

**City of Inverness Area Committee
Inverness City Arts Working Group**

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Inverness City Arts Working Group** held in the First Floor Committee Room, Town House, Inverness on Tuesday, 17 October 2017 at 2.30pm.

Present:

Mrs H Carmichael
Mr G Ross

Mrs I MacKenzie
Mrs B McAllister

In Attendance:

Mr D Haas, Inverness City Area Manager
Ms R Cleland, Corporate Communications & Resilience Manager

Also in attendance:

Ms C Shankland, Exhibitions Officer, High Life Highland
Mr J Kelly, Planner, Development & Infrastructure

Mrs I MacKenzie in the Chair

Business

1. Apology for Absence

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Mr A Christie.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Working Group **NOTED** the following declaration of interest:

Item 5 – Mr G Ross (non-financial)

3. Exclusion of the Public

The Working Group **RESOLVED** that, under Section 50(A) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public should be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

4. Actions from Previous Minutes

There had been circulated Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 10 August 2017 which were **NOTED**.

Members were advised as follows -

- River Connections is still under discussion with RNIB regarding the paving

- studs.
- Rest Spaces is still under way with some technical issues regarding the chosen location which is being worked through by Jason Kelman and Andy Campbell.
 - An update on the Sculptural Destination and the Gathering Place will be given within the main report.
 - The Children's Water Feature is moving at pace.
 - All actions have been taken forward for the Trail.

5. River Connections Public Art Project Programme

There had been circulated Report No ICArts 06/17 dated 17 October 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager which provided an update on the progress of the projects.

Specific updates were provided at the meeting as follows:-

River Connections

The artist's piece is finished apart from the installation of paving studs which is still in discussion with RNIB.

Rest Spaces

The site for the Rest Space 'Explore' had to be moved due to the foundations. Another site has been found and an investigation is under way to see if there are any services within the foundations of the new site.

Sculptural Destination

The artist spent the last week of August taking moulds of the rocks from both side of the river (Dores Road and the Wellington layby, Loch End) and is now casting pieces of the sculpture from these moulds.

A 'Meet-the Artist' Community engagement event was held on 29 August where the artist met with residents of the area to discuss the project.

The New Gathering Place

The artists are holding an engagement programme in the Inverness Railway Station on the 21st and 22nd October 2017 between 9am-5pm. The artists have commissioned a film of the river which will be screened on a loop during the event to promote people to share their stories, memories and ideas about the river. The event will be artist-led with the ICArts PM Team in attendance. An invitation had been sent to the Stakeholders. The Event is being promoted through the Media and will also be posted on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. If members of the public are unable to attend the event, they will be able to engage with the event through the website (www.myriverness.com) where they can leave their stories of the river.

It was **NOTED** that not all Members were able to attend the briefing. When the finished article is ready it will be emailed out with any accompanied briefing to the Working Group Members.

Children's Feature

The new site on the Ness Islands has been approved the artists are developing site-specific detailed designs. A timeline has been produced which indicated that detailed designs will be ready for approval in December.

The Trail

This will be the last project to be delivered as it will incorporate all the artworks.

It was **AGREED** for a presentation to be taken to the next Working Group with a project timeline.

Thereafter, the Working Group **NOTED** the project updates as detailed.

The Working Group also **NOTED**:-

- (i) the arrangements for the 'My Ness' Engagement Event on the weekend of 20-21 October 2017 at Inverness Railway Station.

6. Financial Monitoring

There had been circulated Report No ICArts 07/17 dated 17 October 2017 by the Inverness City Area Manager which set out the revenue monitoring position for the period to 30 September 2017, including details of actual expenditure to date.

In this regard, specific reference was made to the summary of funding allocation and the monitoring of management fees.

The Working Group **AGREED** to show only the Common Good Fund expenditure on the Revenue Monitoring spreadsheet until further notice.

Thereafter, the Working Group otherwise **NOTED** the terms of the report as circulated.

7. Press relations and forthcoming PR opportunities and risks

A verbal update was provided at the meeting by the Communications and Resilience Manager on recent media coverage in relation to the projects within the public art project programme.

Once the designs for the Children's Water Feature have been approved it had been proposed to do a press announcement in December.

The position was **NOTED**.

8. Planning consultation – Proposed public realm improvement at Falcon Square

John Kelly, Planner, Development & Infrastructure took the Members through the application at the meeting.

The South Pac have asked if ICArts could assist as it was a requirement of the South Planning Applications Committee when approving the above application that officers consult with both local Members and ICArts in connection with a planning condition that requires submission and approval of *“a scheme for the provision of public art, including the pedestrian link between Falcon Square and the railway station (in accordance with the Council’s Public Art Supplementary Guidance); measures for the provision of seating within the square; a scheme of lighting; measures for the provision of soft landscaping, including replacement tree planting; and a management strategy for ongoing maintenance of the open space.*

It was **AGREED** for the Working Group to put comments in writing through the Inverness City Area Manager to the Planning Officer regarding the lighting, bins, uplighters on trees, seating, paving, more inspired design and finish which is more appropriate for a City Centre Square. Working Group to receive a follow up from the Planning Service.

9. Date of Next Meeting

It was **AGREED** to hold all future meeting on a Tuesday afternoon.

It was **NOTED** that the date of the next meeting (which would likely to be around 9 December 2017) would be confirmed in due course.

The meeting ended at 4.20pm.