

Edinburgh Canal Partnership

Progress Update Note

22rd April 2015

1. Ratho Wave Garden

- 1.1. Presentation made by Andy Hadden and Scott Brewster on the potential Wave Garden project at Ratho.
- 1.2. The Wave Garden will be an £8m world class surfing facility with the opportunity to include other watersports.
- 1.3. Stage 1 funding has been raised to allow this to be taken to a Planning Permission in Principal (PAN to be submitted imminently, PPP expected summer 2015).
- 1.4. Anticipated opening March 2017 (with March 2018 as a fall back)
- 1.5. More information available at www.wavegardened.com

2. Canal Strategy Update

- 2.1. Edinburgh Canal Partnership Annual Report: *work in progress – resource is the key issue.*
Nodal Events Programmes for priority areas at Fountainbridge and the Calders.
- 2.2. Placemaking Branding & Signage Strategy
Carry forward note: resource is the key issue- HH to follow up on cost of resourcing someone to take the Annual report and Branding forward.

Placemaking Final Report completed and ready for wider circulation. A wider announcement programme needs to be taken forward to ensure awareness and uptake.

Key steps: -

- Make document available online (now available on [CEC website](#)) and promote via websites/ circulation of details to workshop attendees and other canal businesses, groups and our own organisations, etc.
- Liaison with other key focus areas and key projects to demonstrate implementation. Liaise with Comms teams to promote within wider project announcements.
- Any implementation queries can be channelled via SC for assistance.

2.3. Towpath Lighting/ Works

Ratho Bridge 15 to Climbing Centre – to be progressed at a later date once Ratho developments progressed.

Sustrans funded projects:

Harrison Park – towpath upgrades complete, piling pending - £87k investment.

Ratho – at Cala homes – 300m stretch of towpath upgrade with LED lighting - towpath complete – LED pending - £45k investment.

2.4. Cycling/ Code of Conduct

Dog fouling messaging being rolled out in May 2015
Share the Space campaign being planned for June 2015.

KW raised concerns about residents not being aware of the campaigns. KW to identify communication routes for Scottish Canals to channel information through.

2.5. Living on Water

Leamington – 1 berth remains for residential letting. Cycle rack and other minor improvements being invested.

Ratho – 5 leased, 2 in occupation, 3 residential moorings remain plus leisure moorings.

Ideal Home show – 22nd – 25th May 2015.

Visitor mooring strategy – SC have agreed usage of moorings for holiday makers with Reunion and will continue to work with our partners to look at ways of improving the offer, particularly in areas of high demand.

2.6. Canal Festival & Events

Canal Festival to take place on the 27th of June 2015- *See update under Fountainbridge.*

Carry forward note for discussion at meeting: It is noted that a cohesive strategy for the Canal Festival is required. This should cover fundraising and integration with the regeneration works in the Fountainbridge area. Consideration is also to be given to the inclusion of other hub locations along the Edinburgh canal stretch in future years.

2.7. Lowland Canal City to City Canoe Trail

Official launch event with Cabinet Secretary for Sports took place at end June 2014 in Falkirk – arrangements being made for local launch in summer 2015 to be co-ordinated with Glasgow.

Other forthcoming events to be noted at meeting for diaries/ promotion.

3. Canal Hub Progress Update

3.1. Ratho

Ongoing:

- Housing Allocations have been under review by CEC planning – update at meeting.
- CALA Quarry – discussions over water discharge and development plans concluded.

- CALA Freelands – SC operation of the marina is expected late Autumn this year – TBC. There has been concerns raised by the local community council on the management of the basin and proposals for residential moorings. These concerns are being addressed. Similarly, Seagull Trust and Bridge Inn have raised concern about maneuvering in the basin for which we have a preferred solution, however funding may not allow this to be effected at this stage.
- Update on performance centre.
- Update on program – working towards the next stage of nodal development – timescales to be agreed.

3.2. Calders

Ongoing: Leasehold agreements for the Calders Gateway site are ongoing – it is anticipated that the land will be transferred to Scottish Canals for a 25year period to enable the development of the Gateway aspirations and support initiatives below. Meeting set up to discuss.

Bridge 8 Hub:

- Oliver Chapman has provided first costings from Milnes Services. Bridge 8 is in the process for securing two more quotes / costings to get the best value.
- Edinburgh, Napier & Herriot Kayak Clubs have all signed up with the Scottish Canoeing Association to over to site once storage containers have been delivered.
- Dragon Boats charity interested in locating at Bridge 8, currently at Port Edgar.
- Staffing – Currently employing 2.5 staff members and have recruited two new trainee instructors for 2015/16 session.
- Akwakating – 450 visitors from across the UK purchased this ITISON Edinburgh deal Saturday & Sunday, ends next Sunday 26th. This has had a great impact on our profile, with national media coverage and we had an increase in emails re hires/ activity days. Started discussion and talks re Hub to Hub with the Grove, support by EDI
- Canada 2016 – All monies raised through akwakating & rentals will support 12 youths from across the South West & North Edinburgh on a Sea Kayaking Expedition to British Columbia June 2016. 12 youths have now been selected and training program starts May 01st.
- Easter & Summer Camps both programs are fully booked

Canal College

- Scottish Waterways Trust is currently seeking funding to continue the Canal College.

Housing

- £0.5m has been spent upgrading 3 blocks in the Calders (insulation, external painting and creation of private gardens). Further refurbishments planned for Council owned blocks then the blocks that are partially privately owned.

3.3. Wester Hailes/ Hailes Quarry Park

No new update: comments still valid.

Living on Water sites stalled whilst funding to balance commerciality issues for these sites are addressed.

Landownerships: The Council has provided all legal documentation to Scottish Canals to allow the transfer of the canal to be completed. The information was sent to Scottish Canals at the start of January this year.

This includes the towpath and embankments. Finance & Budget committee approved the lease of HRA land for moorings on 6th June. Currently in legals.

3.4. Meggetland

St. Andrew Boat Club have prepared an outline feasibility study brief to be tendered for professional assistance to get to a stage for funding appraisal. CEC/ SC assisting with questions raised by club on landownership/ lease, etc.

Canalside Café is under new Management (Sina Graham) plans are in progress for a launch of their new menu in June with a focus on healthy food provision. Sina is eager to tie in with other Canal side activities.

3.5. Harrison Park

Living on Water locations will be considered for this hub location as part of the roll out of the wider Scottish Canals strategy.

Forth Canoe Club – works to wall complete. Longer term plan to be taken forward.
Canal Society – update at meeting.

3.6. Fountainbridge

EDI/ CEC Site:

- Planning in Principal granted [17th December 2014](#)
- Detailed planning application to be submitted October 2015
- Anticipated start on site September 2016
- Site now branded as India Quay
- Planning permission has been granted for the Temporary uses on site
 - Date to be set for Wikihouse barn raising
 - Ladyboys to be on site for the Edinburgh Festival
 - Food event planned for October, date and details to be confirmed

Rubber Building: Intending to submit their detailed planning application in the next 8-12 weeks.

Boroughmuir High/ Public Park:

Works continue to progress on site. Substructure is 75% complete. Superstructure has commenced to north/Dundee Street end of the building. The contractor is aiming to handover the park this summer.

Other Sites:

- Freer Street
- Former Bingo Hall
- Student Housing (Mac Mic)
- Horne Street
- Signage proposals for Edinburgh Quay

Fountainbridge Canalside Sounding Board chaired by Cllr Andrew Burns – Next meeting 9th June.

HH to follow up with Fountainbridge land owners regarding “placemaking manager” for the area.

Canal Festival 2015

- Canal Festival 2015 to be on 27th June
- PB to produce sponsorship pricing list
- Possible use of EDI site at Canal Festival DH and PB to discuss
- Possible use of corex wraps as promotion for the Canal Festival (joint promotion with Meadows Festival)- AD to follow up with PB and Tollcross traders, CE to look into installation

Unlocking the Story- Update at meeting

Actions

- HH to follow up on cost of resourcing someone to take the Annual report and Branding forward.
- KW to identify communication routes for Scottish Canals to channel information through.
- Corex banners- AD to follow up with PB and Tollcross traders, CE to look into installation

Next Meeting

- Bridge 8 to host next meeting (August) SB and CE to coordinate
- Update on Fountainbridge S75 to be provided.
- Update on National Performance Centre for Sport to be provided.
- Update on the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) to be provided.