

**Logan Primary School  
Consultation Event  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Graham outlined the consultation process for the proposed campus which will incorporate the existing establishments: Barshare Primary Schools, Early Childhood Centre and Supported Learning Centre, Hillside School, Cumnock Academy and Auchinleck Academy.

Graham Short explained why Logan Primary School and Early Childhood Centre had not been included in the above proposal.

The key points from this explanation were:

- An earlier consultation exercise in Cumnock Town Hall highlighted how important Logan Primary and Early Childhood Centre was to the surrounding community.
- Logan Primary and ECC is classed as a rural school and has some protection in law.

Further explanation included:

- There issues with the initial sit choice of site for the proposal.
- Hillside School parents and carers did not want to lose ties with Barshare Primary, ECC and the SLC. Hillside would have remained on the edge of town and could have been isolated
- Additional money for Scottish Government - £5 million – led to Auchinleck and Cumnock Academies being included along with Hillside School in the current proposal.
- The benefits of an all through provision.
- The benefits of no artificial boundaries.

Q: I am not happy that children from the Supported Learning Centre would be in the same building. My child would be overwhelmed.

R: Outlined the success at joint campus – shared resources, staff etc.

The building would still contain separate establishments.

Rolls in the academies have reduced by 25% in last few years which means academies lose staff flexibility in allocation of staff. This means subject choice can become limited.

Facilities designed for learning in 21<sup>st</sup> century

- Fabric of both buildings:
- Layout
- Disability access

This could include:

- home economics/science lab/modern facilities
- dining areas
- canteen/café area
- £63.5 million - new build benefit

Q: Why build and joint Auchinleck/Cumnock Academy?

R: Parental comments received and Head Teachers views did not indicate huge issues for young people coming together.

Examples of shared events already take place, for example, friends/discos and social media.

S: My children have had problems with Auchinleck in town with the children.

There was recognition that rivalries exist but that was necessarily not 'how the world has to be'.

S: It is small minded people who create this.

R: We ca not diminish the past but there would be hard work to do.

An example of this was the Rankinston Primary and Littlemill Primary consultation a number of years ago.

Parents were impassioned about the issue and thought their children would be murdered if they were to attend a school in another community. In this case Drongon Primary.

However while the renovation work was carried out at Littlemill Primary work children were decanted to Drongon Primary. There were no murders.

S: It is football that causes the problem.

S: My son is a ball boy and doesn't have any trouble.

Q: Are the buildings all joined? Are Cumnock/Auchinleck in one building?

R: Yes the proposal is for the two academies to become one.

The three schools would have three budgets, three Head Teachers and facilities shared for benefit of all. There would be specific resources designed to support children with special needs.

S: My child will be in National 4/5 when the new building is planned.

R: Yes, lots of planning merging of curriculum of the two academies. An example of this Kilmarnock Academy and James Hamilton Academy. This planning takes place at a very early stage.

Transport is also planned at an early stage.

The Head Teacher will be appointed well in advance.

Q: Will children all go home at same time?

There will be a detailed traffic management plan. In other schools specific areas are designated for traffic management. In this case this is the land where Cumnock Academy currently sits.

There could be staggered start and end times to ease traffic congestion.

Q: How would transport work? Sometimes the bus doesn't turn up

R: The transport arrangements will remain within the current parameters. There are a number of factors which determine whether transport will be provided for free.

- Distance
- Assessed for safe routes
- Traffic control measures in place
- Subsidise transport for families with more than one child.

Q: I am concerned about the noise levels with bells for my child who has autism.

R: Each school would have separate bells which cannot generally be heard in the each other's buildings.

This factor would be a consideration of the building planning phase.

Q: Where does Cumnock College feature in the plans?

A: The facilities are separate and the college will have to secure funding for this. It would also be a separate building. There is a report called the Wood report which highlights the benefits of young people and schools having closer links to industry.

There would also be provision for special needs with its continued association with the Riverside Centre.

There would be business induction units close to the schools. This would provide opportunities for young people to get access to generate wealth in the community. This has the potential to encourage inward investors and housing.

Q: What do you think it will do Auchinleck Academy? The impact on small businesses and community?

R: The Leisure Centre would remain in Auchinleck.

Q: What about local businesses?

Consideration would have to be given to what these companies were selling – burgers, chips, etc. The Council policy on healthy eating and working on reducing burger vans around schools is important. This issue would be for other people to work out the economic issues.

Q: How would Broomfield be affected? It is very well used.

The consultation has taken place with visitors, rugby club etc. Many people use the area and are aware of this. Parent mentioned Highland Games.

There are no designs as yet but if it is approved the location of the build is decided.

There are great opportunities for the clubs that use the area.

There would be no reason the council would add anything which would be of detriment of these clubs.

A running track is a key feature and that should be considered as part of the plan.

Areas would need to be conserved for outdoor areas. Those are questions of facilities.

The use of the local environmental areas, outdoor learning resources, children walking to Dumfries House are all important aspects of future planning.

This would be something specified for the Cumnock and Auchinleck Communities.

There seems to be difficulties around pupils from Cumnock Academy using the Vision for learning.

Every pupil in areas is a potential customer of Vision. Visions has a great opportunity.

From education we need to work with Visions to allow children to use Visions during the school day. This is about people talking.

Hillside will have hydro therapy pool, a £1 million investment. Pools are expensive to build and run

Q: Are you keeping the leisure centre open?

R: Yes, all clubs will remain.

Q: What about AstroTurf at Cumnock?

R: Yes, that will stay. Cumnock Academy is a massive area. The question for council is about utilise this space for other things.

Q: If this goes ahead and people change their minds – what happens?

R: If that happened, we would have to manage that situation. Staff are able to manage this. It would be made to work

Q: What are the projected doors open?

R: The estimated numbers are:

- Primary, SLC & ECC and Hillside - 441 pupils
- Secondary 2019 – 1692 pupils

No alteration to classes as the class sizes are determined by law e.g. primary 25

Primary 1 – 25 pupils

Primary 2 – 30 pupils

Primary 3 to 7 – 33 pupils

S1/S2 – 30 pupils

Practical subjects – 20 pupils

S1 & S2 – 33 pupils

Practical subjects – 20pupils

S3 to S6 – 33 pupils

Greater numbers in the secondary provide more flexibility in how the classes are made up.

For example:

If there 100 pupils in S1.

The school can decide to have 4 classes in S1  
3 class at 30 pupils  
4<sup>th</sup> class 10 pupils

Q: Are our children disadvantaged because our children don't have a new school?

R: 11 million allocated to refurbishment of schools that are not included in the proposals across the council.

Schools work in cluster areas links to the academies. There will be lots of opportunities planned between schools to ensure all children get access to the resources available at a new campus.

The challenge will be around transport but IT can be used to support links. Currently there is an upgrade programme to improve bandwidth for schools and introduce wireless technology infrastructure.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm