

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road
Date: 14 November 2023 12:25:00

Both – please digest below. I would like the 3 of us to discuss what happens next and when. I am adamant that we do not leap into action before we are ready.

[REDACTED] – please fix a 30 min slot.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Sent: 14 November 2023 11:54

To: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>; [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

[REDACTED]

Flak jacket not required...

We need to re-visit RA from Fairhurst based on new regime and then re-run options appraisal as noted. Our blockage to proceed is resource at this stage. I would maybe caw canny on flagging cost as an issue just yet but its not wrong. As I mentioned last week the technical part of this is the logical part - the challenging part is pre-app discussions on the statutory consents side and managing external engagement. When we did Johnston Terrace I actually got [REDACTED] to SRO it because she was able to navigate the consents side much better than I could. A small project group is required here I think.

Always up for being more up front to the outside world on timescales and reasons for it.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | **Director of Cultural Assets**

Historic Environment Scotland | Àrainneachd Eachdraidheil Alba

Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH

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Registered Address: Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH

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From: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>

Sent: 13 November 2023 22:11

To: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>; [REDACTED] [@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

Thanks [REDACTED]

I think what you propose makes sense. We don't need to have definitive plans or costs, but we need to set out the route to them. So revisiting options etc

Alex

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 12:27:14 PM

To: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>; [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: RE: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

Alex, [REDACTED] I have not been nearly as engaged as either of you on RR so apologies if what follows is wide of the mark, inaccurate or just dim. My simplistic assessment of the situation starts with a summary of where we are on RR from [REDACTED]

'The Radical Road footpath remains closed. All rock risk areas / zones within the Park are inspected by geo-technical consultant Engineers as defined in the annual inspection programme as agreed with Fairhurst. Internal discussions between HES and Fairhurst are on-going regarding the potential to allow limited managed access to lower risk areas- South Quarry etc. This is currently being assessed and would require the current exclusion fencing to be relocated accordingly. An Options Appraisal has been carried out to identify potential longer -term intervention options.'

[REDACTED] Much of the homework on this has been done. You will recall the Options Appraisal that went to SMT (as was) in Apr 21 [PIC224-ESS-NOT-20210301-X-V01draftSCragRRMOA](#). The notes from that meeting follow:

[REDACTED] *Head of Conservation (Edinburgh and Stirling) joined the meeting to brief SMT on rock risk management and compliance in Holyrood Park.*

The natural process of rock decay is accelerating due to climate change. Measures, such as the closure of the Radical Road, have been taken to protect the public, but a number of practical factors make this challenging to enforce. Given the risk to the public and HES staff, a number of possible further interventions are outlined in the paper, tailored to various levels of organisational risk appetite.

Agreeing that inaction was not appropriate, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Members noted that there will be a level of contention associated with any intervention; communications around risk awareness will be key, with formal

consultation required in some form.

Having reviewed the presented options, SMT agreed that further analysis should be carried out on creating permanent barriers to the path, as well as full and partial enmeshment options. Given the significant risk posed, final recommendations will be presented to the Board in due course. In the interim, the Radical Road should remain closed.'

As far as I am aware, final recommendations have yet to be presented to the Board. So what to do? I suggest that the Options Appraisal should be reviewed/refreshed and we then make a decision on which option we intend to progress. The immediate challenge is who should lead in HES. I am very reluctant that Ops takes this on until we have a Geo-Tech Engineer in post (hopefully achieved by Easter) [REDACTED] is struggling with staff resource. So this points to Apr 24 as a target date to get things moving. There is also a significant financial challenge. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Apologies again if this is missing the point or has already been done. It is my [REDACTED] approach to finding light at the end of the tunnel.

Perhaps we could pick up on Monday; happy to wear a flack jacket in anticipation.

[REDACTED]

From: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>

Sent: 09 November 2023 10:14

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

[REDACTED]

We had our HP project board meeting this morning. In the margins RR came up. [REDACTED] informed us that there are a few colleagues actively working on the RR ([REDACTED] [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] He seemed confident that they would provide a way forward in the interim.

I wasn't aware, but could you tap into this in finalised the briefing.

Thanks

A

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 10:17:10 AM

To: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

Will do - will wait to see if [REDACTED] has anything to add as mentioned this morning

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Director of Cultural Assets

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From: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>

Sent: 06 November 2023 09:05

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

[REDACTED]

I think we take this paper to board and, as you say, set things out. To many board members, especially the new ones, this will not be very familiar I suspect. We'll add as an Annex to CE Update rather than a stand-alone agenda item.

Couple of asks

- Quick proofread - section 4 says we await the BGS report, section 5 sets we have it.

- [REDACTED]

An intro para or 2, not the full board paper format, upfront on the purpose of the paper etc would be good. And put confidential on it.

A

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 12:32 pm

To: Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

A

Quite difficult to provide an update on this in isolation without the back story. Given its been hard for us to talk about this before is it time we set things out clearly to the Board

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From: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Sent: 30 October 2023 17:31

To: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>; Alex Paterson <alex.paterson@hes.scot>

Subject: RE: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

Alex, [REDACTED] – I'm OK to take lead on operational aspects once I have the resource in place (Geo Tech Eng) to do the leg work and we have the policy in place (that [REDACTED] is working on). I am not comfortable with facing the music at the December gathering as neither of these things will have happened by then. Also, as mentioned this morning, I have a personal commitment that weekend and I am not prepared to delegate this to any of my team, certainly at this point.

I hope this is not unreasonable.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Sent: 30 October 2023 17:18

To: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

Subject: Re: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

Both

We really need to identify who is going to develop, lead and deliver on this project and how we will resource.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Director of Cultural Assets

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From: Hugh Hall <hugh.hall@hes.scot>

Sent: 30 October 2023 16:54

To: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>; [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Subject: FW: Invite to public meeting on the Radical Road

Alex – Can you confirm that we have this in hand for the November Board meeting please. H

From: Hugh Hall

Sent: 16 October 2023 14:24

To: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

Cc: [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>; [REDACTED] [hes.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@hes.scot)>

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For discussion when we next speak Alex. I would be inclined to attend this but would be good to do that knowing what our preferred option is for the Radical Road.

I have an outstanding action to respond to [REDACTED] who emailed me about this back in the Spring. [REDACTED] very helpfully provided me with briefing in anticipation of that meeting and I have gone back to him with some follow up Qs – see attached.

It would be good to be able to put something to the November Board on this, including a proposed timeline for agreeing and implementing a solution. I know everyone is up to their eyes at the moment but grateful if we could consider what

