



## **Minutes of HCC Monthly Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

### **Civic Centre Annex 7pm**

The meeting was chaired by Norman Muir.

#### **Welcome**

Present for HCC: Norman Muir, Roger Clarke, Nigel Millar, Cameron Foy, Howard Green, Elizabeth Lambert, Peter Brown, Norman McNally, Stewart Steel, Tariq Durrani, David Sinclair, Polly Jones, Richard Trail, Joanna Pryce, Wendy Hamilton, Sarah Davies, Irina Agostinelli, Stewart Noble, Paula McIntosh, Jonathan Meuli

#### **Apologies:**

Public in Person:4

Argyll and Bute Councillors: Math Campbell-Sturgess, Fiona Howard, Ian MacQuire

#### **Declaration of Interest**

None

#### **Agenda 2 Approval of Documents from Inaugural Meeting**

Minutes, Signed Constitution, Approved Standing Orders, Declaration of Interest Protocol, Model Complaints Process: approved

#### **Action**

#### **Agenda 3 Treasurer's Report**

Largely unchanged financial position: Bill for £100 room hire will show up next time. Treasurer will contact Argyll & Bute to confirm status of insurance policy

#### **Action:**

#### **Agenda 4 Remembrance Ceremony**

Attended by more than 1000 local residents. This is organized annually by HCC. Thanks to Norman Muir for leading on this, and to HCC members for supporting on the day. Noted that Hermitage Primary would like to be involved next year

#### **Action:**

#### **Agenda 4 Planning Update – Nigel Millar**

Written report was circulated to all members. Campbell Street application attracted 22 objections, including HCC, and has been rejected by A&B. Navy intention to demolish buildings on South side of Churchill Square, with intention of extending play area and green space: noted. Nigel Millar explained how HCC's involvement in planning process works. Planning Applications can be found on A&B database.

#### **Action:**

New Councillors to indicate if they want to be part of the planning group

#### **Agenda 5 Waterfront development**

Peter Brown and Cameron Foy presented history and context for the current situation. Large supermarket proposals have been rejected several times in the last 30 years. Retail survey from 2011 suggests that there is not unsatisfied demand, and that major new provision might affect existing businesses. Vision for Helensburgh process, led by HCC, suggested that residents would prefer this area being developed for community and leisure purposes. A meeting was held between A&B officers and a group from HCC over the summer, at which proposals for a retail development and small skateboard park were put forward. Further meetings were to be scheduled but have not yet appeared. A Freedom of Information request from HCC for the plans was rejected by A&B, and is being appealed with the Scottish Information Commissioner. HCC are planning a website for further community input on this issue. HCC believes that the Community Empowerment Act requires it to be fully involved in the process for deciding a way forward. It was suggested that a community buyout might be an option.

#### **Action:**

Norman Muir to continue pressure for meaningful discussion between A&B and HCC. Norman McNally, Peter Brown, Cameron Foy and Stewart Steel to progress the website launch and continue gathering information.

<b>Agenda 6 Town Improvement</b>
A successful meeting was held between Tom Murphy (A&B officer) HCC and Plastic Free Helensburgh. It was agreed that new bins would be provided and old broken bins removed in line with the joint survey presented to A&B.
<b>Action:</b>
HCC to monitor implementation.
<b>Agenda 7 Licensing</b>
Agreed that Norman Muir would continue to monitor applications.
<b>Action:</b>
Other HCC members encouraged to get involved.
<b>Agenda 8 Communication Group</b>
A group of HCC members with web and social media skills have met with a view to improving HCC communication with the community. Currently this is Jonathan Meuli, Polly Jones, Cameron Foy, Joanna Pryce, Elizabeth Lambert, Stewart Steel and Sarah Davies.
<b>Action:</b>
Further meeting
<b>Agenda 9 December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting</b>
December's meeting will take a different format. Members to suggest areas for inclusion and community groups to be invited.
<b>Action:</b>
Contact the convenor or secretary with suggestions.
<b>Agenda 10 A&amp;B Councillor's reports</b>
Moved to next meeting to accommodate urgent business.
<b>Other business 1: Churchill shop closure</b>
Taylor Cameron (resident) and Polly Jones reported on the proposed closure (8 <sup>th</sup> Jan) by Morrisons of the McColls shop and post office on Churchill Estate, which will create serious difficulties for local residents. HCC agreed to support a campaign and public meeting to protest this action. The HCC has already written to Morrisons. Need to contact the MoD and Post Office.
<b>Action</b>
Norman Muir to write letters as above. Polly Jones, Jonathan Meuli and Taylor Cameron to keep HCC informed.
<b>Other business 2: Beach Clean</b>
Jonathan Meuli raised the need for an East Bay beach clean after recent storm. Difficulty as to how rubbish is to be disposed of.
<b>Action:</b>
HCC and PFH to investigate feasibility