

A 'VISION FOR NAIRN' IN 2018 – SUMMARY REPORT of FEEDBACK and COMMENTS from the OPEN PUBLIC MEETING on the 20 JUNE 2018

Our mission statement was to create special places and spaces that would be for the benefit of the Community as a whole. We are therefore delighted to have received such a positive and enthusiastic response to our 'Vision for Nairn'. So many members of the public have provided considered and constructive comments, which we intend to incorporate as we take our proposals to the next stage of development. These, we have summarised below, along with a brief commentary responding to any observations that have been raised:

- Creation of a splash park, 'splashpad' or water play feature around the area
 of the existing paddling pool proved to be a very popular idea, particularly if
 it could be utilised throughout the year;
- Tiered seating forming an amphitheatre arrangement on the banking adjacent to the existing crazy golf was also very popular as it would provide a multipurpose event space;
- It was suggested in a number of feedback comments that a 'combined' play area, providing multi-age, multi-ability and all weather (partially sheltered) equipment and facilities might be appropriate. This could comprise a refurbishment and extension to the existing play area adjacent to the Links Tearoom;
- There were concerns over the proposed use of the wooded area adjacent to Marine Cottages. We fully understand the need to retain these trees as a natural environment and windbreak;
- It became apparent from a number of comments that our proposal for the beach huts was unclear. We see colourful beach huts as capturing the essence of a seaside image. However, instead of their traditional use as changing facilities, which rely on individual private ownership, we propose they are each given a specific purpose. For example, an all weather shelter, a kiosk for the putting, an arts / crafts workshop and James's Ice-cream could utilise a few for his highly successful business;
- Our proposals for the shelters / viewpoints at the Links were included as an acknowledgement that the existing shelters require quite considerable refurbishment and perhaps alternatives might be considered;
- With regard to the putting green, our intention has always been to maintain this as a 'flat' grassed area, very similar to its existing use, as we acknowledge that this is a very popular space and has multipurpose, multi-seasonal use;

- Our concept of regenerating Viewfield House, with the potential for additional uses was widely appreciated;
- There were a few comments that expressed concerns over the extents of our proposals. But we would like to reiterate that our intention is for holistic and sensitive integration into the existing topography to enhance the natural characteristics of the area;
- As mentioned in our presentation, we appreciate the potential for an increased requirement for both parking and toilet / baby changing facilities and this will be further considered with relevant stakeholders and providers as our proposals progress;
- There was a general appreciation for all the precedents we suggested, particularly for the incorporation of art installations, sculptures, bespoke seating and interactive pieces;
- One of our key Concept Principles is that any of our installations are maintained and sustainable for future generations. We therefore intend to prepare a plan with funding put in place to ensure this is properly executed;
- Our overall concept for an holistic approach, developing a 'journey' around Nairn's assets as a circular route with a marked trail was seen to be a good basis for increasing visitor numbers;
- Our 'Vision for Nairn' presents ideas for how this area might be enhanced and as we look to move forward, we are acutely aware of how critical it is to work in partnership with all interested stakeholders to ensure a mutually beneficial and successful outcome.

We would like to thank all those who took the time to give us their feedback and comments, both locally and further afield.

For #TeamHamish, the consensus has highlighted priorities and allowed our focus to be put towards potential 'demonstration' projects which form part of the wider holistic framework master plan.

We once again would like to thank all those who have offered assistance and the continued support of both our Vision proposals and fundraising to bring these to fruition.

#TeamHamish August 2018

