

Minutes of Meeting of the Inverness City Arts Working Group held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Committee Room, Town House, Inverness on Thursday 22 March 2018 at 12.30 pm.

**Present:**

Mrs H Carmichael  
Mr A Christie  
Mrs B McAllister  
Mrs I MacKenzie  
Mr G Ross

**In Attendance:**

Mr D Haas, Inverness City Area Manager  
Ms R Cleland, Corporate Communications & Resilience Manager  
Mr J Kelman, Principal Project Manager  
Ms Joanne Duggan, Project Co-ordinator, Property & Architectural  
Mrs L Dunn, Principal Administrator

**Mrs I MacKenzie in the Chair**

**Business**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Members noted the following declaration of interest:-

Item 5 – Mr G Ross (non-financial)

**3. Exclusion of the Public**

Members **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 Briefing Note from meeting held on 1 March 2018, the terms of which were **NOTED**.

Arising from the Minutes it was reported that:-

- In terms of The New Gathering Place (My Ness), clarity was provided on the project governance process during which it was explained that the Evaluation Panel had yet to sign off the Outline Brief. Once completed,

the Outline Brief would then be submitted to the Working Group for formal approval. Once approved, it was recommended that the City of Inverness Members be provided with a briefing. However, as the last meeting had been inquorate and to ensure that all Members of the Group were up to date with the current project proposals, it was requested that an informal briefing be provided to the Working Group; and

- It was explained that a full update on the remaining projects (Rest Spaces, Sculptural Destination, and The Trail) would be submitted to the next meeting along with an update on the financial monitoring which was currently on track as projected. It was further confirmed that a Communications Plan had been drafted and this would also be submitted to the next meeting. It was requested that there be a co-ordinated approach in regard to communication to ensure that information was not being distributed in isolation.

Following discussion, the Working Group **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** that an informal briefing be held on the current proposals in regard to The New Gathering Place (My Ness).

## **5. River Connections Public Art Project Programme**

**Declaration of Interest - Mr G Ross declared a non-financial interest in this item on the grounds of having a close relative who was a local artist but, having applied the test outlined in Paragraph 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude his involvement in the discussion.**

The Project Team gave a presentation on the detailed proposals for the Children's Water Feature which included information on the initial preparatory work that had been undertaken; an overview of the site and key benefits; a reminder of the concept and the work that had been undertaken in development of the design which included information on the structure and type of materials that would be used. The artists (Bespoke Atelier) had finalised their proposals which had been drawn up in the light of the artist's brief and a copy had been circulated for reference. In addition, there was also tabled a report which provided an update on progress of the Children's Water Feature project.

During discussion, a number of detailed questions were raised and responded to in regard to the design, safety and future maintenance requirements of the feature. Assurance was sought and provided that the initial concept had been drawn from feedback from young people and that further consultation would be sought once the final design had been approved. In addition, it was further confirmed that the local community had also been consulted and was supportive of the project.

In summary, the Working Group requested that further consideration be made in regard to materials, particularly in respect of the base of the channel; the channel needed to be more shaped, i.e. less straight; a risk assessment

needed to be undertaken and maximum safety measures to be incorporated into the design; and that consultation with young people and the local community continue to be undertaken at the appropriate stages of the project.

Following discussion, the Working Group-

- i. **NOTED** the report tabled;
- ii. **NOTED** proposals met the terms of the artist brief and had been costed within the allocated budget; and
- iii. Subject to the inclusion of the aforementioned comments, **APPROVED** the Artist's brief noting that construction was intended to be completed by 30 September 2018 and that final proposals would be submitted for approval to the Working Group as soon as possible.

## 6. Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group **AGREED** that the next meeting due to be held Tuesday 10 April 2018 be cancelled and that an alternative date be scheduled for early May 2018.

The meeting was closed 1.58 pm.