

**Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme – Phase 2
Stakeholder Engagement Group
26 January 2016
Minutes / Actions Arising**

Attendees

Councillor Lesley Hinds	CEC (Chair)
Councillor Frank Ross	CEC
Rob Leech	CEC
Geoff Featherstone	CEC
Douglas Cruickshank	CEC (West Neighbourhood)
Eleana Caldwell	McLaughlin and Harvey (Public Liaison Officer)
Andrew Allan	Murrayfield View
Richard Stirling	Murrayfield Ice Rink
Willie Kerr	Murrayfield Ice Rink
Elizabeth Neil	Murrayfield Ice Rink (part time)
Dylan Huws	Roseburn Primary Parent Partnership
James Ogilvie	Saughtonhall Community Association
Valerie Forbes	Friends of Roseburn Park
Neil Gardiner	Friends of Roseburn Park
James Nisbet	Hanover Housing Resident (Roseburn Court)
Andrew Lacey	Murrayfield DAFS Cricket Club
Graham Docherty	Murrayfield Wanderers

Distribution

All Attendees
CEC

	Councillor Jeremy Balfour, Councillor Paul Edie, Clare Brennan, Cliff Hutt, Henry Coyle, Darren Wraight, David Sinclair, David Jamieson, George Kennedy, James Galloway, Rebecca Gordon
Friends of Roseburn Park	Jane Stevenson
Murrayfield DAFS Cricket Club	Ian Shiels
Murrayfield Community Council	John Yellowlees
SRU	Garry Blackadder
Murrayfield Curling Ltd	Paul Stevenson
Roseburn School Parent Partnership	Kristi Crawford
Dean Village Residents Association	Dave Perry
SGN	Matt Ferguson
Saughtonhall Community Association	Dave Whitelaw
Balgreen Schools	Fiona Christie (Primary), Jane Whinnett (Nursery)
Roseburn Primary School	Marie-Louise Teden
Medical Practice	Fiona Gilbert
Wights Chiropractic	Jean Dow
Sheltered Housing	Shirley Fallon
Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association	Norrie MacPhail
Other	Friends of Roseburn Park, Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association

1. Introductions

Introductions were made around the table.

Previous Actions

The actions from the previous meeting were then discussed.

Action 1– SGN to look into the diversionary footpath details in Roseburn Park

SGN have, and will continue to review, footpath details and the safety thereof of diversionary routes.

Action 2 – DS to confirm the priority of the road diversion that will be in place for the works

Riversdale Crescent, Baird Drive and Saughtonhall Avenue are all Road Priority 2 Routes and therefore the closing of Riversdale Crescent will not result in Baird Drive or Saughtonhall Avenue needing to be re-prioritised.

Action 3 – Contractors’ facilities proximity around sports pitches to be reviewed

Drawings showing extent of area provided for the works issued to cricket club during July 2015. CEC and McL&H to meet with stakeholder shortly.

Action 4 – Landscape drawings to be emailed to the group

Issued to SEG members

Action 5 – James Galloway to be contacted about developing park proposals

James Galloway has been contacted and an update was provided during the meeting

2. Project Progress & Timescales

The contract for the main works was awarded to McLaughlin & Harvey Ltd (McL&H) on 13 November 2015.

Initial works in ground investigation and the establishment of site offices will be completed during February 2016. Tree felling will take place during February 2016, outwith of the bird nesting season

The main construction works are expected to commence during May 2016 and the planned completion date for the works is in the first quarter of 2018

The meeting asked that indicative access dates to the various areas of the main works be provided. This information had been made available by McL&H at the Open Day and will be circulated to the SEG.

3. Stakeholder Engagement

A successful Open Day had been held on 13 January 2016 and McL&H had also been in attendance to answer construction related queries.

Eleana Caldwell gave a brief outline of the work being carried out at present and added that she would be visiting all stakeholders in a timely manner to advise them of work that would affect them.

4. Environmental Management

There was discussion on the removal of trees from the north-east corner of Roseburn Park and it was noted that an unknown person(s) had wrapped some of the trees with plastic and added a note to the effect that the trees should remain.

Councillor Hinds noted that it had already been agreed that the trees in the location of the proposed pumping station had to be removed to facilitate construction.

However, the need for the removal of two large trees on the riverside (adjacent to the existing ramp on the footpath alongside the river) was to be further justified by CEC. CEC were to confirm that the design had not changed in this area and that the trees must be removed for the design to be implemented.

CEC reminded the meeting of the reasons for cutting down trees; a) trees in the way of construction, b) if construction meant they were to be partly buried, and c) if the root structure was damaged making the tree unsafe.

CEC were required to report back on the two trees in question before tree felling in the area commenced; see Appendix A that sets out the position.

Valerie Forbes asked that a photographic record of these two trees be made if (and before) they were cut down.

Neil Gardiner asked if some of the cut trees could be retained in the park area for possible future use for benches, play features etc. CEC will consider but noted the possible health and safety issues arising which would have to be considered. Agreed that a walk through with Darren Wraight (the CEC Project Manager for the works) and Neil Gardiner to be arranged to further discuss.

James Ogilvie noted that a Chartered Arboriculturalist should be engaged in assisting in making decisions about tree removal and the possible future uses for felled trees. CEC will check what advice had been received.

James Nesbit noted that some traffic cones had been left behind by the drilling contractors and asked that they be removed. Eleana Caldwell stated that she would arrange for this

5. SGN Update

CEC reported that SGN were still of the view that the diversion would be complete by March this year. Due to the continued high water levels the gas main would be installed in a steel pipe inserted under the river by thrust boring. Excavations in the river would thus not be required.

Richard Sterling stated that some potholes had appeared in the Ice Rink car park caused by SGN accessing the area and he asked that they be repaired before the next international rugby match on 6 February. CEC will take this up with SGN.

6. Any other business

Streetlighting

Richard Stirling asked if the streetlighting on the river side of Riversdale Crescent was to be reinstated. CEC responded that it was not and streetlighting had been relocated to the other side of the road

Richard Stirling also asked if the lighting on the right bank of the Ice Rink bridges was to be reinstated and when. CEC will consider and advise. (Note: revised lighting arrangements are specified to suit the revised road layout; these will be installed later in the contract).

Councillor Ross asked how the new walkway along the river bank was to be lit. CEC noted that recessed road studs would be provided (Note: SolarLite road studs (or similar approved) are specified).

Playground

The playground layout was tabled in draft form and further discussion outside of the meeting was to be held.

James Nesbit wished to have it noted that he did not agree that the proposed location was suitable and noted that the prevailing winds came from the south west straight into the new location. In response it was stated that the current proposals for the playground showed a play mound around the playground and that there were significant benefits to the new layout and location.

Councillor Hinds noted that the proposed position for its re-location has been finalised and was not subject to change.

Design and Build Construction

In response to a question CEC confirmed that there was a design and build contract for the works but that McL&H had to work to a detailed works specification and that planning approval drawings were to be adhered to.

Neil Gardiner asked if the side slopes of the embankment to the south of Roseburn Park adjacent to the existing playground could be amended. CEC will check the limits of deviation allowed in the order but expected there would be little flexibility in that regard.

Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will be held in May, date to be confirmed.

7. Actions

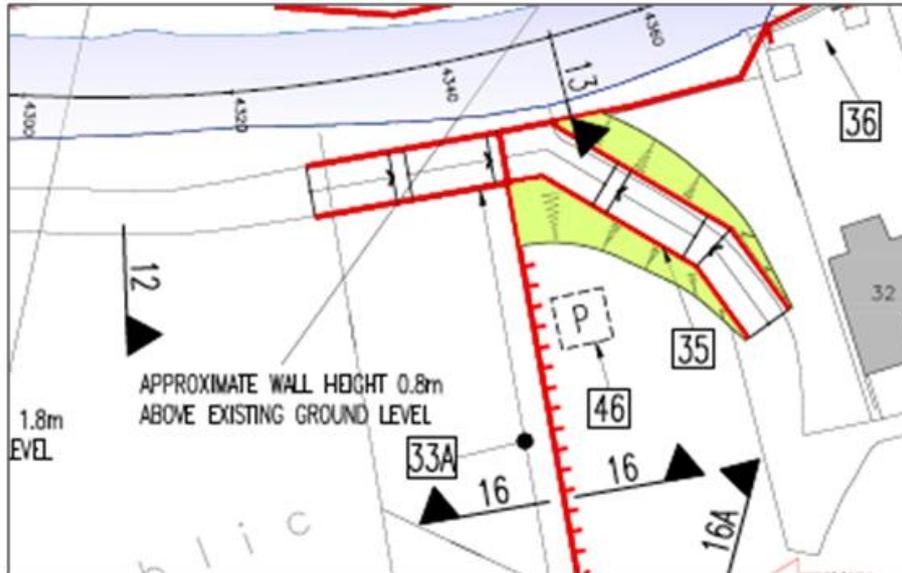
The following table sets out the actions arising from the meeting:

Item	Description	Action
1	The meeting asked that indicative access dates to the various areas of the main works be provided	CEC
2	The need for the removal of two large trees on the riverside was to be further justified by CEC. CEC were to confirm that the design had not changed in this area and that the trees must be removed for the design to be implemented.	See Appendix A
3	Agreed that a walk through Roseburn Park with Darren Wraight and Neil Gardiner to be arranged to discuss which felled trees may be retained for further use.	CEC
4	CEC will check whether advice had been received from a Chartered Arboriculturalist.	CEC
5	Traffic cones left in Roseburn Park by drilling contractor to be removed	Mcl&H
6	Repair to potholes in Ice Rink car park	CEC
7	In regard to the embankment at the south of Roseburn Park CEC will check the limits of deviation allowed in the order but expected there would be little flexibility to amend the embankment slopes.	CEC

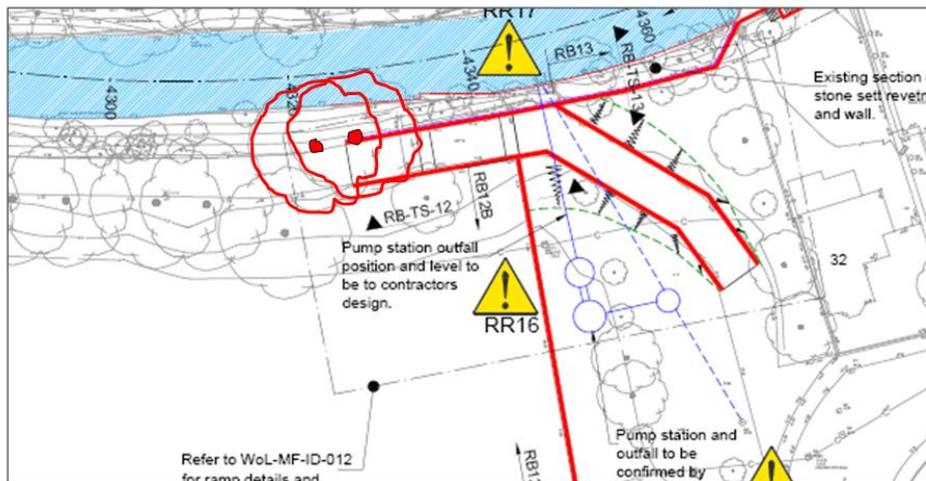
Appendix A
Roseburn Park – Tree Removal
Response to Discussion at Stakeholder Engagement Group Meeting
26 January 2016

Comparison between Planning Drawing and Tender Drawing

The following shows the relevant extract from Planning Drawing No. 69240-I5 B



The following shows the relevant extract from the Tender Drawing No. WoL-MF-DA-004 (The trees of concern are highlighted in red)



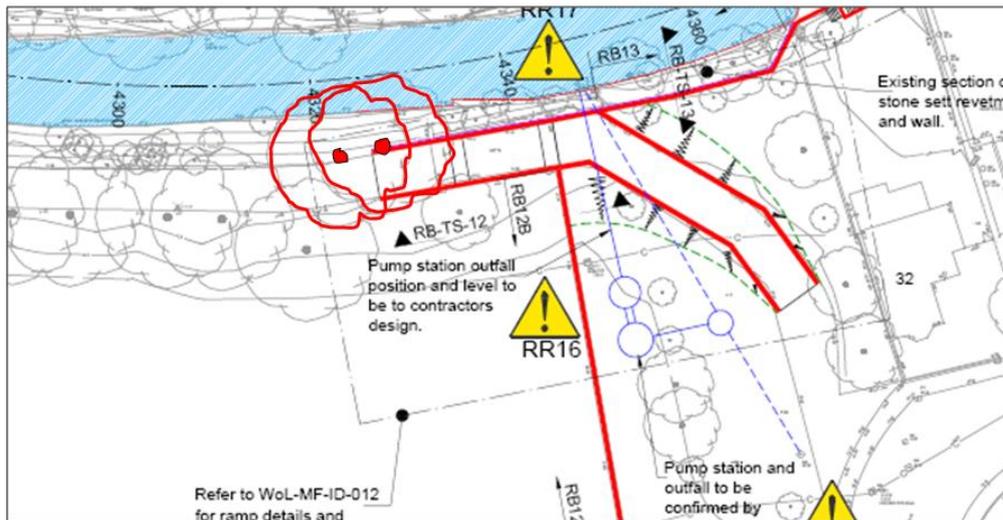
The start of the ramp is at the same river chainage on both the planning and tender drawings clearly demonstrating that the design has not changed.

Information in Regard to Removal of Trees

The planning drawings make the following statements

“Bank and channel features of value to nature conservation will be retained where practicable and mature trees will be replaced by indigenous species following the works

Wherever possible trees will be coppiced and pollarded instead of removed to facilitate construction of the flood defences”



Of the two trees the downstream one sits directly under where the ramp is to be constructed and must be felled.

The most upstream one is very close to the construction works and the roots may be severed and prudence requires that it also needs to be felled.

However, the Contractor has advised that he will make his best efforts to retain this tree and it will not be felled prior to finalising the design and construction details in the area. If it transpires that it cannot be retained it will be felled in the next period available outwith the bird nesting season (September 2016 to February 2017)