



PROJECT UPDATE February 2016

BERVIE BRAES ROAD (DF)

The initial meeting with William Munro (WM) and the Ward 18 Councillors took place on 8th March to discuss Bervie Braes Road, the former Gas Works site and the Beach toilets.

The red and white rhino barriers, the opening of the road all year round and the weight limit were all discussed.

WM confirmed that the quotes Aberdeenshire Council received were much more than estimated. The Roads engineers told the Cllrs. last week that they are looking at options including cleaning and screening the barriers with netting.

WM will discuss the weight limit with the director shortly and set up a meeting with John Robson, possibly George Strang and Steven Archer to discuss the weight limits and the need for closing the road in light of the additional work which has been carried out on the Braes since the last report was commissioned by Aberdeenshire Council.

It was thought that the road closure discouraged people who had visited the Castle from coming into the Town Centre.

Footpath signage will be discussed with Dunecht estates to direct people from the Castle to the Town Centre. Also to discuss the path from their car park to the viewing point to make access for wheelchairs and buggy's. STP will set up a meeting with them.

Jim Stephen mentioned that the cliff footpath from Dunnottar to Stonehaven was in need of repair after the winter. WM to find out what the costs are for repair. Cllr Clark suggested that community payback could be an option to assist in the repairs.

The Bervie Braes Road Project is mentioned in the STP's Business Plan 2012 – 2015 and was also included in the Community Plan. There was also a comment in PfR that there should be better access for walkers and cyclists on Bervie Braes.

PLAN B

This project will be looked at again in January 2017

*The Plan B Project has been initiated as it was in STP's Business plan **SPORT AND LEISURE FACILITIES AT THE RECREATION GROUND SITE** – investigating the possibility of improved facilities at this site, alongside reviewing alternative locations. There were also a number of comments made by residents in the PfR exercise about this area of Stonehaven.*

FUTURE OF STONEHAVEN COURT HOUSE BUILDING (DF)

Funding

Applications have been made to LEADR and HLF for 50% funding each



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HLF have replied and said we needed a valuation. The valuation will cost £2k to show the value of the building.

£1000 could be available from SAB with the remaining £950 being sourced from other funders.

Solicitors

3 quotes have been received for work on tenant's leases.

Information for job description for Project Manager and Architect to be placed on the Public Contracts Scotland website

Tenants

CAB will be contacted to let them know there has been a change with the timetable from SCTS.

All reports and meeting notes are available on the web site.

Discussions with potential tenants have started, but we need more. If you have any contacts of potential tenants please let us know on projects@stpweb.org.

This project falls into a number of STP's charity criteria. For example to assist in the regeneration of the area through the improvement of the physical, social and economic environment in order to:

Manage community land and associated assets for the benefit of the Community and the public in general;

Advance Community development, including urban or rural regeneration within the community:

Advance environmental protection or improvement including preservation, sustainable development and conservation of the natural environment, the maintenance, improvement or provision of environmental amenities for the community and /or the preservation of buildings or sites of architectural, historical or other importance to the community.

IMPROVING OUR TOWN CENTRE (JS) (Including the Board walk and Harbour Illuminations)

JS and IM have met with Iain Welsh from Aberdeenshire Council to discuss Market Square the board walk and harbour illuminations. A further meeting will be set up to progress.

Aberdeenshire Council have sent all the groups involved with IOTC a leaflet on house repairs and the seagull nuisance. The next meeting is scheduled for 31 March at 10am at Viewmount.

This project commenced due to comments that were made by residents at the PfR exercises. Comments were made about Town Centre signage, the appearance and upkeep of some of the buildings in the Centre and the seagull nuisance.

FORMER GAS WORKS SITE (MW)

The initial meeting with William Munro (WM) and the Ward 18 Councillors took place on 8th March to discuss Bervie Braes Road, the former Gas Works site and the Beach toilets.

William Munro reported that SSE/SGN have a preference to lease the site to Aberdeenshire Council although after the consultation on car parking there would not be enough income from car parking at this site to pay for the lease. WM is keen to involve STP and will ask Mark Skilling to contact STP to see how this project can be progressed.



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This project resulted from comments made in the PfR exercises about the lack of parking in Stonehaven in general and specifically the lack of parking in the Auld Toon during busy times.

LAND TRAIN (MW)

The Land Train will begin operating on Friday 25th March for the 2016 season.

Falck Safety Services Maritime Training Academy have kindly agreed to sponsor the Land Train by providing fuel this year. The Ship Inn, MoJo Taxi's, and Cloak Caravan site are advertising on the Land Train and there are a few spaces left for local companies to advertise. If you are interested please contact projects@stpweb.org. Duncan and Todd Opticians have also sponsored the Land Train by providing hi vis waistcoats for the storytellers and drivers, so they can be seen!

The second carriage will be arriving in the week beginning 21st March and Brickfield Motors have offered their recovery truck to get the carriage offloaded from the delivery vehicle.

The schools competition to name the carriages was a great success with nearly 200 names being suggested. The winners are "Carron" and "Cowie". The winning entries came from Austin Jackson, P4/6 from Carronhill, David Tucker from Carronhill and Shona Coull P7a from Arduthie.

Information about the timetable and fares have been posted on the Land Trains facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stonehavenlandtrain> as well as on www.stpweb.org.

As above this project came about by comments that were made during the PfR exercises that the STP undertook in 2012. It also fits in well with the STP's SCIO objectives by assisting in the regeneration of Stonehaven by bringing tourists into the Town from Dunnottar Castle and was mentioned in the STP's Business Plan of 2012 – 2015 to ease parking congestion in the Town

BEACH TOILETS

The initial meeting with William Munro (WM) and the Ward 18 Councillors took place on 8th March to discuss Bervie Braes Road, the former Gas Works site and the Beach toilets.

Aberdeenshire Council will be closing the Beach Toilets and will place signs on the toilets indicating where the nearest public toilets are. Leisure Centre staff are to be told that the Toilets are available for public use.

Jim Stevens reported that Neil Graham the owner of Scallywags is interested in taking the toilets over and will give WM contact details to progress.

Improving the Public Toilets was one of the projects mentioned in STP's 2012 -15 Business Plan. One of STP's charity objectives is to assist in the regeneration of the area through improvement of the physical, social and economic environment in order to:

Manage Community Land and associated assets for the benefit of the community and the public in general.



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Aberdeenshire Council asked STP to carry out a Harbour Development Feasibility Study and have assisted with funding for this project. One of the reasons the approach to STP from Aberdeenshire Council was made was that STP can apply for grant funding for the Feasibility Study which would reduce the cost to the council tax payer.

CRUISE SHIPS (JR)

Nothing further to report.

This project was brought to the STP by a Community Group and is being looked into jointly by an STP trustee and a member of the Rotary Club of Stonehaven.

HARBOUR ILLUMINATIONS (JS)

This project will be dealt with under the Improving our Town Centre Project

STP were approached by Stonehaven Business Association to assist with Christmas lighting in the old town and the harbour area.

OTHER ITEMS

QEII CARAVAN PARK (DS)

MKA Economics has completed an economic impact assessment (EIAs) of The QEII Caravan Park and this will be made available shortly.

BOARDWALK (JS)

This project will be dealt with under the Improving our Town Centre Project

Isabel Munn
17 March 2016