



Minutes of HCC Monthly Meeting Civic Centre 31st August 2023

The meeting was chaired by Norman Muir.

Welcome

Present for HCC: Norman Muir, Roger Clarke, Nigel Millar, Cameron Foy, Howard Green, Elizabeth Lambert, Stewart Steel, Tariq Durrani, David Sinclair, Polly Jones, Stewart Noble Paula McIntosh

Apologies: Irina Agostinelli, Peter Brown, Norman McNally Richard Trail, Joanna Pryce, Wendy Hamilton, Sarah Davies, Jonathan Meuli

Public in Person: 22

Argyll and Bute Councillors: Fiona Howard, Paul Kennedy, Cllr Ian MacQuire

Arising from minutes Roger update on gorse path, Jon Urquhart had managed to resolve the issue with Luss estates

Declaration of Interest

None

Police Report

None

Treasurers Report

The hire of skips for beach cleans paid out of money from the Community Fund have been the only transactions since the last report.

Planning report

Annex A.

Waterfront Development

The Waterfront group showed the drawings that they had drawn to show the various options that would be possible. Incorporating the community preference for community leisure, provision for youth and also space for retail. The HCC would wish the design to be attractive and incorporate features that would be a draw to bring visitors to the town while also serving the needs of local residents.

There was discussion about the skatepark and wanting the best skatepark that we can have whether that is outside or under cover ideally it will be at competition standard.

The question was asked about car parking and whether we need that provision to be at the front? Cllr MacQuire pointed out that spaces have already been reduced from previous provision. CF also presented the requirement for increased coach parking.

Action HCC to produce better quality images of the ideas based on community feedback.

Agenda 5: Skatepark/BMX park

Paula McIntosh reported back from her experience as a steward at the UCI Cycling Championships in Glasgow. Showcasing upcoming Scottish hopefuls and medal winners.

There is a real interest in these sports and we owe it to our youth to provide the facilities.

Agenda 6 Community Empowerment

Report from Stewart Noble SN and NMuir had met with Pippa Milne and Douglas Hendry but there was no solution to be found at Council level. The balance could not be found between being unbiased for the developer and reflecting local input and wishes.

Fiona Baker recommended contacting Planning Democracy for advice.

Action. SN and NM will draft a petition for the Scottish Govt to be discussed at a future meeting.

Agenda 7 Local Place Plan

Community Planning Partnerships are possibly the way to deliver what the community wants for a future Helensburgh. The Council have the resources to assist us however it will be a large undertaking. We will need to consider the timings and methods of such an undertaking.

Action. The HCC were in agreement that it was a good plan but no decision was made at this time to

proceed.

Agenda 8 Community Planning Partnerships

The HCC were in agreement that many of our issues are shared by our neighbouring CC's and working together would be advantageous.

Action. No decision was made as to the method of working together. Cllr Paul Kennedy suggested that sending representation from the HCC to other CC meetings might be a way forward.

Agenda 9 Venue for Future Meetings

The majority preferred the Marriage room to the Annex for acoustics and space. Until a better or cheaper venue is found meetings will be at the Civic Centre.

AOB

Items which had been proposed under AOB will be progressed and reported on at next meeting

Proposed visit to Le Taillan was outlined by Nigel Miller

Proposed Talent Show in Dec organised by Music in the Square – Tariq Durrani

Innovation Hub launch event – Nigel Miller

JLB Centenary event for 2025/6 – Described by Stewart Noble – requires volunteers from the HCC or Helensburgh community to help plan the events and write funding bids.



This could be a fantastic event and draw for visitors plans include an exhibition at Hermitage Primary, Educational Packs for schools, a trail, talks and a conference.

Action – any volunteers or queries regarding these items to contact the lead person named.

Next Meeting October 26th 2023

Annex A

HCC PLANNING GROUP REPORT AUGUST 2023

APPLICATION NUMBER	ADDRESS	APPLICATION	OPPOSE/ SUPPORT	PG ASSESSMENT
23/01355/PP	36 West King Street	2 new detached dwelling houses with gardens at rear Sited on the junction between Werst King Streete and John Street	Support	This development is welcomed. The houses are on a long-term vacant site opposite Helensburgh Library and next door to non-descript single storey commercial properties. Their design is fairly distinctive and very different from its neighbours and add to the design variety of properties in this location. They do not clash in terms of their finishes, scale and massing.
23/01415/LIB	76 John Street	Alterations to existing store within domestic garage to form new summer house.	Support	<p>Current Store</p>  <p>Proposed</p>  <p>Interesting one this. The current store is an extension. To be replaced with a new summer house whose fenestration is more in keeping with its illustrious William Designed parent built in 1889.</p> <p>The Design Statement attached to the application gives a detailed history of the building along with a description of what is being proposed.</p>