



## Minutes of HCC Monthly Meeting - 31 July 2025 - Civic Centre Annex 7pm

The meeting was chaired by Vice Convenor, Polly Jones and Convenor, Peter Brown

### Welcome

Present for HCC: Nigel Millar, Cameron Foy, Norman McNally, Polly Jones, Richard Trail, Joanna Pryce, Roger Clarke, Tariq Durrani, Elizabeth Lambert, Stewart Steel, Peter Brown. Argyll and Bute Councillors present: Fiona Howard, Paul Kennedy.

Apologies: Irina Agostinelli, Paula McIntosh, Stewart Noble, David Sinclair.

Public in person: 22

### Minutes of Last Meeting

Approved.

### Police Report

No report sent.

### Helensburgh Swimming Club Update

Swimming club has had no response from A&B Council or Live Argyll. The club has found alternative swim time in West Dumbartonshire but there is still a waiting list. The club has reported diminished members due to restrictions of swimming facilities due to the closure of the Helensburgh leisure centre. Club is proposing a temporary inflatable swimming pool for members, Cllr. Howard stated this has been declined due to risk assessment stating it would be too dangerous to the public. Club can no longer put forward swimmers for competitions. Impact statements were from delivered by a young swimmer and a parent regarding the ongoing closure of the pool.

### Questions from public

What could we do to bring new visitors to Helensburgh?

Can Cllr Howard forward a copy of the risk assessment stating that a temporary inflatable pool would be dangerous. Cllr Howard responded that she would try.

Will the HCC reply to the fire and rescue review? A response will be submitted by HCC.

### Reports

Waterfront campaign - Update on the judicial review which took place on 4 July at the Court of Sessions, the HCC points were presented, and a decision will be made by September. The HCC wish to thank the legal representation who did an excellent job, thanks to the public with their support and funding, to the Helensburgh Advertiser for their coverage and to the leadership of all involved in the HCC for their dedication.

Leisure Centre - Scaffolding will go up at the leisure centre end of August, and once the roof is stripped work will begin. Company Hub North aim to open end of March. Weekly updates requested by HCC.

Secretary – Secretary - Reminder of public consultations

Argyll and Bute Council website:

Aspiring Places (deadline 3<sup>rd</sup> August)

Housing need and demand (deadline 22<sup>nd</sup> August)

Electoral boundaries process – [www.consult.gov.scot](http://www.consult.gov.scot) (deadline 7<sup>th</sup> August)

Fire Service Public Engagement Event in Helensburgh Tuesday 26 August (6-8 pm) Victoria Halls, Sinclair St, Helensburgh G86 8TU

Online survey <https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/sfrs-communications/sfrs-service-delivery-review-consultation/> (deadline 16<sup>th</sup> September)

Hermitage Park Users – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> August 1-3pm Jubilee Room, Victoria Halls interactive feedback session. All Welcome

Town Improvement - Pharmacy hearing has been postponed and will now take place first week of September.

There is ongoing discussion with the Council to remove an unused portacabin in the Kirkmichael area, agreement by HCC to fund a skip hire for this if required.

The Helensburgh area Playparks have agreed their requirements with Argyll and Bute Council and the tender for Play Park equipment is expected to go out soon.

Treasurer - Report and allocation of funds discussed and agreed.

Planning - Report discussed and agreed.

Local Place Plan – Draft report is almost done with 24 proposals. Place plan group aim to finish the draft by 8 August, issue the draft report to HCC to approve the report for distribution. HCC agreed to submit feedback and any questions at a meeting 26 Aug and notify authorisation at next HCC meeting. Once agreed it will be distributed to the Helensburgh Community on the Vision for Helensburgh website and Facebook page, in paper copy at public venues including; the Civic Centre, Destination Helensburgh, and Helensburgh Library. By email to A&B Councillors and bordering Community Councils who will have 28 days to respond.

#### **Any Other Business**

VJ commemoration - The British Legion are holding a commemorative buffet supper on 11 August at 7pm at the Helensburgh Golf Club. There will be a laying of wreaths 15 August at 10.30am at Hermitage Park.

Beach Clean Rota has been circulated. Appeal for HCC members to act as occasional organisers to pick up and return litter picking equipment from Hermitage Park on the mornings of the beach cleans (27/6/26 and 31/7/26).

Shrub bed tidy 2 August.

Ashton Bar will be celebrating 70 years. HCC convey their congratulations and best wishes for the day and for continued success for the business

#### **Date of Next Meeting (AGM)**

Thursday 28 August 2025 7pm Civic Centre.