ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

HELENSBURGH &LOMOND AREA COMITTEE

8th APRIL 2014

HELENSBURGH CHORD – SECTION 75 ARTWORKS PROPOSAL

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval to spend the £100,000 section 75 Artworks fund to augment the existing CHORD artworks through the development of the Outdoor Museum in Colquhoun Square and associated public realm works.
- **1.2** Each artwork element has been developed in response to wider community consultation and support from the former Helensburgh CHORD Board and the Helensburgh Community Council.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- **2.1** That the Helensburgh and Lomond Members approve the artwork proposals outlined in section 3.2 of the report.
- 2.2 That the Helensburgh and Lomond Members nominate three Members to sit on the selection panels of the Community-led (four plinths) and Open Submission (5-6 plinths) competitions for artworks for the Outdoor Museum.
- 2.3 That progress updates are brought to the Area Committee on a regular basis and that the final artwork selection will be reported back to the Helensburgh & Lomond Members for approval at a future date.

3. DETAIL

3.1 Background - Over the past two years, WAVEparticle has organised a series of days to invite local people to be at the heart of the Outdoor Museum, and to gather together stories and artefacts about the town. As a result of this process, the content for the first five plinths has been decided, which will include text and objects that celebrate science- John Logie Baird's Stooky Bill; business- the 'Lily Springs' bottling plant; art and craft- the town's first shoemaker, social history- a family heirloom that comes with the story of the lost art of making bespoke butter pats; and entrepreneurship- the famous Comet of Henry Bell, father of steam navigation. These are treasures and stories of local, national and international significance, which will through the

Helensburgh, Scotland and beyond.

The Section 75 funds would be used to extend the most successful aspects of artworks that have been researched, developed and implemented through a wide consultation process with Helensburgh residents. The vision is to create an innovative, accessible Outdoor Museum that will explore, celebrate and display the rich and varied history of Helensburgh for local residents and visitors to the town, both now and in the future- an Outdoor Museum that will enhance the town centre. Outlined below is a description of the proposed artworks.

- **3.2 Proposal** It is proposed that the £100,000 section 75 Artworks monies fund the following artworks:-
 - Additional Plinth Artworks, based upon the design and materials guide that has been evolved in the fabrication of the first 5 Plinth Artworks funded by the CHORD artworks programme;
 - 2. Produce a record of the "History of Helensburgh" in 100 Objects as a Website;
 - 3. Produce a Design Guide as a downloadable PDF;
 - 4. Create 5 bronze plaques that relate to the historic '1845 text'
 - 5. Provide 14 additional stepping stones along the grassed area of the esplanade depicting the most popular children names in Helensburgh over the years; and
 - 6. Produce a 3m x 0.5m sandstone etching showing the evolution of the town map from 1800 to present day

Further details on each of the above elements along with images (number as above) can be found in Appendix A.

3.3 Project Management - In the role of Administrator/Project Manager to the Outdoor Museum WAVEparticle would support all of the above elements around research and development, advertising opportunities, communications, mentoring, overseeing production, on occasion producing within the community-led approach, and overseeing installation. WAVEparticle would drive the production and design of the design guide and the website and send regular update reports to the CHORD Board.

As part of the research and development work WAVE*particle* would work with the CHORD Board, local councillors and the Community Council, to establish a set of processes to turn these Guides into a simple, functioning system, and to address the best method of selecting proposals.

The future proofing of this process would be developed together so for example an Outdoor Museum Trust could be established to support the perpetuation of the work, a mechanism could be set up for local businesses to contribute to and sponsor the Outdoor Museum and for bequests to be made (both financial and in terms of artefacts of interest).

3.4 Budget Breakdown - an indicative breakdown of how the £100,000 section 75 artworks monies are spent is outlined below.

Plinth Artwork - Open Submission Plinth Artwork - Community Led Website/ Design Guidance Town Map Bronze Plaques Stepping Stones	£42,000 £22,000 £2,500 £4,000 £10,500 £3,000
Total	£84,000
Management fee 12.5%	£10,500
Total	£94,500
Contingency 5.8%	£5,500
Total	£100,000

- 3.5 Programme The intention is to advertise the Plinth Artwork opportunities in April, select applicants in June with installation of artworks programmed to take place in November 2014. The other artwork elements will be completed around July/August 2014. The website and design guidance are due to be completed for November 2014. An indicative programme is attached, see Appendix B
- 3.6 Risks There are essentially three risks associated with the successful delivery of the S75 artwork proposals; costs exceeding budget; lower level of response to competitions for Plinth artworks and ensuring artworks are available to be installed without prejudicing the main works programme.

The Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager will regularly review costs with WAVE*particle* to ensure budget is not exceeded. If estimated unit costs increase then this will be offset against contingencies and by the number of artworks delivered.

Given the level of community interest to date in the Plinth Artworks coupled with WAVE*particle*'s wide network of artists, the risk of not being able to attract the required level of artworks (9 -10) is deemed to be low.

The Plinths have already been ordered as part of the main CHORD works, the installation of the individual pieces of art will be managed by WAVE*particle*. The stepping stones, the bronze slabs and Town Map have already been researched and designed therefore the risk of not being able to install them in line with main works is low.

4. CONCLUSION

- **4.1** The above proposals have been developed in response to wide community consultation and have the support of the former CHORD Board and the Helensburgh Community Council.
- 4.2 The proposed additional Plinth artworks will be sourced through two open procurement process, one which will be community-led, the other will be aimed at attracting submissions from a wide range of artists both local and further afield. This approach will enrich the mix of artworks and appeal to a broad range of people.
- 4.3 Allocating the section 75 artworks funds as outlined in the paper ensures that the artwork is fully integrated within the CHORD public realm works thus avoiding the risk that the section 75 artwork monies is spent on standalone artworks that may fail to enhance the CHORD public realm works.

5. IMPLICATIONS

POLICY: A condition of the Planning Approval for Colguhoun

Square was that the Planning Officers were consulted on the artwork proposals, this has been done and planning

has discharged this condition.

FINANCIAL: The Council is in receipt of the £100,000 funds from the

Section 75 Agreement with Drum development.

RISKS: See section 3.6 above.

HR: None, the artwork proposals will be project managed by

WAVE*particle*, who will report to Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager and provide regular progress updates to the Helensburgh and Lomond Members. The project management costs are included in the budget breakdown

in section 3.4.

EQUALITIES: None

CUSTOMER SERVICE: None

Appendices

Appendix A - Description of proposed artworks

Appendix B - Indicative Programme

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure 8TH April 2014

For further information contact: Helen Ford, Helensburgh CHORD Project

Manager, Tel: 07879641415

APPENDIX A - Helensburgh CHORD - S75 Artwork Proposals

Outlined below is a description of the proposed artworks referred to in section 3.2 of the main Helensburgh CHORD – Section 75 Artworks Proposal paper.

1. Additional Plinth Artworks

The section 75 monies provides the opportunity to open up Helensburgh's Outdoor Museum to include other artists, writers, school children and others, as the principal makers of a town plinth artwork. There is demonstrable interest from the town in doing so. This interest was most recently in evidence at a presentation on the Outdoor Museum to the Community Council in November 2013. It was explained that the CHORD funding had identified content for 5 plinths and worked out a satisfying and robust methodology for preparing image, text and objects for permanent display on the plinths but that the CHORD plan had also prepared the plinths for over 100 other additions which could be added to for many years to come. A series of nominations came forward from the Community Council and a wealth of discussion over what could come next. It was clear that this work could extend beyond the current available funds to grow and develop over the next decades

The proposed additional Plinth Artworks will be sourced through two different procurement processes. These would be:

Community-led approach - 4 plinths

The community-led approach could involve local school children, writers, poets and others, who would be supported by WAVE*particle* to make an artwork for the Outdoor Museum.

To advance this approach, WAVE*particle* on Tuesday 25th February 2014 delivered a unique day of creative activity at Hermitage Academy in Helensburgh, involving all 260 S1 pupils, who participated in developing ideas for the CHORD artworks programme. WAVE*particle* delivered 72 creative workshops, over the course of the day, to take forward the most successful aspects of artworks that have been researched, developed and implemented through the existing CHORD artworks funding. The day brought unique opportunities for the S1 pupils- who creatively explored their connectedness to each other, to the world that they live in- with emphasis on the idea of" *creating*" community. All 260 were involved in the entire process from design through to the making of an artwork, and many of the 260 contributed a small object to be buried in a time capsule in Colquhoun Square.

As part of the community-led approach the above S1pupils were invited to contribute a small object of importance to them to be buried in a time capsule, under a plinth in Colquhoun Square. Each pupil described the object and its importance in 21 words. A photographic portrait was taken of each pupil's hand holding their object and their 21 words written on a card.

An Open Submission competition - 5/6 plinths

A brief would be advertised to attract submission form a wide range of artists, writers. The brief would be quite specific about the project requirements. The advertised commission would be followed by a short-listing exercise, involving a selection panel representing key stakeholders.

The aim of these new commissions is to invite the involvement of a variety of interested parties in Helensburgh's Outdoor Museum.

2. Design Guide and Website

The aim is to produce a website to supplement the above artwork process for the Outdoor Museum.

The website presented in the style of 'History of Helensburgh In 100 Objects', allows for all serious suggestions that come through the Open Submission and the Community-led processes, to be archived.

The website allows the legacy of Helensburgh's Outdoor Museum to spread far and wide. The website will also link directly to the individual plinths in Colquhoun Square via a system similar to 'QR codes' (but more elegant in design)- a customised / bespoke symbol, particular to Helensburgh, will be used to connect smart phones directly to the Plinth content on the website.

Many of these ideas have emerged directly from the ongoing consultation process around the Outdoor Museum.

The Design Guide, which will be designed as a downloadable PDF will be carefully evolved from the fabrication technique developed for CHORD Stage 1 plinths artworks along with the fabrication / procurement / selection processes for the Section 75 Stage 2. This will ensure best practice in identifying content, commissioning contributions, and keeping to a robust and coherent aesthetic sensibility. It will also carry a maintenance schedule with an approach to repairing & replicating and decommissioning.

3. Bronze plaques

Five bronze plaques will be produced that relate to the historic '1845 text' from a report on the condition of streets of Helensburgh. The plaques will be positioned in and around Colquhoun Square and the adjoining streets – see attached image.

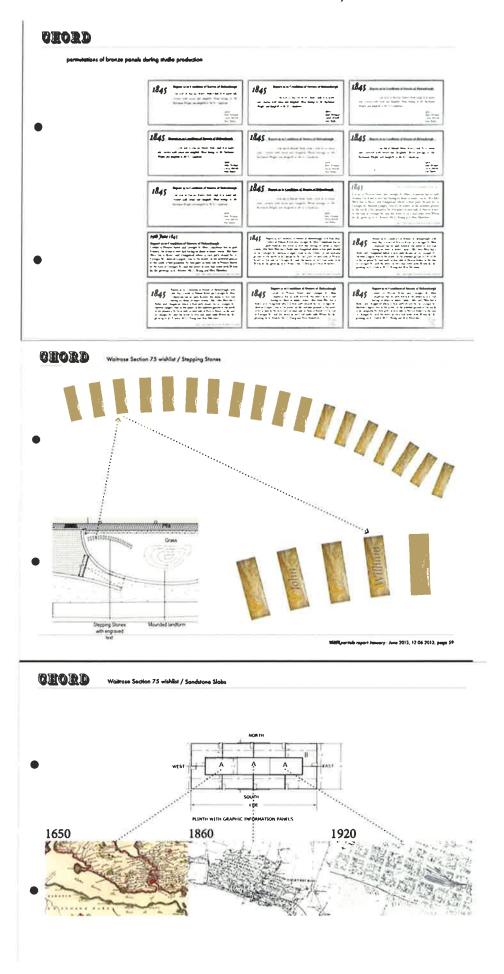
4. Additional Stepping stones

Fourteen additional stepping stones will be provided along the grassed area of the esplanade, each stone will be carved with the first name of a boy or a girl, depicting the most popular children names in Helensburgh over the years – see attached image.

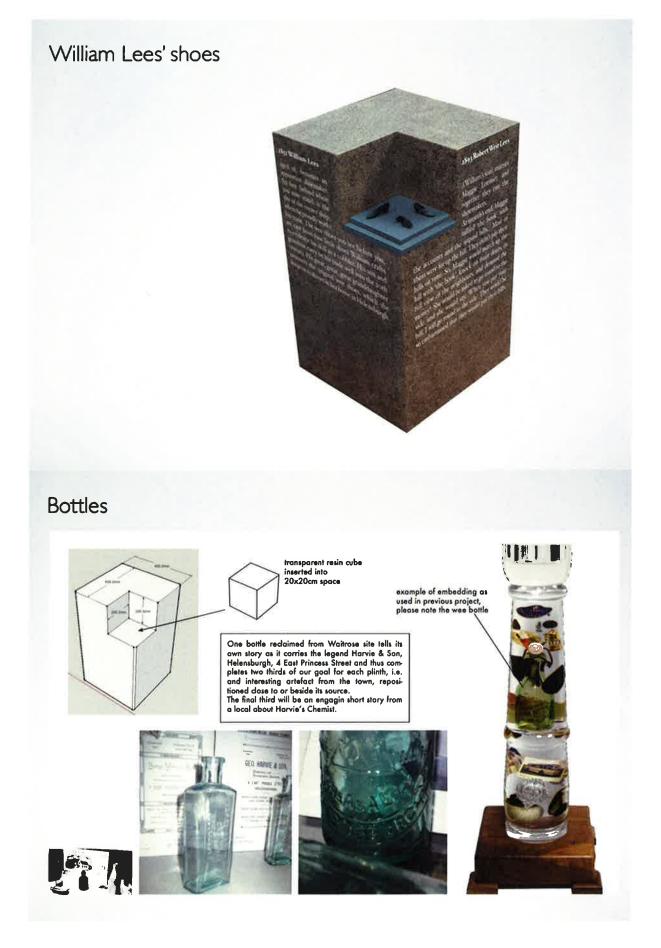
5. Town Map

Produce a 3m x 0.5m sandstone etching showing the evolution of the town map from early records to present day. Maps from 1650, 1860 and 1920 are indicated in the attached drawing but a further design workshop with Heritage experts will confirm the final choice. The maps will be etched into sandstone slabs recovered from the Northeast of Colquhoun Square adjacent to the railway station and they will be relocated as an insert in the seat detailed in the drawing no. attached. This seat sits in the centre of the square on the south side.

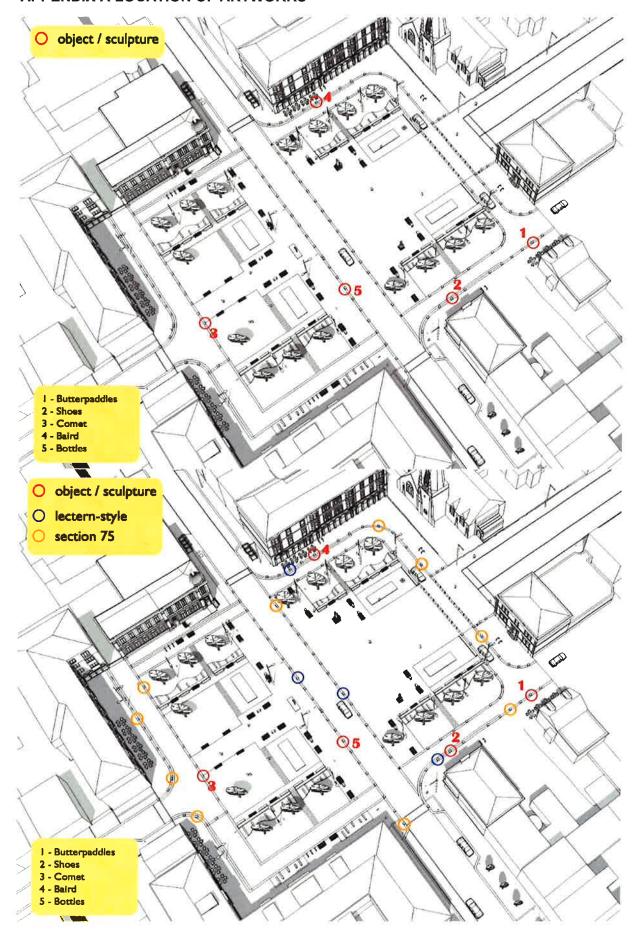
APPENDIX A IMAGES FOR ARTWORK ITEMS 4,5 & 6.

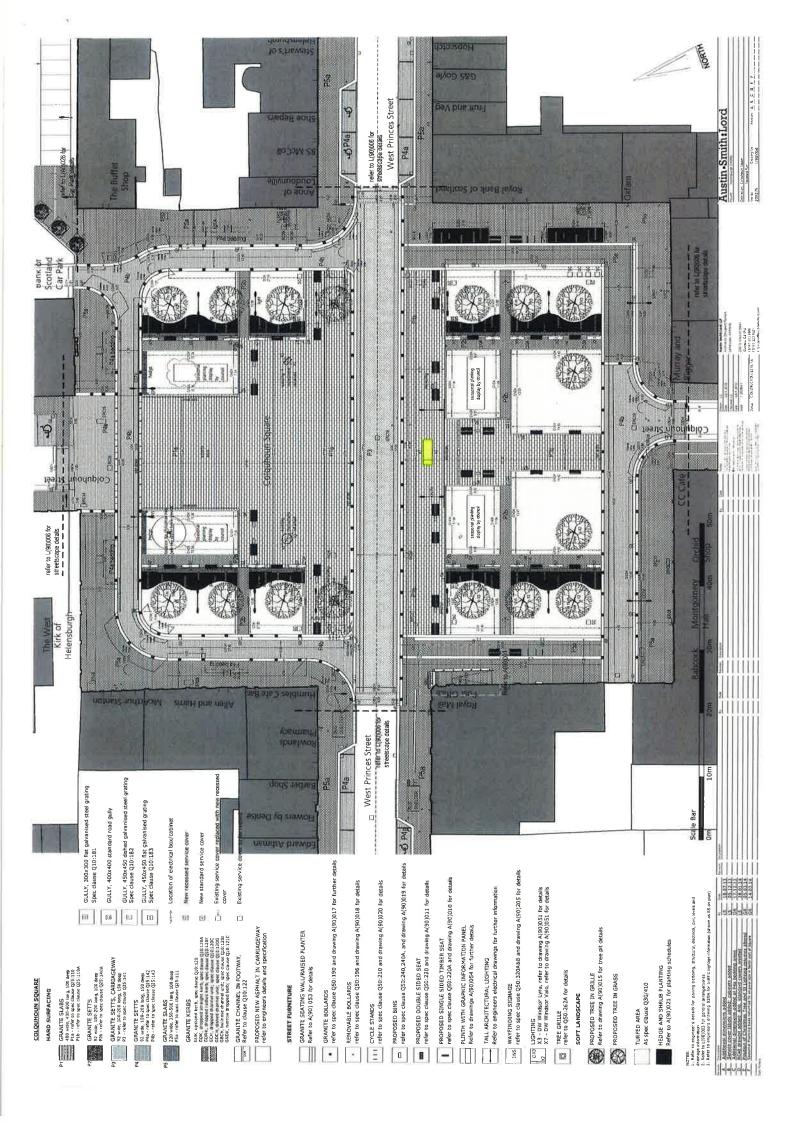


APPENDIX A EXAMPLE OF PLINTH IMAGES - ITEM 1 (3.2 OF REPORT)



APPENDIX A LOCATION OF ARTWORKS

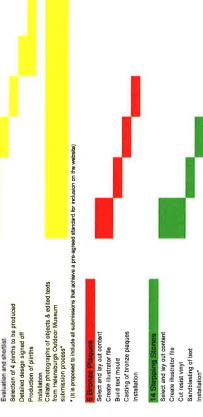


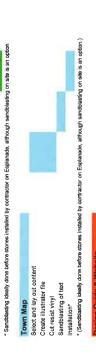


APPENDIX B Indicative Programme for SECTION 75 Elements 2014









Design QR code symbol Upload photographs of objects & edited texts from Helensburgh Outdoor Museum submission process* Design brief agreed for website Appoint web designer Build website armature & Interface

(It is proposed to include all submissions that achieve a pre-agreed standard for inclusion on the website)

Design Guide

Create a PDF which includes, fabrication/ procurement / selection processes / maintenance schedule, approach to repainto, replicating and decommissioning Upload PDF to website for reference / cownicating