

MVF Watchful, South Harbour Street, Ayr

Common Good Consultation Feedback

Feedback and response on Statutory Consultation with the Local Community under Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, for the proposed removal and scrapping of MVF Watchful and supporting infrastructure at South Harbour Street, Ayr to enable a programme of environmental enhancements including improvement of the South Harbour slipway to support access to water sports, and a proposed Inner Harbour Art and Heritage trail.

The Common Good Consultation for MVF Watchful, South Harbour Street, Ayr was open between 9am on Tuesday 7th November 2023 and 5:00pm on Monday 8th January 2024. A notice regarding the consultation was erected at the site, another was displayed in The Citadel and it was hosted on the South Ayrshire Council website at [Consultations - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/consultations). Details of the consultation were circulated to Fort, Seafield & Wallacetown Community Council and to other known community organisations with a possible interest in the property. Elected members for the Ayr West ward were also notified.

As detailed in the table below, 91 completed representations were received (90 from individuals and 1 on behalf of an organisation): 44 representations are For (supportive of) the proposal; 24 representations are Against the proposal and 23 representations have been classed as Neutral (neither For nor Against).

Respondent	Representation	Category: For, Against or Neutral.	Council's Response (where applicable)
Eric Armstrong	Whilst not mentioned in the Council proposal Watchful is actually a memorial to the brave Ayrshire fishermen who lost their lives at sea. What plans are there to continue a memorial to these lost lives?	Neutral	A new installation to mark the area's maritime and fishing history is part of the Council's proposals for the inner harbour. Further community engagement will be undertaken before proposals are finalised.
Norman McLean	As a former Chairman of Fort Seafield & Wallacetown Community Council I am aware of local concerns however at this stage I am aware of the perilous condition and safety aspects of the Watchful.	For	na

	<p>It is well beyond a funded renovation in its rotting state and is holding back restoration of the dry dock area for a more beneficial use to the community.</p> <p>I fully support the Council in their proposal to regenerate the area but am concerned at the time that it has taken to reach this stage.</p>		
Rita Miller	I agree with the plan to remove the boat and the concrete fixings to release the site for leisure use	For	na
bruce harris	Happy with the proposals and improvements to this area.	For	na
Sandy Ruff	The boat should be restored. Maybe work with community groups or with college. As someone who lives in the direct vicinity of it, it would be missed. It's been a landmark for years and what it represents.	Against	The Council has engaged with a number of community bodies and individuals that have expressed interest in The Watchful as a restoration project. However, none of these plans have come to fruition.
Gavin Scott	Scrap it	For	na
Jenna Roberts	Happy for the vessel to be removed on the condition that the heritage trail goes ahead and the area is visually improved for tourists	For	na
Pamela Ireland	Whilst I think it was wrong to allow the Watchful to deteriorate to this state, I believe it should now be removed and improvements to the area made. This should include an appropriate tribute to those lost at sea.	For	na
Ann Cassidy	The Watchful has sadly become an eyesore and really needs to be removed. Those souls who have been lost at sea could be far better commemorated by the erection of a more fitting monument, eg a suitable sculpture or a plaque with the names of the victims.	For	na
Alan McIntyre	I am happy with the proposals and I am sure the council will act accordingly whilst scrapping the vessel and will keep any new site projects in line with current carbon emission restrictions and hopefully add another new interesting cultural artefact/ sports facility to the area.	For	na
Erin Somerville	My Grampa, <i>name removed</i> , worked on the Watchful. If the boat is indeed to be scrapped could our family please have the name plate from the side of the boat?	Neutral	The Council is bound by Common Good rules and procedures in relation to The Watchful. Your request is noted

			and the Council will contact you directly following completion of this statutory Common Good Consultation exercise.
MARY PINKARD	I think it would be a shame to lose this piece of the fishing history of Ayr and would like to see the Watchful saved even if it means re-siting it. It is an absolute disgrace that it has been so neglected for years.	Against	na
Alistair Hook	I am happy for it to be removed from its current location and either taken elsewhere for restoration by students or scrapped if it is too far gone. The dry dock area that it currently sits could be converted to a slip for public access.	For	na
L A Hackett	Agree - given lack of maintenance - MVF Watchful can be removed. Dry dock where it was located should remain as an asset for the common good. Suggest incorporate proposed use of dry dock with purchase of former coastguard lookout and consider as whole scheme with area around the 'coal' sculpture - possibly as outdoor gallery/summer cafe.	For	na
John Hayes	It's an eyesore and serves zero purpose. Best the scrap it.	For	na
Euan Gibb	The boat has been there for many years and is in a state of disrepair. It either needs repaired or replaced with something new. However if the boat is removed there should be a sign or place commemorating her for all the years she stood watch over the harbour.	Neutral	na
William Sutherland	This needs to be removed,before a accident happens,or it goes on fire. Area should be transformed into a watersports base The work taking place at the moment will take ages,5 workmen at the site,only one was doing any work, pathetic	For	na
Brian Young	I have a workboat and barge company and are desperate to find suitable waterside property to relocate my business to. It seems that little slipway in Ayr could be the only place left on the Clyde where a working boatyard could be created at minimal cost and create many jobs.	Neutral	Thank you for your enquiry – we will respond to you directly in due course.
Stephen O'Reilly	I don't live near the watchful but am in the area regularly. I feel the plan for development for water sports would be an excellent idea as a kayaker and water boarder.	For	na
David Clark	Contact Scottish Maritime Museum in Irvine and ask if they would be interested in taking it.	Neutral	na
Adam Boyle	Leave the boat where it is and restore it as best possible as it was put there as a memorial to the sailors lost at sea so should remain and be looked	Against	na

	after better by the local council it has been there as long as I can remember and is apart of the towns history and shouldn't be messed with apart from renovation to it		
Brian Mackie	Sadly feel MVF Watchful should be removed and scrapped. Too far gone now and is an eye sore .	For	na
Graeme Davis	This rotting hulk is a total eyesore, it needs to be removed and the area developed to encourage a cafe and restaurant culture, possibly allied to a marina. We have two rivers and a seafront in Ayr, all underused. Other towns would love to have assets like these with such potential, especially around the harbour area in question.	For	na
Edward Millar	Due to the dreadful condition of the 'Watchful', I feel that it would be better to remove and dispose of the boat, however as a mark of respect and remembrance of the fishermen and the fishing industry in Ayr surely an appropriate memorial could be installed in a prominent position	For	na
Timothy Downie	The Watchful has looked sad and more than a little ridiculous since the wheelhouse \repair\" that was completely unconvincing as a fishing boat wheelhouse	Neutral	na
Fiona Scott	The boat has been an integral part of the Ayr Harbour landscape for over 20 years and is a memorial to lost sea men. This boat should be kept in situ. The boat should be repaired /preserved. The area should be upgraded around the boat. The Council should be ashamed of the lack of thought given to the history of our heritage, yet they can't take responsibility and deal with more expensive and dangerous things like The Station Hotel over the years.	Against	na
Derek Wilson	Slip to be used for launching and retrieving water crafts of various sizes through the utilisation of a automative barrier controlled by pre- paid tokens or scanning a QR code by phone.	Neutral	na
Angela. Cassells	Would leave the vessel alone - it has character. There would be many other priorities that would serve Ayr better than removal of this and plans stated would only benefit a small number of people. Focus would be better on reviving the town or an initiative that would benefit an abundance of people.	Against	na
Alan Finlayson	MV Faithful Are you going to methodically destroy all of the town peoples history to replace it with morons on jet skis and coffee shops?	Against	na
Malcolm Carleton	\Watchful\" is a memorial in remembrance to fishermen lost at sea. As such It should be refurbished and left in place and not removed in the hope that local inhabitants will with time	Against	na
Malcolm Smith	I am 100% against the scrapping of the MFV Watchful, it is cultural vandalism. This fine example of a herring ringer should be the central exhibit in	Against	na

	a heritage trail connecting Ayr to the sea. Restored as part of a levelling up funding bid to Westminster could potentially see local youngsters gain meaningful employment and skills for life through apprenticeships based around a restoration. Old pictures show Ayr harbour with boats rafted six deep along South harbour wall		
Jake Craig	MVF Watchful Common should be restored and kept in place to make it a key feature of the waterfront improvement works. The only reason for its current state is a lack of maintenance. A bit of effort and colour would maintain it as a fitting tribute to those who have lost their lives at sea and complement the planned heritage works.	Against	na
Andrew Williamson	In principle I have no issue but how safe is this given the harbour entrance for water sports. Also parking in the area is residential.	Neutral	na
James Frew	I'm afraid its time to dismantle \Watchful\". Its dilapidated and a sorry sight... looks like no or min. maintenance has been done since she was installed. The majority of Ayr people never go near this area and many may not even know of the existence of \\"Watchful\".	For	na
sarah youd	I would prefer to retain MVF Watchful as it is an historical reminder of the past use of the harbour. I feel that too much of Ayr's history is currently being removed from Ayr (e.g. the Station Hotel) and I was saddened when the fishing harbour was removed to Troon a number of years ago. I believe that a town's history should be protected, not removed so that future generations have a sense of place.	Against	na
John Ferguson	MFV WATCHFUL Consultation. I wholeheartedly agree that the fishing vessel be destroyed and all supporting structures be removed. I understand that the vessel is in situ as some kind of memorial to the fishermen from this area who lost their lives at sea. A more fitting memorial would be a commemorative Plaque in the vicinity of what used to be the Fish Harbour.	For	na
Jo Bruce	It is a great idea to get rid of this boat as it is an eyesore. It is time the area was put to better use. The whole area needs an upgrade so will be excellent to see improvement works start.	For	na
Kate Dargie-Dailly	Its very important and sensitive in removing commemoration installations that the memorial is either placed elsewhere, or something else is put in place. The memorial is now part of Ayrs heritage and a new sculpture should be erected in its place or a suitable site.	Neutral	na
Adam Brown	Employ a few local people to help restore the ship a little and move to a more scenic location to be made into a display piece.	Against	na

Neil Russell	Get rid of this eyesore and do something positive with this area.	For	na
Vincent McWhirter	I support the proposal to scrap 'Watchful' and regenerate the area. This is a unique location for a facility to develop water sports such as Open Water Swimming, Coastal Rowing, sliding seat rowing, SUP paddling, dingy sailing & equipment hire. The site is also adjacent to the new proposed 'Ayrshire Link' cycling route. A base at the dry dock could facilitate showers, changing rooms.	For	na
ASHLEA MCDOWALL	Agreement to remove vessel. Please ensure space is used to promote water sports in the area, we have a beautiful beach it needs to be utilised to it's full potential	For	na
Andrew Russell	Find a space for it in the open space of the Cutty Sark square. Erect a suitable roof covering over it giving it some space. Stabilise the wood with modern treatments and place a plaque with some history on it and label it a remembrance memorial. That should please everyone.	Neutral	na
George McFarlane	Scrap it , it's an eyesore	For	na
adrienne healy	MV Watchful - its in the name - its decomissioned and was to be a remembrance - instead of leaving it to rot work should have been done years ago - despite that though she should be restored and left to watch over the mouth of the harbour	Against	na
Craig Robertson	I believe MVF watchful should be restored and celebrated as a local landmark. Not enough priority is given to local history and this could be, part of a regeneration that includes local history.	Against	na
Muriel Downie	The Watchful has never been an attractive feature of Ayr. If it is of historical interest, there is no information provided. The boat, which has never been attractive, has deteriorated over the years, and, frankly, it's become an eyesore.	For	na
Wendy McGeachie	This is a historical piece of ayr harbour. Can it be moved to another site. If not it could be sited on my grounds rather than lose it. We have lost so much from the harbour area. A group could be set up to restore it by the anglers in Ayrshire. No cost to the council. Sell it for £1.00 to allow ownership by me/ a group We must protect our heritage so much gone through no fault of anyone. For example Ayr County hospital, seafield hospital, holmston house etc. let's try protect this vessel.	Against	The Council has engaged with a number of community bodies and individuals that have expressed interest in The Watchful as a restoration project. However, none of those plans have come to fruition.
Bob Lambie	This wreck needs to go! It has been an eyesore for too long and the area could be used for some sort of water sports.	For	na

Jacqueline Lucy	SAC have failed to upkeep the condition of the Watchful which was donated in memory of all who lost their lives at sea and to remember Ayrshire's fishing history. A memorial including the plaque should be put on display in its place.	For	na
Jonathan Dobbie	I feel the area could be better used as an access to the water. I am keen sea goer and find the small slip at the side of the adjacent flats very tight and not very pleasant for residents of the high rise. The Watchful could be cut down to half the size to be left as 1) a very unique sculpture in the harbour and 2) its initial value as a memory for those lost at sea.	Neutral	na
L McLean	This memorial should have been restored long ago. It is very disrespectful to remove and scrap this. Do local people actually want to spend thousands on what the council is proposing? I don't think so. Maybe contact the college and see if they could help restore the memorial.	Against	na
Wendy Gibson	I think this is a fabulous idea and would bring lots of visitors to the area, water sports including wild sea swimming and paddle boarding have increased so much in the last few years. Great use of a run down area as well	For	na
Sandra Reid	It's time to remove The Watchful. She is beyond repair.	For	na
Forbes Watson	The boat should be scrapped. Too expensive to repair. The area will be opened up for boating. canoes etc. A plaque commemorating should be placed in area	For	na
Angela McAllister	I think the Watchful is beyond salvaging after years of neglect, and should be scrapped. I understand it is planned to incorporate a memorial in whatever development takes place there, and this should suffice.	For	na
Norman Sharp	Scrap the Watchful. I agree with this below. We are proposing that the vessel is removed to improve access for water sports; a harbour art and heritage trail has also been proposed for the site.	For	na
joanne jess	Please remove boat and make space for leisure facilities along this part of coast	For	na
Emily McKenzie	although I believe in the nostalgia of the boat, and it's history, I believe strongly it's an eye sore now and has to be removed.	For	na
David Macfarlane	The telling of 'The Price of a Fish Supper' by Catherine Czerkawska tells of the struggles of being an Ayrshire Fisherman, and to remove the MVF Watchful seems to be of very poor taste and misunderstanding. As one of the most poignant reminders of this industry, to destroy the MVF Watchful would be a devastating and outrageous symbol of profit over passion.	Against	na

Alexander Paterson	The MVF Watchful is a complete eyesore to those in and around this community and town. It has no place in Ayr given it is a Maidens boat and does not have a history of Ayr. It is beyond any restoration that does not include a full rebuild and myself nor my family taxes should be used for anything other than removing this eyesore. Use common sense and remove it.	For	na
Anne Smith	I am sorry that it has got to this stage for the Watchful but providing it is still recognised as what it was originally time has come for it to be removed. A memorial has to be erected AND MAINTAINED PROPERLY The existing markings on the wall could also be renovated. Sad end to a memorial for brave men.	For	na
David Jenkins	The Watchful is a memorial to fishermen who lost their lives at sea. It should be treated with the same respect as that for the war dead. Yet the council have let its condition deliberately deteriorate over the years. No annual maintenance has ever been undertaken, which is necessary for the upkeep of any vessel; as such, I accept none of their excuses for its current condition. The suggestion of replacing boat with plaque is insulting, and would serve as a reminder of council incompetence.	Against	na
Tom Lawrie	Please can you clarify what is meant by support access to water sports, and which ones you are referring to. As a resident overlooking the slipway I am concerned by the existing anti social behaviour during summer & weekends at this area by young people drinking & playing loud music. What plans are proposed to prioritise the residents needs, rights and wellbeing? Whilst I welcome redevelopment of the area, as council taxpayers, our views, aspects and noise concerns should be prioritised.	Neutral	Further community engagement work will take place to inform the Ayr Esplande Improvement Strategy, giving all residents an opportunity to make suggestions or raise concerns before proposals are finalised.
Lynn Carleton	Watchful should be removed. Need to discourage groups of teenagers using the area for loud music, drinking and vandalising. Ideally remove all structures which attract this behaviour, especially the curved roof shelter. The newly-constructed ramp will need ridges on it or there will be an issue with skateboarders again. Applaud the idea of watersports but needs properly constructed building. A group of huts won't make the area look any better and will attract more anti-social behaviour.	For	na
Iain McKie	The Citadel Quay Owners Association supports this proposal, providing a suitable memorial is erected to fishermen lost at sea and the critical question of the failing infrastructure in the South Harbour is	For	The Council will respond directly to your e-mail.

	addressed. Details of this will be contained in an email to estates@south-ayrshire.gov.uk		
Alan Mackay	Despite your erroneous statement that the Boat \is in really poor condition due to being exposed to adverse weather.\" I can attest that its neglected condition is completely due to over 20 years of neglect and incompetence by SAC and its Councillors. I have no confidence whatsoever that the Council's new proposals for the Citadel Quay area will ever come to full fruition and I congratulate you in destroying what was a very imposing and attractive landmark in our neighbourhood."	Neutral	na
Kenneth Ireland (by e-mail)	Good morning May I suggest you retain "Watchful" and restore it giving employment to suitable skill base and use the vessel as part of your Heritage area. Alternatively, donate to Maritime Museum at Irvine. Surely there is an alternative to scrapping the vessel given that it has lay there for many years. Don't let it be another SAC failure please ? Rgds	Against	na
Raymond Anderson (by e-mail)	My view is that this visually identify able piece of Ayr's history should be maintained for future generations. Too many things are swept away and regretted later. You owe it to the people of Ayr.	Against	na
Helen Westwood (by e-mail)	Yes I agree it's a good idea to get rid of the old shipping vessel as it looks like an eyesore. I think the piece of art work which looks like an ugly black oblong block, situated nearby should go too as a complete waste of money and most people I've spoken to think it's not art but a joke. It adds nothing to the area. Any improvement on this harbour area would be good thank you.	For	na
Patricia Reilly (by e-mail)	As a person whose family was involved in fishing for generations I find it very sad that the Watchful has been allowed to get into this state. In their day these boats were gleaming and used to lie, sometimes 3 abreast, in Maidens harbour. The Watchful was one of the Maidens fleet. With the loss of these boats a way of life has disappeared. I think that it would be interesting for people visiting this area to see an example of what was a major industry here. I know when I go anywhere I like to find out how a place has developed and how people made and now make their living. A restored Watchful would remind us all of a different time.	Against	na
Trevor Clark (by e-mail)	Remove the vessel as it's an eye sore, leave the area open as a slipway and promote it as a lanch area for recreational boat users.	For	na
Clare Gibb (by e-mail)	Noting the proposed use of the dry dock as a Heritage site and access for water sports- Ayr Harbours fishing heritage needs to be recognised. My godfather fished out of Ayr as did	Against	na

	<p>three of his sons. MVF Watchful is sentinel to our loss of the fishing industry and should be preserved and retained in situ, livings as well as lives have been lost "at sea"</p> <p>Re development plans can incorporate the vessel, she is part of our heritage and should not be moved aside as an inconvenience to make way for "new" heritage development.</p> <p>I am somewhat shocked that the proposals are to remove and that re-siting does not appear to have even been considered.</p>		
Marnie Lucy (by e-mail)	<p>Hi there,</p> <p>I am the youngest daughter on <i>name removed</i> who donated Watchful to SAC in 1995. I would like to keep the remaining name plate off Watchful in the family - despite an <i>name removed</i> (no relation whatsoever) requesting the same - see SAC live Facebook page about MV Watchful. My oldest sister, <i>name removed</i> & I are meeting with <i>name removed</i> tomorrow at 2pm to discuss a way forward.</p>	Neutral	The Council is bound by Common Good rules and procedures in relation to The Watchful. Your request is noted and the Council will contact you directly following completion of this statutory Common Good Consultation exercise.
Marion McPherson (by e-mail)	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>I am in agreement that the MVF Watchful is sadly no longer salvageable. It is a pity that this beautiful boat did not end its days in her home port of Maidens.</p> <p>I am one of many people who over the course of years advocated for The Watchful to be kept in good repair. There are also many who worked to keep some of the area in as good repair as possible.</p> <p>To me it would be disrespectful to the memory of all fishermen who died at sea if The Watchful cannot be repurposed. After all, it is an important icon of Ayr's once proud fishing fleet and therefore an important part of Ayr's history. Can I ask you to consider the idea of The Watchful being moved to the pier end of Ayr Beach, without the plinth, and be 'grounded' there as an art installation? Look at the old boat wrecks in Salen Bay as an example. A grounded Watchful would attract painters and photographers I'm sure.</p> <p>I further request that all of the maritime markings be left on the wall of the slipway.</p>	Neutral	na
Scott (no surname given) (by e-mail)	<p>Fishing fleets fished out of the Port of Ayr for centuries and the Watchful is the last of its generation for future generations to see a vessel that brought a lot of wealth to our town!</p> <p>The cost of restoring this hull would be money WELL spent and should be a monument to our</p>	Against	na

	<p>fishing past situated next to the slip that was once Ayr Yacht Club and hopefully can again have boats moored for the teaching of the towns youth!</p>		
<p>Bruce Morrison (by e-mail)</p>	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I am writing in response to the consultation on the removal of MVF Watchful.</p> <p>I overall welcome the proposals to regenerate the harbour area set out in the consultation. However, I am conscious of the fact that the original intention of the MV Watchful was as a memorial to fishermen lost at sea, and this is a sensitive issue for some in the community. The consultation does not, as far as I can see, make direct reference to this fact, and I think people would be more amenable to the plans if it was clearer that the 'new maritime heritage' installation would serve a similar function, and presumably be easier to maintain than the Watchful. I would also welcome more information about how much of the Common Good funding has been spent on the Watchful in recent times, given its state of disrepair.</p> <p>Overall I welcome the proposals to remove the boat and improve the harbour area, as I feel that having facilities for water sports and use of the harbour would make the area I live in more vibrant. However, I would welcome the council approaching the issue more sensitively given the status of the Watchful as a memorial.</p>	<p>For</p>	<p>No common good funding has been spent on the structure in recent years.</p>
<p>George Watt (by e-mail)</p>	<p>'The boat,, is in really poor condition due to being exposed to adverse weather'. Alas, it does not surprise me that a council employee has chosen to write thus, rather typical of the approach of councils and politicians everywhere, anything but the blunt truth. The 'Watchful' was last refurbished circa 2005 - 2010 under the auspices of the Community Payback Scheme and nothing has been to ensure its preservation since that time. Perhaps, '.....to being exposed to SAC neglect', would be more appropriate.</p> <p>I was brought up in Prestwick quite a few decades ago and knew Ayr and its harbour when it was a very active county town. Almost twenty years ago I returned to Ayrshire and since that time I have scarcely witnessed any inspirational activities, architectural or otherwise.</p> <p>I am aware the change is inevitable, indeed necessary, but we should attempt to retain as much of our history as is possible and the slipway is one such item. I do hope the Council's plans do not entail obliterating it or even entirely losing its industrial appearance.</p> <p>Someone had the inspiration of installing the 'Watchful', both to commemorate those fishermen</p>	<p>Against</p>	<p>na</p>

	<p>lost at sea and to remind everyone of part of Ayr's history.</p> <p>May I suggest the Council acquires another vessel as a replacement and incorporate it in their new plans. It could even be under cover and made to be a significant part of the proposed Heritage Trail. If approached, I am sure the Maritime Museum would be happy to give further advice.</p>		
Geoff Turner (by e-mail)	<p>The SAC, have been waiting for a long time for the MVF Watchful to fall into this state of disrepair, so that they can remove it on the grounds of safety to the public.</p> <p>As stated in the consultation document the SAC have never allocated funds for the maintenance and up keep of the vessel. So as anything, not looked after is has dilapidated to its current state. If the SAC weren't going to fund it's up keep, they should never placed it there in the first place. This situation lands fair and square on the desk of SAC.</p> <p>There is no other option left now but remove the vessel and scrap it. Shame on SAC.</p> <p>So that brings us to the question what sort of water sport the old drydock slipway can be used for.</p> <p>Not very many as the slipway leads to the commercial harbour and the associated traffic. Thank about H&S.</p> <p>At present there is a 3 level wheelchair access ramp being built in the drydock slipway. I beg the question for what is the purpose of this ramp?</p> <p>Its not for access to view the MVF Watchful, as she is going.</p> <p>Any vessel small enough to be taken down the new ramp could be carried down the old steps. Any vessel that needs a slipway will be too big to use the new ramp.</p> <p>What a gross waist of funds.</p>	Neutral	<p>Safety will be a consideration if the Council is asked to evaluate any proposed uses for the inner harbour.</p> <p>The ramp is not a disabled ramp. It has been built on a gradient of 1:20.5 with generous width and landing areas to facilitate access for watersports or other interests. The Harbour Master and Ayrshire Roads Alliance are both aware of the plans and the design was approved by Building Standards.</p>
Robert Dunn (by e-mail)	<p>Dear Sir,</p> <p>With regards to the boat in south harbour street I feel that it should be left alone and restored, why can't there be a project to paint the boat and at least tidy the place up. The boat represents the once marina that was there and the history of it, it should be incorporated with the water sports project, you should ask for volunteers to clean and restore the paint on it, I for one would volunteer to my services to help bring it bank to some life, and schools could be involved 6th years could be included</p> <p>Thanks again</p>	Against	na
Dan Frazer (by e-mail)	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I wish to express a desire for an accessible public slipway at Ayr Harbour, along with adequate parking for vehicles with trailers.</p>	Neutral	na

Cat Anfield (by e-mail)	I don't usually want to sacrifice heritage sites but this has become a bit of eyesore and if there's no money to maintain the area then it would be better for this to change. So, I'd like to see the 'Watchful' scrapped and that end of the beach brought back to life and smartened up. Providing useable access to the water would be great and also some landscape planting, public toilets and benches. Thanks	For	na
Brian Young (by e-mail)	Good Day, Can I rent/buy/lease the slipway and create a working boatyard and potentially relocate my business there as well? There is only 1 boatyard on the Clyde (Girvan) and it is very busy and very far away. Having a boatyard that is more local would be great. We operate from Fairlie Quay currently but it is far from Ideal and I have been pestering NAC for some land with direct water access for the past 15years without any success and have watched them build houses on every piece of land I have suggested. Hopefully this slipway could be refurbished and put to use as a working boatyard and could create several jobs. Happy to meet with you and to discuss this great opportunity further. Regards,	Neutral	Thank you for your enquiry – we will respond to you directly in due course.
Erin Somerville (by e-mail)	My Grampa, <i>name removed</i> , worked on the Watchful. If the boat is indeed to be scrapped could our family please have the name plate from the side of the boat?	Neutral	The Council is bound by Common Good rules and procedures in relation to The Watchful. Your request is noted and the Council will contact you directly following completion of this statutory Common Good Consultation exercise.
Steve Pinder-Banthorpe (by e-mail)	Re: 'MVF Watchful Common Good Consultation' I fully support South Ayrshire Council's proposals to remove and then scrap the MVF Watchful to improve access for water sports and possibly a harbour art and heritage trail. This area presently looks awful with a rusting old ship that no one pays much attention to.	For	na
William Walker (by e-mail)	I recently saw a post on FB about watchful. This was my wife's Grandads boat & was owned by <i>name removed</i> . I beg of you not to give anything away of the boat, as 4 of <i>name removed</i> daughters are still living (1 in Ayr) <i>name removed</i> .	Neutral	na

	<p>If this was being scrapped, I think the sisters should have a say in what's given away, <i>some text removed</i>.</p> <p>Please contact myself or <i>name removed</i>.</p> <p>Regards</p>		
James Yeo (by email)	<p>Was referred to you about ayr Harbour public slip by sac sports and leisure ie putting a hand rail along the wall at the steps Down the side of the slip and a floating pontoon to get access onto boats and pleasure craft canoes jetski fishing boats for the safety of the public.mental health and wellbeing I use this area and it is badly needed updating I and others are trying to make it better for all ayr boating community?reply please</p>	Neutral	<p>Further community engagement work will take place to inform the Ayr Esplande Improvement Strategy, giving all interested parties an opportunity to make suggestions before proposals are finalised.</p>
Iain McKie for Citadel Quay Owners Association (by e-mail)	<p>Watchful Consultation I am writing on behalf of Citadel Quay Owners Association. I have completed the online response form as follows: 'The Citadel Quay Owners Association supports this proposal, providing a suitable memorial is erected to fishermen lost at sea and the critical question of the failing infrastructure in the South Harbour is addressed. Details of this will be contained in an email to estates@south-ayrshire.gov.uk '</p> <p>As stated however there is little sense in creating new facilities unless the failing infrastructure is addressed.</p> <p>Retaining Walls: Because of years of maintenance failures the decaying infrastructure within the South Harbour has reached crisis point. The deterioration in the water retaining walls is now threatening to undermine some of the adjacent paths and structures. A mixture of vandalism and natural erosion has resulted in large holes appearing in the protective membrane in place to ensure that there is no leakage of seawater into the surrounding area and it is now severely compromised.</p> <p>The Bridge: Following safety fears reported by users and local residents in relation to the bridge linking the east and west sides of the South Harbour the council has carried out some very limited repairs but has failed to tackle the underlying deterioration which threatens to close the bridge. In addition to being a useful link to the harbour pier and beach, when</p>	Neutral	<p>Further community engagement work will take place to inform the Ayr Esplande Improvement Strategy, giving all residents an opportunity to make suggestions or raise concerns before proposals are finalised.</p>

	<p>built its lighting and general appearance provided a striking entrance to the Inner Harbour.</p> <p>Walls and Gardens: In 2021 the council parks department established gardens beside the South Harbour walkway revitalising what had become a barren and neglected area. Unfortunately failure to maintain them has led to weed infestation and a serious decline in what had been a substantial improvement. Walls along the various walkways and paths have crumbled and require pointing to prevent their further deterioration and possible collapse.</p> <p>General Deterioration: There is general deterioration across the whole South Harbour area. There has been a total failure to develop a maintenance programme to protect and advance the refurbishment works carried out since 2000. Broken lighting, particularly on the bridge and pathways, rusting railings and metal features, rotting seating and a general air of decay ruin what should be an attractive area for residents and visitors alike.</p> <p>I have attached an extract from a report prepared by Fort, Seafield and Wallacetown Community Association detailing these infrastructure failings. This Association fully supports council plans to upgrade the whole South Harbour area but the first steps must be the failing infrastructure and not cosmetic initiatives.</p> <p>Confirmation of this response would be appreciated.</p>		
Jon Sheward (via email)	<p>This boat has seen better days . It should be removed. Maybe the Irvine maritime museum might be interested in her. I think the Dock area would make an excellent ramp for launching small or larger boats. If the the top end was changed, access would be excellent. Obviously some regulation of small boats (maybe by a buoyed area and speed restrictions) needed to protect the harbour traffic. Also possibly diverting high speed craft North (jet skis) away from main beach . Expanding the pontoons further up the harbour would also attract boats. At the moment just an eyesore. The potential space to develop a small sailing dinghy facility, with a compound nearby is a possibility.</p>	For	Further community engagement work will take place to inform the Ayr Esplanade Improvement Strategy, giving all interested parties an opportunity to make suggestions or raise concerns before proposals are finalised.
John Campbell (via email)	<p>Good idea.....no point in it being there....get rid of it....get rid of the concrete mess that surrounds it... it's only the start to TRY and put some life and culture back into the town to rebuild Ayr as it</p>	For	na

	should be ...as it was in the 60s 70s and early 80s..stop knocking down historic buildings that have been part of the town for centuries. That's my input to the common good consultation and I speak for an awful lot of local people.		
John Stevens	If the boat is to be moved why not donate it to the Maritime Museum in Irvine ?	Neutral	na