

## Seafield Sounding Board (Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021)

### Attendees:

- Ewan Aitken, Chair
- Councillor Kate Campbell, City of Edinburgh Council (Convener of Housing, Homelessness, and Fair Work Committee)
- Iain Cooke, Action Party
- David Cooper, City of Edinburgh Council (Commercial Development & Investment)
- Kyle Drummond, City of Edinburgh Council (Commercial Development & Investment)
- Andrew Fournet, Craigentiny and Meadowbank Community Council
- James Fraser, EMA Architects
- Malcolm Fraser, Architect
- Lindsay Fyffe-Jardine, Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home
- Justin Kenrick, Action Party
- Justin Lamb, Justin Lamb Associates
- Paul Lawrence, City of Edinburgh Council (Executive Director of Place)
- Andrew Mackenzie, Leith Links Community Council
- Colin MacPherson, Manse
- Iain McFarlane, City of Edinburgh Council (Planning)
- Frazer McNaughton, Portobello Community Council
- Councillor Alex Staniforth, City of Edinburgh Council (ward councillor)
- Neil Tulloch, Leith Harbour/Newhaven Community Council
- Nick Waugh, Buccleuch Property

### 1) Welcome and Introductions

- Justin Kenrick and Iain Cooke from Action Party were welcomed.

### 2) Note of last meeting and matters arising

- It was confirmed that coastal erosion was built into models around rising sea levels. Iain MacFarlane is locating a copy of an updated study being carried out.
- **ACTION: David Cooper to circulate the presentation on sea levels.**
- The Kaya flood risk assessment report has been provided to Planning officers by Manse.
- **ACTION: Colin MacPherson to pass the study directly to Iain MacFarlane.**
- The information on heat generation potential has not been circulated.
- **ACTION: David Cooper to speak to Bill Elliott.**

### 3) Community Groups Request

- Andrew Fournet confirmed he was happy with the progress made by Council officers. Andrew noted the community is keen to be kept in the loop. Ewan Aitken encouraged the community to raise concerns if they felt there was a lack of alignment.
- Ewan Aitken invited members of the Sounding Board to suggest items for future agendas.
- Andrew Fournet suggested widening the membership of the Sounding Board to include additional landowners.
- Malcolm suggested including landowners from the south side of Seafield Road East along with the industrial land to the northwest.
- **ACTION: David Cooper/Kyle Drummond to widen the scope of the ownership plan.**
- David Cooper noted multiple landowners had been approached. Some have responded to say they have no plans to redevelop their land; David will re-approach these parties.

#### 4) Planning Update

- The deadline for representations on the draft City Plan 2030 is 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Iain McFarlane encouraged people to submit their views.
- The draft City Plan 2030 sets out development principles for the future of Seafield.
- The Council is proposed to lead on the masterplan for the wider area. A memorandum of understanding between the Council and community is under discussion.
- Tender documentation for a master-planner is being finalised.
- Work on a Place Brief will begin in the next few weeks and is aimed to be completed over the next two months. The Place Brief will be a visual representation of the development principles set out in City Plan 2030. Funding options are being explored.
- It is planned to take a report to a Council committee in early-2022 seeking approval to proceed with the project.
- Ewan Aitken asked about commenting on the tender documentation – David Cooper confirmed this will be circulated electronically and could be discussed at a Sounding Board.
- Ewan Aitken asked if the MOU was separate from the Sounding Board – David Cooper confirmed that this was the case.
- Councillor Kate Campbell asked how the MOU would work and how formal it would be. David confirmed it would be a legally binding document that would be focused on putting community members on the client team and setting out their roles/responsibilities.
- Justin Kenrick asked about the participation of the community in the Place Brief process. David Cooper suggested this would be as wide engagement as was possible.
- Colin MacPherson asked about timescales. David Cooper noted funding was the biggest hurdle. David noted he was aiming to secure authority to proceed in February 2022 (by which time he hoped the Place Brief would be in place) and would look to have a supplier appointed in March/April 2022. David thought the master-planning exercise could take six to nine months. Paul Lawrence confirmed this project was a priority.

#### 5) Development Update

- Nick Waugh noted Buccleuch Property are awaiting the outcome of the master-planning process and are pleased to see it moving forward.
- Colin MacPherson though 12 months might be overly optimistic and noted that it was some time since Manse had undertaken consultation – Manse are keen to see progress made.
- Lindsay Fyffe-Jardine noted the Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home are engaging with City Plan 2030 on the designation of the Home's site.
- Andrew Fournet noted the scope for meanwhile uses on vacant sites.
- David Cooper acknowledged the desire to see work move forward.
- Ewan Aitken noted that there is work that can be done in the interim.

#### 6) AOB

- Ewan Aitken asked if the minutes of the Sounding Board could be published on the Council website. David Cooper confirmed that this could be done.
- **ACTION: David Cooper and Kyle Drummond to publish the approved meeting notes and past presentations.**

#### 7) DONM

- Ewan Aitken suggested holding the next Sounding Board in early January 2022.
- **ACTION: Kyle Drummond to locate a suitable date for the next Sounding Board.**