



## Minutes of HCC Monthly Meeting

### 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025 Civic Centre Annex 7pm

The meeting was chaired by Peter Brown

#### Welcome

**Present for HCC:** Nigel Millar, Cameron Foy, Howard Green, Elizabeth Lambert, Peter Brown, Norman McNally, Sarah Davies, Polly Jones, Richard Trail, Stewart Noble, Joanna Pryce

**Apologies:** Irina Agostinelli, David Sinclair, Simon Vella, Paula McIntosh Tariq Durrani, Roger Clarke

Cllr Ian McQuire

**Public in Person: 12**

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

#### Minutes of Last Meeting

Approved, with the following amendments. Stewart Noble declared an interest as a trustee of the John Logie Baird centenary project. Nigel Millar wanted to record HCC's thanks to the A&B staff who worked hard to deal with the consequences of Storm Eowyn.

#### Police report

A written report was circulated

#### Introductions

**Convenor:** March update. Local Place Plan Exhibition 22<sup>nd</sup> March proved a big success – more than 300 attendees, positive showcase for voluntary & community organisations. Great community engagement. Congratulated Stewart Noble on the continued progress of his petition to the Scottish Parliament. Noted Visitor Levy public consultation meeting. Questions were asked at the Area Committee with regards to the timescale for Leisure Centre repairs. As yet no update.

#### Questions from the public

Neil Walden asked about the clocks in the town centre all showing different times. People expressed concern about the lack of information about the repair and re-opening of the Leisure Centre. Clarification was sought regarding the "Colgrain Business Park", which it is reported is in line for significant funds from the "Rural Growth Fund". People wanted to know what was intended, and whether the Navy were involved. There was concern about the lack of consultation and the flood risk.

#### Vacant HCC officer positions

Jo Pryce and Elizabeth Lambert were approved as Joint secretaries replacing Sarah Davies. Cameron Foy was approved as treasurer replacing Howard Green

#### Waterfront

See attached presentation from Peter Brown. Still seeking legal support. We need to make progress with the creation of a community asset trust. Still waiting for FOI request regarding the skateboard park.

#### Local Place Plan

Norman McNally reported on the community engagement activities leading up to the successful exhibition in the Parish Hall. The LPP group are now producing the text.

## Bus transport changes

Discussion of First Bus changes to Glasgow service (formerly 1B). Now reduced frequency of service, potential safety and equality issues about the need to change buses in Dumbarton, Issue of bus services was much raised at the place plan consultation. Also pointed out that there will be a significant price increase for those using concessions on the trains.

## Future Agendas and roadmap

Polly Jones led a discussion of future priorities using MentiMeter to solicit ideas.

## Reports

Secretary reported on great turnout for LPP exhibition. Good to see local councillors Fiona Howard, Paul Kennedy and Maurice Corrie, and MSP Jackie Baillie. Tourist Levy consultation ends April 10<sup>th</sup>-good to contribute. Banking Hub drop-in April 8<sup>th</sup>. Resilience training slides have been circulated. Need to develop an emergency plan. The community wealth-building group visited Oban to look at Hope Café, Charity Shop and Community Garden. Need for a replacement for Sarah Davies as HCC CPP representative. First Beach Clean 29<sup>th</sup> March, A&B providing large skip. Shrub bed tidying first Saturday of every month starting April 5<sup>th</sup>. Hill House have requested time at next meeting to report on renovations.

Treasurer's report circulated. Treasurer is currently closing books for 24/5 and seeking approval of the accounts.

Music in the Square: Postponed due to lack of time.

Planning: report is ready and will be circulated after the meeting

## AOB

## Next Meeting

7pm Civic Centre Annex 24<sup>th</sup> April