
Report To:	The Planning Board	Date:	4th August 2010
Report By:	Head of Regeneration and Planning	Report No:	10/0139/IC Plan 08/10
			Local Application Development
Contact Officer:	David Ashman	Contact No:	01475 712416
Subject:	Erection of sculpture and plinth at Junction of West Blackhall Street and Dalrymple Street, Greenock		

SITE DESCRIPTION

The application site consists of part of the landscaped area at the corner of West Blackhall Street and Dalrymple Street. The site presently consists of a large raised planter containing mature soft landscaping set in hard landscaped surroundings.

PROPOSAL

The proposal is to erect a sculpture on a plinth, providing a visual focus at the site. In this particular instance the sculpture consists of a female figurine standing approximately 3 metres high and set on a 3 metre high buff coloured cast stone plinth. It will be an integral part of a new landscaping scheme to be implemented at this junction. It also forms part of a wider programme of environmental improvements being taken forward by Riverside Inverclyde which includes a series of public art sculptures at strategic points.

LOCAL PLAN POLICIES

Local Plan Policy R1- Designated Centres

The following Centres are designated:

1. Town Centres, as defined on the Proposals Map:

- (a) Greenock, subdivided into a 'Central Shopping Area' and 'Outer Mixed/Commercial Area';
- (b) Port Glasgow;
- (c) Gourock; and

2. Local Centres, as defined or indicated on the Proposals Map:

- (a) Kilmacolm (defined);
- (b) Dubbs Road, Port Glasgow (defined);
- (c) Sinclair Street, Greenock;
- (d) Belville Street, Greenock;

- (e) Lynedoch Street, Greenock;
- (f) Barrs Cottage (Inverkip Road/Dunlop Street), Greenock;
- (g) Ravenscraig (Cumberland Walk), Greenock;
- (h) Cardwell Road, Gourrock (defined);
- (i) Main Street, Inverkip;
- (j) Ardgowan Road, Wemyss Bay;
- (k) By Station/Pier, Wemyss Bay.

Inverclyde Council, as Planning Authority, will seek to assist urban regeneration and sustainable travel patterns. This will be achieved by encouraging each Centre to serve its own retail and service catchments without detriment to other Centres and to the overall roles of Greenock, Port Glasgow and Gourrock as the principal Centres serving the Authority.

Local Plan Policy R2 - Support for Designated Centres

The designated Centres identified in Policy R1 will be protected, enhanced and developed, where resources allow, through a range of initiatives aimed at achieving the following:

- (a) encouraging a diversity of retail, leisure, civic, public administration, office, residential and other uses, of the type which the Council, as Planning Authority, considers to be appropriate to the development of the individual Centres, in order to support their vitality and viability, particularly through mixed use developments and through the use of upper floors of commercial premises;
- (b) identifying and promoting opportunities for new development and for the redevelopment and reuse of existing premises, both within and on the edge of the defined Centres;
- (c) improving the quality of the urban environment through implementing programmes for the improvement of individual properties, the streetscape and open spaces;
- (d) improving accessibility and integration of services by bus, train, ferry and taxi;
- (e) improving accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists through the provision of safe and convenient facilities and routes both into and within the town centres;
- (f) managing provision of freight access and of car, motorcycle and cycle parking for residents, visitors, workers and shoppers in accordance with an approved strategy;
- (g) managing traffic flows to minimise congestion and pollution and to give priority to the disabled, pedestrians, cyclists, public transport and service vehicles; and
- (h) developing Town Centre Action Plans in partnership with other agencies.

Local Plan Policy HR17 - Improving the Public Realm

Inverclyde Council will seek to improve the public realm by entering into partnerships with other agencies and the private sector, to promote good design and landscaping, and by encouraging developers to contribute to public works of art within new developments.

CONSULTATIONS

The nature of the proposal did not require consultation.

PUBLICITY

The nature of the proposal did not require advertisement.

SITE NOTICES

The nature of the proposal did not require a site notice.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The application was the subject of neighbour notification. No representations were received.

ASSESSMENT

The material consideration in determination of this application is the Local Plan.

As the application is within a town centre location (under policy R1), policy R2 applies. The proposal is supportive of policy R2 as it is an integral part of a landscaping scheme designed to improve the quality of the urban environment. It will result in an improvement to an area of open space that has become overgrown to the extent that it does not provide a welcoming environment. It also accords with policy HR17 as the Council, together with Riverside Inverclyde, is promoting improvement of the public realm with this public work of art. I conclude, therefore, that the proposal accords with the Local Plan.

I regard the sculpture design as having a positive impact on the environment and will be recognised as part of the wider scheme of environmental improvement works along the main transport corridor through the Council area.

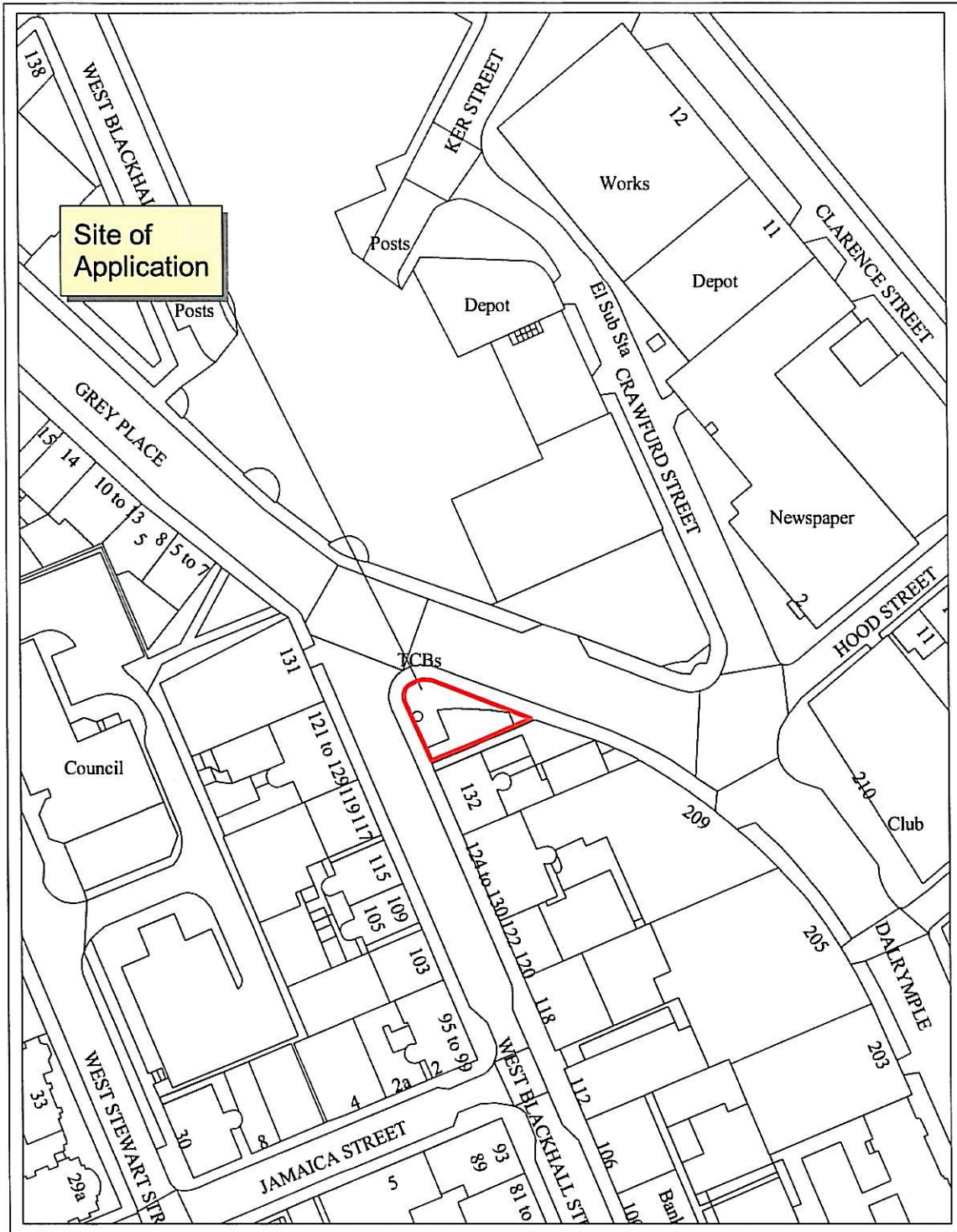
RECOMMENDATION

That the application be granted.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Regeneration and Planning

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Application form and plans
2. Inverclyde Local Plan



Drawing No. 10/0139/IC West Blackhall Street / Dalrymple Street, Greenock

Drawn by: JML

Date: 29/06/10



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