

# Pier debate

THE future of the Helensburgh's pier site is up for debate at a public meeting tonight.

Helensburgh Community Council is holding a meeting in the Victoria Halls this evening to gauge residents' views on the future of the much-discussed landmark.

Views taken at the meeting will be presented to Argyll and Bute Council as they start their Public Inquiry on their draft Local Plan.

The Plan suggests that the development of the site is left to the Helensburgh Partnership — the group tasked with regenerating the town.

However, Helensburgh Community Council (HCC) oppose the Partnership's recommendation that the site include recreation, retail and property. They feel any development should be for recreation, leisure and tourism with a small number of quality tourist outlets including a restaurant.

Members of the community council want residents' input and advice to determine whether their objection is still valid or whether they should be supporting the Partnership's recommendation for the site.

The meeting begins at 7pm in the Victoria Halls and will be addressed by Bill Brackenridge, the Partnership chairman and Councillor Al Reay, who will give the Argyll and Bute Council view. Community councillor Findlay MacQuarrie will explain the present HCC position before residents are given time to voice their opinions.