



Ardersier Community Liaison Group

Draft Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 26th October 2022

Location: Meeting held via Microsoft Teams video conference

Present:

- Christine Wood - Chair (CW)

Ardersier and Petty Community Council

- Jenn Maylin (JM)
- Mya Chemonges-Murzynowska (MCM)

Scottish Water (SW) and ESD

- Kevin Farquharson, Project Manager, ESD (KF)
- Gavin Steel, Corporate Affairs Manager (GS)

Apologies: Councillor Morven Reid, Councillor Trish Robertson, Councillor Glynis Sinclair



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

CW opened the meeting and welcomed members.

2. Review of previous minutes and actions

Members present confirmed they were content with the minutes circulated from the meeting on 31st August.

Actions were reviewed as follows:

Action 1: KF to review condition of trees planted on bunds and confirm whether any areas need to be revisited when remaining tree-planting is carried out.

KF confirmed that the remaining tree-planting at the front of the site was in hand and that the contractor would review the condition of trees on the bund. He understood some of the original trees planted on the bund had been left in situ when replacement planting was carried out, where there was possibility they might become established – but where this hadn't been the case, the replacement deciduous trees appeared to be doing better.

Action 2: Scottish Water to supply a plan showing the full extent of its land ownership at Ardersier WWTW.

GS shared a plan showing the area of Scottish Water's land ownership, centred on the WWTW (see attached plan). He noted that he understood there had been some confusion earlier in the delivery of Scottish Water's project about the ownership of the adjoining area, although this had only arisen in relation to the installation of the rising main. It had ultimately been confirmed by The Highland Council that



the larger area of land between the Ardersier Common picnic area and the Scottish Water area is owned by the council.

JM thanked GS for supplying the plan indicating Scottish Water's understanding of its ownership. She did not think that this understanding was shared by others in the community.

GS indicated that he wasn't aware of any outstanding ownership query, but would look into this if further details were provided. He reiterated that there was no intention of any development by Scottish Water outside the established WWTW site perimeter fence and the surrounding landscaping arrangements.

The only potential future change he knew of concerned the proposed butterfly habitat improvement project between the landscaped bund and the coastal path. Scottish Water had given approval to this work after the Community Council had confirmed it was supportive. The work was to be led by Butterfly Conservation, subject to securing funding.

3. ESD project progress update

KF confirmed, as anticipated at the previous meeting, that the 2 smaller site cabins had recently been removed from the site and the handover to Scottish Water's local Waste Water Operations team was complete. Following the removal of the final site cabins and landscaping, it was not expected that the construction HGV route to the site via the C1005 would need to operate again under the current TTRO.

Excepting any minor snagging issues and monitoring of the landscaping, ESD's day-to-day involvement in the site was complete. The site visit had taken place earlier in the month and KF helped it had been useful for members of the group to see the new infrastructure in operation.

GS explained that this was likely to be KF's last meeting unless there were any specific issues that required ESD's input. He noted that Scottish Water had carried out cleaning of the tanks within the old WWTW following the 'turn of flows' and that demolition of these structures would be planned in due course. GS expected that similar traffic management arrangements would be needed to allow HGV access for this purpose, but this would be subject to future discussion with the community and agreement with the roads authority.

4. Any other business

- JM confirmed, as had been discussed at the site visit, that the next planned meeting of the Community Council would be on Wednesday 7th



December. GS confirmed that he would attend with representatives of the project team who were preparing to carry out sewer renewal work in Nairn Road and Station Road. The team were also aiming to hold a drop-in event for residents on the same day and details would be publicised once confirmed. They were also calling on the directly affected customers to discuss arrangements, particularly for the work which would impact upon gardens. Depending on feedback from residents and agreement with the Highland Council, it was hoped that work would be able to start early in the new year.

5. Future meetings

It was agreed that a late December meeting of the CLG would not be worthwhile and that the next meeting would therefore be held on Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 7:30pm.

CW thanked everyone for attending and wished KF well.