

Plastic Free Helensburgh CPP Quarterly Report Winter 2023-24

Planned Meeting for the 9th March 2024 1300 1600 Parish Hall Colquhoun Square Round-table Conversation between Groups Active in or about the Environment and Supported by the new ABCAN Climate Action Regional Hub.

Litter Picking Stations

We now have Four 2 minute Litter Picking Stations with thanks to the A&B 'Supporting Communities Fund'.

One of these will be sited in Hermitage Park and looked after by the Cafe, there is also a station at Kidston Park sponsored by the GRAB Trust.

We have identified places for the remaining stations but welcome any suggestion as to places in need with a nearby premises that might be willing to look after it.

Scottish Water Nature Calls and Treatment Plant Visit

On 18th of November, PFH had a successful Event with Scottish Water promoting their 'ban the wipes' campaign and promoting our activities at Hermitage School Winter Fair and in a very wet Colquhoun Square. This was preceded by a very informative visit to the water waste treatment plant at Ardmore,, where we observed both the process and the volume of light and heavy solids removed from our combined sewage and drainage system be the remainder is aerated to enhance bio-digestion and further filter. In effect clear water is discharged and everything we flush or drop into the drainage system is mechanically recovered. Scottish Water stencilled the streets highlighting the 108 street blockages fixed by them and the further 80 odd across the area. All of this costs, we will continue to put the message out that the drainage system is not a bin.

A&B Area Meeting December. Flooding and Blocked Drains

We followed this up with a question to the Council Area Committee in relation to flooding of standing water in known hotspots and water running at depth down Sinclair Street among others having surveyed Sinclair Street and found the gullies from Sinclair Street down to the front on both sides stapped with grit and rubbish and largely not taking in any water.

The response is there is a routine clean due in March, and a problem with out of service vehicles.

With the persistent heavy fall fall experienced in the last quarter predicted to become normal or worst free flowing drainage will be increasingly important. Once the gullies are cleared we will run a cleaner streets and drains campaign.

Beach Cleaning

The combined cleans with HCC are currently scheduled from the last Saturday in March to the Last Saturday in September. There has been a huge amount of debris deopsied along our shores again and there are many intrepid beach cleaners removing stuff on a regular basis.

The violence of the storms is evident with the very lsrge iron spiked wharf type structure currently stranded along the sea wall and a battation of vehicles and workers reinstating the breach caused in the seawall.

We are pleased that the Rhu clean up crew are in full swing every 2nd Saturday of the month meeting at the Rhu Public Toilet and that cleans are going on along the Kilcreggan and Loch Long shores.

PFH pitched in with the GRAB Trust and LLTNP clean at Arrochar which is back to being a full on litter sink. 340 kgs plus wood, wheels and a head board.

PLASTIC FREE
HELENSBURGH
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

BEACH CLEANS

2024 10am - 11:30am

SAT MAR 31	HELENSBURGH PIER
SAT APRIL 13	EAST BAY
SAT APRIL 28	HELENSBURGH PIER
SAT MAY 26	HELENSBURGH PIER
SAT JUNE 15	EAST BAY
SAT JUNE 23	HELENSBURGH PIER
SAT JULY 28	HELENSBURGH PIER
SAT AUG 25	HELENSBURGH PIER
SAT SEPT 7	EAST BAY
SAT SEPT 29	HELENSBURGH PIER

