.

SD Advised that the plan says there will be no shops but 736 parking places will be provided on the site.

SN Raised the important point that it is the duty of PPSL committee to evaluate the plan against the Local Development Plan.

NMillar LDV is a reflection of the National Plan. If a decision is made against the developer they can appeal. However if the decision is against the community there is no right of appeal.

NM If the Inverness developer can provide infrastructure why can this not be done in Helensburgh?

NMillar Stick with what is in the Local Plan but we can ask the question.

NMcN We need to be more proactive and up our game by creating better relationships with planners.

SN We have to comment on the application as it is not on how we want it to be.

NMcN Understands that Chris at the Golf Club wants access from Blackhill for service access however he understands there is a place of archaeological interest on the footpath

NMillar

SN

WIP

8. ROUNDUP

NM /RC To meet with Hugh O'Neil from A&B roads with whom we have a good relationship. Please report any issues to NM/RC.

RC It is important to also report issue to A&B and get a reference number to enable tracing.

SD There are still 9 bulbs out in Colquhoun Square, has waited 2/3 weeks before chasing and promised would be dealt with within 5 days but no work done as yet.

Have repaired light in car park but not able to repair others until have spoken with lighting team.

SN Lighting column blown down in East Rossdhu during storms.

Cameron Foy Reference numbers are for specific items. Disabled bays are not clearly marked.

RC Council were to conduct a survey of use of disabled bays

SD 30 people turned out for beach clean. Shrub beds next. Thanked HCC for working on Plastic Free Helensburgh accreditation. The charity has been shortlisted for a National Award.

NM Bins survey to be completed.

SD Noted bins in Lochgilphead are twice the size of those in Helensburgh.

9. PUBLIC INPUT

NONE

10. AOB

TD Webinar series completed. New ideas welcomed

MC. Pier Project

VFH Exhibition has brought forward some new engineer skills input.

MC has met with Commodore of Base re the pier.

Has met with great support from the community.

Prepared by RF 06.04.22.

Next hybrid meeting 28.04.22 Council Annexe or register with Tariq to participate via zoom.