

HELENSBURGH CHORD – ARTWORK PROGRESS REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines progress to date in the delivery of the Artwork elements of Helensburgh CHORD town centre public realm improvement works funded through the main CHORD budget allocation and the S75 Artworks fund of £100,000, the latter approved by Members on the 8th April 2014.

There will be approximately 15 artworks displayed on the plinths in Colquhoun Square, of which the five funded through the main CHORD budget are currently being fabricated and are due to be installed in October this year. The remaining 10 funded by the S75 monies, will be procured by means of community-led and open submission process. The community-led process is well underway with two pieces already approved by the Artwork Panel, (Hermitage Academy - John Muir pieces, the Lions Clubs – replica of their mini-bus).

The following artwork elements were signed off by the Artwork Panel on the 20th August:

- **Open Submission Competition** - the commission will be launched on 25th September 2014, via a wide range of outlets including Creative Scotland; Artists Organisations' mailing lists e.g. Glasgow Sculpture Studios, Cove Park, Glasgow Print Studio, Helensburgh Advertiser; the CHORD Outdoor museum website etc.
- **The Website template.**

The following artworks have been installed:

- John Muir Artwork and Bench on the esplanade.
- Stepping Stones on the esplanade.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Helensburgh and Lomond Members note the progress report.

That the Area Committee instructs the Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager to bring a progress report to the Helensburgh and Lomond December Area Committee.

HELENSBURGH CHORD – ARTWORK PROGRESS REPORT

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of Artwork elements of the Helensburgh CHORD town centre public realm improvement works funded through the main CHORD budget allocation and the S75 Artworks fund of £100,000, the latter approved by Members on the 8th April 2014.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Helensburgh and Lomond Members note the progress report
- 3.2 That the Area Committee instruct the Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager to bring a further progress report to the Helensburgh and Lomond December Area Committee.

4.0 DETAILS

- 4.1 It was agreed at the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee in June 2014 that the £100,000 section 75 Artworks monies would fund the following artworks:-

- Additional 4 - 5 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;
- Produce a record of the “ History of Helensburgh” in 100 Objects as a Website;
- Produce a Design Guide as a downloadable PDF;
- Create 5 bronze plaques that relate to the historic ‘1845 text’
- Provide 14 additional stepping stones along the grassed area of the esplanade depicting the most popular children names in Helensburgh over the years
- Produce a 3m x 0.5m sandstone etching showing the evolution of the town map from 1800 to present day.

It was also agreed that Councillor Ellen Morton, Councillor Gary Mulvaney and Councillor Richard Trail would sit on the Artwork selection panel.

4.2 Progress against each of the above elements is outlined below:

4.2.1 PLINTHS

All of the five original plinths funded by the main CHORD funds are currently being produced and are due to be installed before the end of the year, slightly behind schedule. The five plinths are the *Lily Springs bottle* from the Lily Springs Spring House; four *Wee shoes* miniature crafted shoes by the town's first shoemaker; *Stooky Bill* puppet used by John Logie Baird for the first ever transmitted televised image in 1926; *Comet – Bell's Bell* replica of the original bell salvaged from the wreck of the Comet in 1820 and the *Butter Pats*.

The position with the *additional plinths* funded from the S75 monies are as follows:- *Community-Led School Plinth* - John Muir. The bronze pieces are currently at the final stages of production, the aim is to have the artwork installed before the end of October 2014.

Community-Led Grey Matters Plinth - WAVEparticle continue to develop 3 worked up proposals drawn from the nominations from Grey matters 'object and story' with one chosen for permanent display as a Grey Matters' Plinth. The final selection will be presented to the Artwork panel in October for approval.

Community-Led nominated by Helensburgh Heritage Trust – WAVEparticle are meeting the Trust on the 24 September to finalise their nomination which will come forward to the October Artwork panel meeting for approval.

Community –Led nominated by the Helensburgh Lions Club founded in 1964, the longest serving Lions club in Scotland – replica of their first mini-bus which took people from the centre of Helensburgh to the Vale of Leven Hospital for over 40 years. Proposal approved by the Artwork Panel in August, currently at production stage.

4.2.2 WEBSITE

WAVEparticle prepared a brief identifying requirements to produce a template for a website for 'Helensburgh in a 100 objects' – this included researching website precedents including The British Museum "A History of the World in 100 objects".

This template has been developed and can now be accessed as a work in progress via:

<http://outdoor-museum.com>

Template will shortly be populated with live material from the Grey Matters workshops and the Antiques Valuation Day, St Andrews Kirk on the 1 October, at which Christies will be present to value objects brought by the community.

The Website template was presented and approved by the Artwork panel in August.

4.2.3 DESIGN GUIDE

The Guide is currently being researched and produced, indicative 2nd draft will be presented to the Artwork panel on the 24 September 2014.

4.2.4 BRONZE PLAQUE TEXT FROM THE 1845 REPORT

The bronze plaques that relate to the historic '1845 text' have been delivered to site with a comprehensive set of instructions for installation. The first three plaques will be installed in keeping with a small launch event, date to be confirmed, where they and the Hermitage Academy - John Muir plinth can be revealed for a photo shoot.

4.2.5 THE STEPPING STONES

The stepping stones, depicting the most popular children names in Helensburgh over the years, have been installed along the grassed area of the esplanade.

4.2.6 TOWN MAP

Three Town Maps (1820 / 1900 / 2014) are in production, due for completion on the 30th September with installation immediately thereafter.

In addition to the above artworks, the artists are looking to create a flotilla arrangement with the decorative heads from the Comet Lighting columns to attract people from the Esplanade up into the Square; further details will be presented to the September Artwork panel meeting.

- 4.3 Budget - to date approximately £40,000 of the £100,000 S75 fund has been committed/spent.

	Budget	Committed/Spent
Plinth Artwork - Open Submission	£42,000	£800
Plinth Artwork - Community Led	£22,000	£13,120
Website / Design Guidance	£2,500	£2,500
Town Map	£4,000	£3,950
Bronze Plaques	£10,500	£8,280
Stepping Stones	£3,000	£2,800
Total	£84,000	£31,450
Management Fee - 12.5%	£10,500	£7,850
Total	£94,500	£39,300
Contingency 5.8%	£5,500	
TOTAL	£100,000	

- 4.4 Good progress is being made with the Community –Led Plinths, the Open Submission Plinths are behind schedule but aiming to have 10 of the 15 artworks installed before the end of the year. The Stepping stones are installed. The Town maps, the Bronze plaques and the John Muir plinth will be installed early October 2014.

4.5 There are essentially three risks associated with the successful delivery of the S75 artwork proposals; *costs exceeding budget* – project currently under budget as prices for Stepping stones and Bronze plaques returned under estimate; *lower level of response to artworks for Plinths* - competition to be launched on the 25th September but given the response to the community-led plinths the risk is deemed low and *ensuring artworks are available to be installed without prejudicing the main works programme* – to date this has not been an issue.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 Overall steady progress is being made in delivering the various artwork elements, costs remain within budget and risks associated with the project are low to moderate. All the artworks are integrated into the physical CHORD area and all are on track to be completed before the CHORD work is completed. One new work utilising the Comet ship from previous lamp posts is underdevelopment.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	The delivery of this project fits with the Council's Corporate Plan, Single Outcome Agreement and approved Development Plan key actions and policy for safeguarding our built heritage and town centre regeneration. The economic outcomes from this project will contribute to the Council's Economic Development Action Plan at a strategic and area based level. Council's Planning Officers have been consulted on the CHORD Artwork proposals and written consent has been given.
6.2	Financial	The Council is in receipt of the £100,000 funds from the Section 75 Agreement with Drum development. The project management costs are included in the budget breakdown in section 4.3.
6.3	Legal	None
6.4	HR	None, the artwork proposals will be project managed by <i>WAVEparticle</i> , who will report to Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager and provide regular progress updates to the Helensburgh and Lomond Members.
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	See section 4.5 above.
6.7	Customer Services	None

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure
16 September 2014

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