



Minutes of HCC Monthly Meeting Civic Centre 28th September 2023

The meeting was chaired by Peter Brown.

Welcome

Present for HCC:, Peter Brown, Roger Clarke, Nigel Millar, Cameron Foy, Howard Green, Elizabeth Lambert, Stewart Steel, Tariq Durrani, David Sinclair, Polly Jones, Paula McIntosh, Norman McNally, Richard Trail, Joanna Pryce,

Apologies: Irina Agostinelli, Sarah Davies, Norman Muir, Stewart Noble

Public in Person: 6

Argyll and Bute Councillors: Fiona Howard, Paul Kennedy, Math Campbell-Sturgess

Both our Chair Norman Muir and Secretary Sarah Davis have been unwell therefore the Vice Chair has stepped in. Best Wishes to both are passed on from the HCC.

Since our last meeting both Wendy Hamilton and Jonathan Meuli have stepped down to focus on other work. The HCC would like to express their thanks especially for the work Jonathan did on the new website and for the work Wendy has done setting up the New Helensburgh Business Group.

Declaration of Interest

None

Approval of Minutes

David Sinclair – approved the minutes which were seconded by general consensus.

Police Report

Circulated with apologies from Inspector Barry Convery.

It was noted that the report would be more insightful if the events were listed in chronological order.

2.Treasurers Report

The hire of skips for beach cleans paid out of money from the Community Fund Plus room hire for meetings have been the only transactions since the last report. We have had more skips than have been paid for both Roger and Norman have yet to submit their receipts

3.Planning report

September pdf.

Nigel's planning report has been well received by the HCC and thanks were expressed for the work he puts into it.

The battery farm was the subject of much discussion arising out of the three pre application consultations. It was acknowledged that the developer has made changes due to the feedback from the community. Further change the HCC would like to see include the provision of a Community Fund which could be administered by the HCC for the benefit of the Community in the same way as similar Solar and Wind farms have proposed.

Action To respond to Ylem Energy about the Community Fund proposal

The application to build two houses near Rhu Road Higher invoked discussion around possible flooding risks. Roger noted that the plans include large soakaways for rainwater from the gutters etc.

Action Nigel to respond to the planning application including flooding concerns

4.Waterfront Development

Peter gave an update of the Waterfront development following the Council meeting. He acknowledged the achievement of the Skatepark group in achieving a commitment for the placement of the Skatepark on the waterfront unless an alternative site is more suitable.

The HCC bid has been accepted and will move forward to the next stage.

As part of the bid space will be required to be set aside for the skatepark as well as for 36 car spaces within the bid.

Norman McNally noted that the criteria stipulated by the Council does not include Public Realm as agreed in the MasterPlan.

Action The Waterfront Group will meet to develop the bid to meet the various criteria stipulated. The Group currently includes, Peter, Paula, Polly, Nigel, Norman McNally and Cameron. Other HCC members are welcome to join when the meeting date is set.

Agenda 5: Music in the Square

There was lively discussion concerning the proposed event "Christmas Talent" including whether the HCC could support this event at such a busy time especially when we are missing two office bearers.

It is not clear if the events are led by the school, HCC, or Music in the Square. It was noted that although supporting the Youth is one of our priorities there are other Community Music groups in need of support. In future it would be better to have a longer lead time towards proposed events to allow HCC members to make time free to be involved.

It was proposed that Spring would be a more agreeable date to work towards and the HCC would like to see a written proposal before agreeing to support future events.

A vote was held on whether to proceed with Christmas Talent on 15th Dec the Vote was in favour of not proceeding.

Action Music in the Square to meet with the treasurer to discuss plans for budgets for future events. Future Event proposals to be clearer as to the budget, the aim of the proposal, the actions and stakeholders required to organise the event and the role of the HCC if the event is under our name.

Agenda 6 Le Taillan

Report from Tariq had been circulated before the meeting proposing the areas for mutual benefit to be explored during a reciprocal visit.

Action. HCC to respond to the letter received from le Taillan

Agenda 7 Community Empowerment

In Stewarts absence the item was postponed until next meeting.

AOB

A new Cycle Path Group has been set up to progress the Cycle Path from Helensburgh to Cardross.

Richard Trail volunteered to represent the HCC at these meetings.

A New Climate Action Hub is being formed for Argyll funding by Scottish Government and Supported by TSI. With a remit to support local communities with education, project support and sharing best practice in lowering carbon emissions. – Elizabeth Lambert will represent the HCC

Sat 30th HCC Beach Clean at Pier 10am led by Roger Clarke all welcome

Wed 18th October 6:30pm Pillar Hall – Helensburgh Business Meeting all welcome.

Roger Clarke reminded the HCC that planning is underway for the Remembrance Service at Hermitage Park 12th Nov 10:45 which is organised by the HCC together with the Base and the local British Legion group.

Roger will attend a meeting on Monday and will update us next meeting.

Support will probably be required on the day from HCC for stewarding etc as last year.

Next Meeting October 26th 2023