



Ardersier Community Liaison Group

Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 21 March 2018

Location: PACE Café, Station Road, Ardersier

Present:

Chair	Kevin Reid (KR)
Highland Council	Cllr Trish Robertson (TR) Cllr Roddy Balfour (RB)
Ardersier and Petty Community Council	Valery Kirby (VK) Christine Wood (CW)
Scottish Water (SW)	Paul Morley: Customer Delivery Team Mgr (PM) Gavin Steel: Corporate Affairs Manager (GS)

Apologies:
Lesley Smith



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

Kevin Reid welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Review of previous minutes and actions

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and no amendments were made. Actions were reviewed as follows:

- 1) *KR to confirm community's preferred option to bring about improvement to the Pocket Garden car park.*

KR reported that this had been discussed at a meeting of Ardersier and Petty Community Council and the consensus was that SW should go ahead with simple renewal of the car park surface.

VK noted that further reinstatement work was needed on the adjacent grassed area, where the ground was currently uneven.

PM confirmed that further reinstatement work was due to take place soon in this area.

Action 1: SW to keep CLG members informed of planned reinstatement of grassed areas affected by pipeline installation in January.

- 2) *GS to check on progress with arranging proposed gorse thinning work and keep CLG members informed if/when this was expected to go ahead.*

GS confirmed that gorse clearance had taken place and CLG members had been informed in advance of the work beginning. The work had



significantly opened up the green road footpath and should provide the habitat improvements intended.

VK commented that a seat in the area would be nice. PM noted that 5 seats had been bought and installed previously at locations which were identified by the CLG.

3) *Meeting schedule for the year to be discussed and agreed at next meeting.*

It was agreed to address this under Item 6.

3. Scottish Water update

(a) Waste Water Treatment Works update

PM indicated that the final stages of detailed design work were currently being carried out for the growth project. It was hoped that activity would be able to start on site this summer. The CLG would be informed when there was clarity about dates; and C1005 residents would be written to when the traffic management arrangements were expected to resume operation.

VK asked how long the growth project might take to deliver. PM indicated that the initial expectation was 18 months, but this might change. The UV project had been delivered separately and this may offer opportunity to reduce the programme.

KR felt the key issue for the remaining work would be traffic management. PM agreed and felt that the Traffic Management Plan had operated reasonably well during the earlier phases of work. He hoped this would continue through the course of the growth project.

(b) Scottish Water Horizons / pipeline update

PM gave an update that pipeline commissioning was still ongoing.

SSEN had not been able to provide a firm date for electricity connection due to weather impacts on their network and a resulting backlog of planned work. This had a knock-on effect on commissioning which might take a little time.

TR enquired about roadworks which had been ongoing on the airport road. PM confirmed that these were not related to the WW pipeline, but were likely to be linked to water infrastructure for the Airport Business Park.



PM confirmed that planting had been completed at the Ardersier Common picnic area and in the vicinity of Geordie's Path. This was due to be inspected by Scottish Water's Landscape Architect and John Orr.

As previously noted, further reinstatement of grassed areas affected by the final pipeline installation work was expected to take place soon.

(c) **Outfall**

PM confirmed that it was still expected that construction of the outfall extension would be on site between January and March 2019. As had been discussed with the CLG in November, the current focus was on a trenched option instead of the piled installation method previously favoured. Discussions were taking place with Marine Scotland to confirm whether a new Marine Construction Licence would be required to reflect this change.

Questions and feedback

VK asked if there was any change being made to the outfall pipes around the shore that serve as Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs).

GS explained the purpose of CSOs and the basis on which they are licensed to operate. PM noted that the new pumped main bypasses these CSOs and reduces flows through the village network by collecting wastewater from the airport and Castle Stuart areas.

TR asked about the capacity of infrastructure to accommodate proposed development in the Nairn Road area of the village. PM indicated that this would be approached via Scottish Water's standard connection process. Applications from developers are assessed to establish if the network can accommodate additional flows and, if any measures are needed, these would need to be put in place before connection.

4. Discussion

Leaving a legacy

GS indicated that, as already discussed, gorse clearance work had been carried out at Ardersier Common. It was good that it had been possible to get this done before the coming summer and he noted his thanks to John Orr of the Highlife Highland Ranger Service for his assistance with organising this before bird nesting became a constraint. John Orr was also in contact with potential suppliers about new interpretation boards for the Common and the CLG would be kept updated about these plans.

It was noted that planting of daffodils and poppies had been organised by the community at the War Memorial Garden and the surrounding area.



GS noted that assisting with printing costs for the Ardersier heritage walk pamphlet had also been identified when SW had assessed the ideas put forward by the community. CW indicated that she would look into how this could be taken forward.

Newsletter

GS apologised that a further edition of the project newsletter was yet to be produced. This would be done as soon as possible and members would be kept informed.

5. Any other business

No other items of business were raised for discussion.

6. Future meetings

The next meeting would therefore take place in the PACE café at 5:30pm on:
Wednesday 30 May 2018

The meeting remaining 2018 dates would be:
Wednesday 25 July 2018
Wednesday 26 September 2018
Wednesday 28 November 2018

It was agreed that further meetings could be added if required.