



Ardersier Community Liaison Group

Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Tuesday 1st June 2021

Location: Meeting held via video call

Present:

Ardersier and Petty Community Council

- Kevin Reid - Chair (KR)
- Christine Wood (CW)

Scottish Water (SW)

- Graeme Campbell – Project Manager, ESD (GC)
- Gavin Steel, Corporate Affairs Manager (GSt)

Apologies: Cllr Trish Robertson, Highland Council; Paul Sexton, Scottish Water



Community Liaison Group Objective

'The aim of the community liaison group is to minimise any negative impact and maximise the positive impact on the local community.'

The group will provide feedback and guidance on Scottish Water's programme of engagement and communication with the local community, elected representatives and other stakeholders throughout the construction element of the approved projects. This will facilitate feedback and enable informed debate that will help Scottish Water identify areas of concern, explore solutions, aid communication and progress the projects.'

Minutes

1. Welcome & introductions

KR welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Review of previous minutes and actions

KR asked if members were content with the minutes of the meeting held on 31st March. Members present confirmed they were content with the record of the meeting.

Actions were reviewed as follows:

Action 1: Scottish Water to share findings of its investigation of the planning non-compliance with CLG once they are available.

GSt confirmed that he understood the review process was underway. It was expected that the findings would be available by the time of the next meeting.

Action 1: Scottish Water to share findings of its investigation of the planning non-compliance with CLG once they are available.

Action 2: CLG to consider at future meeting whether production of a further newsletter would be helpful following the outcome of the planning process.

GSt noted that a postcard had been circulated to residents, updating them on the revised planning application and alerting them to the locations where the visualisations were being displayed.



It was felt that there was limited merit in production of a further newsletter at this stage and that this would best be revisited at the end of the construction phase.

Action 3: KR / CW to approach the new owner of the shop on the High Street to see if they would be willing to display visualisations in their window.

GSt noted that this had been done and the visualisations had been displayed over the period preceding the April meeting of the planning committee. KR and CW believed the visualisations were still on display. Following the determination of the planning application, it was agreed that the visualisations should be taken down. GSt noted Scottish Water's thanks to the owners of the shop for agreeing to the display of the A1-sized posters, which had been particularly helpful in the circumstances when display of the information at this size would otherwise have been very difficult. GC confirmed that the ESD team would take down the A3 copies which had been displayed at other locations in the village.

Action 4: Scottish Water to arrange display of visualisations and communication with residents, depending on whether agreement was given for A1 prints to be displayed; and consider fall-back options.

GSt confirmed that this had been done and that both A1 visualisations at the shop on the High Street and A3 copies at other locations had been displayed. A postcard had been sent to residents in the village to update them.

3. ESD project progress update

GC presented some photographs showing the latest progress on site.

Following the conclusion of the planning process, the Picket Fence Thickener as originally constructed would be dismantled once the required crane became available to carry out this work. It would be reassembled in due course once modified to reflect the revised designs.

Assembly of the Inlet Works had started on site, but the inlet screens were still to be delivered. One screen which had been varied in the design to lower the highest part of the structure had been ordered following the conclusion of the planning process, but was expected to take around 16 weeks to be manufactured and delivered, while the others were already available.

Dry and wet commissioning had been progressing well and had generally been positive with very few defects being identified in the concrete structures.

GC noted that the power supply and small electricity substation would be installed by a specialist third party contractor, working in conjunction with SSEN. The contractor (IUS) had been notified that planning approval had been granted and a date was awaited for work to go ahead.

GC anticipated that work would be able to proceed relatively quickly when the specialist contractor had resources available as the kiosk and the transformer required were both already available in their yard.

He did not think any power supply interruption would be required as an isolated connection had been installed to allow for this during SSEN work last year. A cable road crossing would need to be carried out, the details of which would be confirmed nearer the time.

GC noted that the TTRO on the C1005 would remain in place until all required equipment was delivered to site, but that the road closure was only expected to be applied on a small number of days when deliveries were scheduled.

4. Feedback and discussion

GSt asked whether the boulders had been positioned to prevent vehicles parking on the coastal path when using the track down the side of the WWTW site.

GC indicated that he would check, but he thought there were still 8 boulders on site waiting to be put in place and that this would be done in due course. GC noted there had been positive comments from some of the kite surfers about the improvement to the access track.

Action 2: ESD to arrange placement of boulders at suitable spacing to allow non-vehicular access but discourage vehicles from encroaching on the coastal path at end of the access track by the WWTW.

GSt asked if the memorial bench that had been discussed had yet been installed. CW indicated that it hadn't been done yet, although a new bench had appeared at another location.

CW asked where the additional bench was going. GSt explained the family that was installing the bench had been clear they wanted to put it near the location where the Green Road path rejoins the coastal path, adding to the series of benches which had been funded by Scottish Water.

CW noted that a shed had appeared alongside the Masonic Lodge and no-one was sure who it belonged to. She recalled a discussion about a tool store



and wondered if there was any link with Scottish Water work. GSt did not think there was any connection with Scottish Water. GC confirmed there hadn't been any ESD involvement. He noted some tools had been contributed when the volunteering day was done at the Pocket Garden, but these were stored in one of the small plastic sheds / tool stores within the garden.

5. Future meetings

GSt explained that he was due to be on holiday at the originally planned date of the next meeting. He asked members if they would be happy to move the next meeting to Tuesday 3rd August when he would be back.

KR and CW felt this would be fine. GSt indicated that he would circulate a revised diary invitation following the meeting.

Remaining scheduled meetings for 2021 were therefore:

- Tuesday 3rd August, 5:30pm
- Wednesday 29th September, 5:30pm
- Wednesday 24th November, 5:30pm

GSt noted that he had discussed with GC the possibility of a further site visit for CLG members, noting that one had originally been planned when the first period of lockdown came into effect. So long as public health restrictions continued to ease, as expected, it was suggested this could be planned for the September meeting when there would still be sufficient daylight and the remaining construction work should be substantially complete.