

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Inverness City Arts Working Group** held in the Second Floor Committee Room, Town House, Inverness on Tuesday 2 November 2018 at 2.45 pm.

Present:

Mrs H Carmichael
Mrs I Mackenzie
Mr G Ross

In Attendance:

Mr D Haas, Inverness City Area Manager
Mr J Kelman, Principal Project Manager, Development and Infrastructure Service
Mrs A MacArthur, Administrative Assistant, Chief Executive's Service

Also in attendance:

Ms C Shankland, Exhibitions Officer, High Life Highland

Mrs I MacKenzie in the Chair

Business

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mrs B McAllister and Mr A Christie.

2. Declarations 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 7 August 2018, the terms of which were **NOTED**.

Arising from the Minutes it was reported that:-

5 i. Colin Mackenzie, Insurance Officer was currently checking with the Council's insurers as to whether the new artworks would be covered as part of the Council's current insurance policy; and

5 iii. there had been no feedback as yet from the Sculptural Destination pieces that had been exhibited in Edinburgh.

The Working Group **NOTED** the update.

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 Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the Councillors’ Code of Conduct, concluded that his interest did not preclude him from taking part in the discussion.

There had been circulated Report No ICArts 07/18 by the Inverness City Area Manager dated 30 October 2018. In presenting the report, an update was provided on the Project Programme which included detailed information on the progress of each project in regard to key milestones; forthcoming decisions/actions required; and project risks/issues that were being addressed. An amendment was made to the Report at item 3.4 to read “Little Isle Pool” rather than “Long Isle Pool”.

Rest Spaces – Dress for the Weather

During discussion, a number of detailed questions were raised and responded to in regard to installation dates and how to ensure these were not delayed. It was further recommended that Ms C Shankland correspond with the schools in the area (Millburn School, Merkinch School, Park School, St Joseph’s School, Central Primary School and Inverness High School) to encourage pupil representatives from each of the schools to attend a low key artist led event for the Sculptural Destination.

My Ness (the new Gathering Place) Sans Façon and OSA

Artists were currently working towards a planning application for this feature and a meeting was scheduled for later this week to discuss in detail. The planning permission was not required for the hut as the hut was a permitted development in planning terms. The Council would lay the base for the hut, funded by the artists, and the artists would then build the hut. The costs to be met from the budget for the Hut not the River connections Project Programme.

Children’s Feature – Bespoke Atelier

A response was still awaited on the current planning application.

The Trail – Dress for the Weather

Details for the Trail would be discussed following the completion of the individual features of the Trail.

The Chair thanked officers for the work to date and expressed the Working Group's appreciation for the complex details they knew had been worked on behind the scenes.

The Working Group **NOTED** the progress in respect of each of the projects:-

- i. Rest Spaces;
- ii. Sculptural Destination;
- iii. My Ness (the Gathering Place); and
- iv. Children's Water Feature.

It was also **AGREED**:

- i. to circulate photographs of the polished stone for Rest Spaces – Dress for the Weather;
- ii. that Ms C Shankland correspond with schools in the area to encourage pupil representatives from each of the schools to attend a low key artist led event of the Sculptural Destination.

6. Financial Monitoring

There had been circulated Report No ICArts 08/18 by the Inverness City Area Manager dated 30 October 2018. The report set out the revenue monitoring position for the period to 31 July 2018 and showed the actual expenditure to date. The management fees would continue to be closely monitored.

The Working Group **NOTED** the content of the report.

7. Press relations and forthcoming PR opportunities and risks

The City Area Manager gave an update on recent media coverage and the forthcoming press coverage. Mr D Haas and Mrs R Cleland had had a briefing with Ms Shankland on the publicity opportunities for the Sculptural Destination, Rest Spaces and the lodging of a planning application for My Ness. Ms R Cleland, Corporate Communications Manager had been very helpful.

The Working Group **NOTED** the update.

8. Date of next Meeting

The Working Group **NOTED** that the date of the next Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

The meeting was closed at 4.00 pm.