

QDCC

MONTHLY REPORTS

OCT 2020

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“Welcome to this Queensferry & District community council monthly reports newsletter. Please browse by scrolling through or use the menu to the left to select a specific report or document.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and our [website](#) for more information and latest updates.”

Thank you



Anxious about winter approaching?

Would you like to learn wellbeing tools and prepare for a challenging winter?

Come and meet others and plan how we can keep ourselves well in the winter ahead.

For people living in South Queensferry.

Dates:
20 October
3 November
10 November
17 November
24 November

Sessions will be on Zoom from 1-2.30pm

For more information and to register: email Zoe Reid at zoe.reid@health-in-mind.org.uk

www.health-in-mind.org.uk



Health in Mind is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC004128, and a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland, number SC124090. The registered office is at 40 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, EH2 4RT

Chair's Report ▲ Keith Giblett

Chairman's report for October 2010 Business Meeting

Letter to CEC Exec Harbour repairs

After seeking support from the four Ward Councillors, Queensferry Boat Club and Heritage Trust I wrote to the Executive Management Members of The City of Edinburgh Council: CEO Andrew Kerr, Leader of the Council Adam McVey and Chief Executive Direct of Place Paul Lawrence bringing to their attention the poor condition of the Harbour and the lack of progress by CEC to carry out repairs. I am seeking to have these urgent repairs affected as the harbour is at serious risk from winter weather. To date Mr Paul Lawrence has acknowledged the letter dated 5th October '20.

I have had no reply from the CEO or Leader of the Council. QHT working with QBC are working on producing a paper noting the importance of the Harbour as a Heritage site. I'm advised by HES that the Scottish Government can instruct CEC to carry out repairs on a listed structure and have asked for the detail and process to be able to take this course of action if necessary.

Spaces for People Virtual meeting

Following a request from QDCC a virtual meeting was called and held to receive an update on progress. SfP were still working on their plans and were not in a position to offer a date when the work might commence. An indicative time of 5 days was given to implement the changes but I suspect that this is ambitious timescale. There are no plans to create a turning circle at the west end of the Hawes Promenade in favour of using the turning circle gap that is used by the coaches for the liner visits!

Local Business Initiative

With support from Graeme and Jenni I have been working on developing a communication strategy and have a mechanism for engaging with Queensferry High Street Businesses to ensure information transfer about the Spaces for People (SfP) Project and the High Street Improvements works. I am keen that the Businesses have an opportunity to comment about matters that will impact on their business. Earlier this week I issued a paper that can be circulated to the businesses that can feedback their thoughts. Please contact me if you would like to receive a copy of the paper.

Sewage Leak Lovers Lane

The current issue has been resolved, it related to a blockage within the pipe approximately 70m downstream from our connection point. The pipe is also affected by root ingress. Cala offered to cctv the pipe and cut the roots using our specialist contractor machinery (cuts from inside the pipe). We believe the pipe is owned by The Council, and not adopted by Scottish Water. Scottish Water have offered to adopt the pipe, so we could do with the Council allowing that (and removing themselves from a liability) by grating a wayleave. The precise route of the pipe is not fully understood, and further work is required on that.

Remembrance Sunday

As discussed at the September business meeting there will be no parade and a very much restricted service for Remembrance Day this year. Each organisation wishing to lay a wreath will be invited to send one representative to be present at the War Memorial for 10.50/10.55 am, the Rev David Cameron will say a few very brief words, there

will be the usual minute's silence then the representatives will lay their wreaths and that's it. Harry McLeod and Tommy Morton are aware that there will be a representative from the Community Council so there will be no need for any invitation other than this email. The plan is that a number will be allocated to each organisation so that the wreath layers will line up on the pavement in front of the Rosebery Gardens and come forward in order. Harry will be giving me numbers for the RNLI, the Ferry Fair and yourselves which whenever I have I will notify you.

Barclays Bank Community Facility Funds

I have written to Barclays Bank following their communication that they would be closing QDCC's account due to no transactions, asking that the account remain active or be transferred to an alternative suitable account.

High St Improvements

Following my request for an update Dave Sinclair CEC advised that in the last few weeks they have been busy working with CEC Active Travel Team to meet the Sustrans bid date of 4th November. We have further developed proposals for Hawes Pier and the Binks car parks areas. Ironside Farrer has been in touch with Will Tunnel regarding the Priory Church proposals to maximise opportunities in that area. A meeting to be held in early November is presently being arranged.

Rosshill residents

I have been in correspondence with Rosshill Residents Association about their concerns when the High Street One-way System Spaces For People trial takes place.

Community Facility

I reached out to Queensferry Churches Care in the Community asking them to confirm their intentions with the project of building a ten bed respite care home. QCCC confirmed that they would not be taking the project forward as the tight restrictions in minute of agreement did not suit their needs and they had returned the grant that had been offered. In turn I wrote to Ferrymuir Business Park Developments advising Mr James Pitt that QDCC could not deliver the development for a number of reasons. Mr Pitt undertook to discuss this with the owners of Ferrymuir and considering the present constraints thought that a solution could be found.

FBWHMC – Tourism Group

I have learned that Fife Council Officers are progressing a strategy paper that will be presented to full council for implementation of the Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy with particular emphasis on delivering the signage strategy paper produced by Paul Hogarth Company. Having contacted Mr Paul Lawrence asking for an update, to be advised that "discussions continue then I'm not aware of any such plans by CEC. It's a matter of fact that the initiative for the Liner Improvements and Hawes Toilet improvements have all stalled. I would have thought that now is the time to be progressing with the work.

Cala Homes footpath repair at Dalmeny Park

I am grateful to Cala Homes for carrying our urgent footpath repairs at Dalmeny Park by relaying some sets that had been displaced. Within four hours of bringing the repair to their attention the work was completed. QDCC appreciates the prompt action taken by Cala.

Keith Giblett, Chair QDCC, 25 October 2020

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CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY – OCTOBER REPORT

1. The QDCC mailbox – both incoming and outgoing has remained steady in terms of volume since the September Meeting.
As previously reported most people tend to engage with QDCC through social media rather than direct contact via e-mail although we do still receive some phone calls, which this month included queries on Council House availability, missing waste uplifts, traffic calming on Scotstoun Avenue, and QHS demolition works,

Following dialogue with the CEC Community Council support team we took the decision in March to suspend all face to face meetings of the Community Council until further notice and informed CEC accordingly and we now know this will continue until at least the end of this year and maybe well into 2021.

Business continues as best we can using a combination of email and social media and following a successful trial in holding the August Business meeting via MS Teams the decision was taken to open up future virtual meetings to the general public.

The October Meeting will therefore be the second of these and will be held in combination with the delayed AGM.

Dialogue with CEC continues and we have had some further information on holding remote meetings which we have acted upon but await further detail and a response to some questions posed as an indication was given as to possible support for Community Councils during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CEC have confirmed that all online meeting minutes can be approved remotely, as can annual Community Council accounts – which will be done accordingly.

We had one further enquiry from a local resident who expressed interest in taking up the role of Minute Secretary and are currently following up

Whilst it remains encouraging that local residents are keen to engage with QDCC, most communications tend to be complaints, issues with CEC service delivery and queries about local service provision.

My thanks go out again Diane for pursuing some additional planning and street naming queries, and to Graeme for help in organizing online meetings.

2. An increased number of website enquiries have been received over the last month on topics ranging from Ferrymuir Roundabout signage, Cemetery capacity and missing domestic bins. Notes of interest in attending the virtual Business meeting have also been received via this tool.

It may well be there is an issue with the email functionality of this tool that will need to be looked at.

No significant postal mail was received this month

3. On behalf of QDCC I continue to correspond with CEC officials, CEC Councillors, and local residents on various community related matters. I continue to distribute information to office-bearers, members and/or portfolio conveners as appropriate.

Please note the e-mail circulation list by which this report is delivered should be taken as the current version and used in any group wide communication. Can I ask all members to ensure all details are properly transcribed. Please reach out with any updates should any contact details change.

Terry Airlie

Vice Chair & Correspondence Secretary – 25th October 2020

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Treasurer's Report ▲ Diane Job

Treasurer Report - October 2020

Money in this month:

None

Money out this month:

None

Total CC Funds = £1545.95

Community Facility Funding

Clydesdale Bank

Cash Management Account - (September Interest £0.54) +
payment of solicitors fees for Community Facility - £3120.00 -
£18345.04

95 Day Notice Account - (September interest £22.38) - **£60518.22**

Nationwide Building Society - **£85892.17**

Barclays Bank - **£85000.00**

RBS - (Interest July-September £21.61) - **£85770.93**

Charity Bank - (Interest Sept 2019 - June 2020 £483.56) - **£60582.19**

Community Facility Funding Total = £396108.55

Diane Job

QDCC Treasurer

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Communications ▲ Graeme McKinley

QDCC continues to communicate with residents, authorities and internally using various online tools: social media (Facebook & Twitter), QDCC website, email, messenger, MS Teams and Zoom; the monthly meetings via MS Teams are open to the public by request via our website, advertised on our website and social media channels. Subjects discussed through those channels are incorporated in to each relevant sub-committee's report.

A QDCC article has been submitted for the Nov/Dec edition of Spotlight Magazine which will be distributed through the local doors in mid November. Anyone willing to or know of anyone willing to help with distribution should contact Alistair@wordsandpicturesuk.com

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Education ▲ David Flint

Local schools have established working COVID practices since return in Aug and continue to adjust to the moving national guidelines and regulations. QHS updates can be read on their website.
<https://queensferryhigh.co.uk/>

The community facilities are expected to open in November, updates will be given nearer the time if this remains in play.

There is an issue at QHS with the WiFi. It would appear that the signal strength is fine, the issue is a CEC policy not to allow the pupils access to the school WiFi. This has been escalated and is being debated at a high level within CEC. Amongst reasons given include poverty and security. Ironically, pupils in some classes are being asked to access the internet on their own phones using their own data allowance, this disadvantages those in poverty.

The school is supposedly meant to have adequate authorised IT equipment to supply pupils accessing the school WiFi, however, despite temporary emergency measures being requested by the school management to CEC, the school still remains under supplied.

The concept behind 'a new way of learning' very much centred round accessing information using modern methods and technology. This is a disappointing situation for our brand new 'state of the art' school.

Graeme McKinley on behalf of David Flint, 26th Oct 2020

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Queensferry District Community Council – Environmental Sub –Committee Report for October 2020

Tesco Recycling facilities and general cleanliness of the car park and surrounding areas

Evans Trust have confirmed that the strip of “no man’s land “ between Tesco and the Dakota hotel will be cleaned up and added to the maintenance programme.

There is now some doubt about Tesco taking over full ownership of the recycling units. The Tesco management team are seeking to clarify the situation with the Tesco recycling central department

Scot mid recycling area

One of the recycling bins is not being emptied sufficiently regularly and as it contains a whole range of waste including some food stuff it is attracting vermin. I will chase this up with Graham Philp the store manager who has been approached about this recently but no improvement has been evidenced

Sewage issues

The issue with the sewage spillage that was affecting the paths near the Hub and leeching into the burn that runs down into Ferry Glen has been resolved following the intervention of Keith Giblett and Norrie Work. The blockage was identified as stemming from an existing Scottish Water sewer apparently blocked by weed growth. Cala homes have offered the use of their specialist cutting machine to remove the blockage

There appear to be some progress with the long outstanding sewage issue along the main cycle path as the pool of dirty water at the side of the path is now a shade of emerald green indicating some dye is being used to identify the source of the leak. Norrie Work is now going to pick up the cudgels to try to get an update and get this finally resolved.

Motor Bike Disturbance Issues

Gary Smith has complained that despite the efforts of PC Crow the noise from motor bikes continues. I have acknowledged the situation but have reiterated that there is very little more the Community Council can do. I understand that historically the onset of winter tends to result in a reduction in the number of bikers as the winter weather with ice and use of salt tends to deter them from venturing out

Rosebery Halls Gardens

With support from the local Rotary club members 2 large wooden posts have been concreted into the ground at the top end of the gardens to host the electric cable needed for the Christmas lights

End Polio Now

All the purple crocus bulbs have been planted, some in open spaces at Echline and some in the grass embankment in front of the High School, Unfortunately contractors have subsequently dug up various large holes on the High School grass area, I suspect to locate a pipe and have left the area in a shocking mess. I will try to ascertain the contractors who did this work with a view to the ground being reinstated in a proper fashion.

Fly tipping

An old settee was dumped at the Echline woodland area and Keith Giblett has arranged for it to be uplifted.

Neil McKinlay, Convenor QDCC Environmental Committee
Monday 26th October 2020

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HEALTH AND WELL BEING REPORT OCTOBER 2020

Health in Mind

Started a new online group last Tuesday called “**Preparing for a challenging winter**” running each Tuesday 1-2.30pm until the end of November. Topics that they will cover include:

- Face masks and Flu jabs
- Hygge! Make your home a comfy haven!
- Sleep and stress
- Staying connected
- Warm food and warm house
- Mindful winter activities
- Keep yourself moving

If you would like to sign up, please email for the zoom link!

Zoe.Reid@health-in-mind.org.uk

This is the last service running specifically for South Queensferry, so please make the most and come along and/or spread the word far and wide. As of 1st December, Health in Mind no longer has funding for a dedicated South Queensferry worker. Although this is sad, they have recently secured funding for 4 “Locality workers” through Thrive. This means that there will be a team of people working for all areas of Edinburgh. They very much hope that we can still come and run some things in South Queensferry, but it will be very reduced and look very different.

Edspace has been replaced by I Thrive which was launched this month (ithriveedinburgh.org.uk) The website has been redesigned and has links to many of the support groups that many of our friends and family may need to access over the coming months as we struggle to keep on top of the impacts of isolation. It is easy to navigate and using your postcode you can access groups near to home.

Flu vaccines; the general feedback is that the drive through system worked fairly well in Queensferry – thanks to our GPs for getting that opportunity for us locally rather than having to go into Edinburgh. There will be a walk-in service provided by the same team on **Saturday 14th Nov** at the GP practice but not organised by the GPs. Again, the timings will be alphabetical -see GP website. ****Note the Sunday 15th Nov clinic will NO LONGER be running due to the number of flu vaccinations already delivered being in line with total expectation, therefore remaining demand is expected to be lower than originally anticipated.***

Over 55s will be entitled to a free vaccine but not until December.

It is possible to obtain the vaccine from either of the local Lloyds branches. Currently they can only accept pre-booked appointments ([book on lloydspharmacy.com](http://book.onlloydspharmacy.com)). There is a high demand at present but if you are unable to secure a time slot register your email address and they will send an email once spaces become available. At the moment this only covers the private service but they will be supporting the NHS service once they receive the vaccines. The NHS service via the pharmacy is only meant for those who could not attend the drive through or walk in services already being provided, hence the limited amount of vaccines allocated to this service. Private vaccine will cost £12.99. Please remember that this is a service being provided on top of the staffs normal work in preparing your prescriptions.

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Planning & Housing ▲ Diane Job

Applications

During four week period fourteen applications were received

20/03618/FUL - Demolition of existing building and erection of 5x terraced townhouses with associated works – 2 Stoneycroft Road (old Legion building)

20/03640/FUL - Conversion of restaurant/hotel into 5x dwellings - 23 Edinburgh Road (former Sealscraig Hotel/Restaurant)

20/03641/LBC - Conversion of restaurant/hotel into 5 private dwellings with External alterations including upgrading of windows + doors, partial removal of non- original extension and erection of replacement offshoot, reinstatement of windows on G and LGF, removal of ventilation ductwork, signage+lighting from façade; minimal internal alterations - 23 Edinburgh Road (former Sealscraig Hotel/Restaurant)

20/03667/FUL - Garage conversion and single story rear extension - 3 Young Drive

20/04003/LBC - Modify building to insulate outer walls and attic room. Modify bedroom 1 and bathroom - 7 Ashburnham Gardens

20/03897/FUL - Proposed rear extension - 24 Echline Park

20/03777/FUL - Replacement existing gates with cast stone piers & painted steel gates - Ashburnham Lodge Station Road

20/03778/LBC - Replacement existing gates with Cast Stone Piers & Painted steel gates - Ashburnham Lodge Station Road

20/03781/FUL - Proposed Change of Use from Class 1 retail unit to a mixed-use facility, comprising production facility for the manufacture of chocolate products (class 4 light industrial), a cafe (Class 3 food and drink), small retail unit (Class 1 retail), & gallery (Class 10). Existing roof replaced with new to match existing, new curtain wall glazing and balconies to north & south gables, new first floor of 425sqm formed, new roller shutter door formed - 1/4-6 Port Edgar (previously Shapes).

20/04043/FUL - Proposed single storey extension to the rear of property - 19 Clufflat Brae

20/04066/FUL - Proposed single storey extension to existing detached dwelling - 7 Echline Terrace

20/04225/FUL - Proposed wrap round extension to create open plan living / dining / sitting and new

wc and bedroom - 86 Long Crook

20/04243/ADV - Post mounted signage board 1 metre wide and 4 metres high - Site North Of Ferrymuir Gait

20/04285/FUL - Rear single storey extension and front porch - 21 Lowrie Gait

Decisions

The Planning Authority made five decisions during the four week period

18/08266/AMC - Residential development comprising 124x dwellings (Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions of consent 14/01509/PPP) - Site North Of Ferrymuir Gait - APPROVED

20/03636/FUL - Change of Use from class 1 (hairdresser) to class 2 (professional services) - 30 High Street - GRANTED

20/01409/FUL - Proposed slimline lattice tower and associated ancillary works - Land 405 Metres North West Of The Old Dairy House Dundas Home Farm - REFUSED

20/03519/FUL - Proposed attic conversion with dormer window to rear and rooflight to front - 11 Whitehead Grove – GRANTED

20/03017/FUL - Two storey side and rear extension (as amended) - 11 Stoneyflatts - GRANTED

Planning Matters

Please be advised that during these unprecedented times planning officers are working from home for now. The public office at Waverley Court is closed and plans cannot be viewed, the help desk is also closed

Dundas Children's Play Park

QDCC contacted Alan Grevers and we were advised that Dundas Play Park is on his to do list - there is no further update on sourcing the additional funding that is required and with COVID-19 affecting so many businesses I can't see that sourcing funding from out with CEC is going to be easy. QDCC will keep an eye on this as we already have £25,000 in funding due to the High School build and we don't want to lose this and we also want to see an upgrade of this park as was discussed with CEC reps over 2 years ago - NO FUTURE UPDATE

Dalmeny Park

Commercial Land - no further update on if/when building will start. To Let signage is still in place

Scotstoun Avenue

Scotstoun Ave - Section 75 - Resurfacing, Traffic Calming and Bus Stop Improvements

Part of Scotstoun Ave has been resurfaced as part of the City Wide Road Surface Treatment programme - the remainder of Scotstoun Ave was to be resurfaced later this year when the traffic calming and bus stop improvements are being progressed for the section 75 works.

Stacey Monteith-Skelton has been in touch with QDCC with this update:

"I met with colleagues on Wednesday to discuss this project and the designs. I have also spoken to finance and have been given the green light to put the works out to tender, for which I am hoping to have out for advertisement by Friday 6th November, likely for a 2 or 3 week return period.

This will enable us to programme the works to begin in early 2021, this is obviously a bit later than we were anticipating given the pandemic but please be assured I am aiming to have this project on the ground as soon as I can. QDCC will be updated on the progress"

Taylor Wimpey - South Scotstoun Development

Update - There are further tree's to be removed from site. The electricity sub station which is to be powered in approximately two weeks necessitates these removals as cables require to be dug. In addition, a further three tree's will be removed on site itself. All of these works fall under the planning permissions Taylor Wimpey have.

In December there will be another two week period of 'piling' for foundations. This time however, these works are closer to the motorway than existing residents so sound levels etc should not be as high as they have been previously

Showhomes are likely to open in December but this may push out to January

Builyeon Road Housing Development

16/01797/PPP - 20/01137/PAN

Cala are in the process of preparing a consultation report following their 'virtual' public event, held on 2nd October. Cala can however report the following:

Cala had 1432 visits to the website from it being live, from Friday 25th September, to 9th October. Of these visits, 1,085 were unique visitors. 70.8% of visitors came through their mobiles, 23.6% from desktop PCs and 5.6% from tablets.

During the live chat, Cala handled 34 conversations. A further 9 emails were received, and 21 feedback forms were received.

The main issues being, Builyeon road diversion, Some still question the principle of development, Traffic impact and road capacity, Questions about the need for filling station and drive thru restaurants, Clarification on affordable housing, Concerns over the Medical Centre the ability to cope, Local residents in Echline Farm Cottages looking to clarify access and impact.

Cala are currently working up more detailed information to address the principle concern being the diversion of Builyeon Road, and how this will operate given the proximity of the Primary School and mixed uses within the civic street.

The Section 75 Legal Agreement, a requirement of the PPP, is in the final stages of agreement with the Council. Cala hope to have this concluded within the next few weeks. This will allow the PPP to be issued. Thereafter we will be able to confirm the timeline for submission of the Masterplan and separate PPP for Commercial and Carehome.

Ferrymuir Gait

18/08266/AMC (revised application by the new developers) - Although the planning application was approved there are still issues between residents and the developer regarding the vehicle access to the site via Hugh Russell Place and Henry Ross Place which was out with the control of planning and is a legal matter. Confirmation from the developer is also required on the vehicle and construction access via Ferrymuir Gait.

Springfield LDP Site HSG1

19/06079/PAN - Residential Development and Associated Works including formation of Vehicular and Pedestrian Access, SUDS Infrastructure Provision and Hard and Soft Landscaping - Land Bounded By M90, Springfield Lea, Place And Terrace And Bo'ness Road Echline.

Cala will submit the planning application once the contract for the sale of the land has been concluded with Transport Scotland, this is expected imminently.

Stoneycroft Road (Old Legion Building) Planning Application 20/03618/FUL

History on 20/03618/FUL - Demolition of existing building and erection of 5x terraced townhouses with associated works - 2 Stoneycroft Road (old Legion building) - a previous planning application(16/04716/FUL)for this site was minded to grant in 2017 subject to the legal agreement being concluded within 6 months - The required legal agreement to secure education contributions of £84,610 (indexed linked) towards additional Primary School capacity plus £11,410 towards land has not been concluded within six months of the minded to grant date. The applicant felt that the required contribution per unit rendered the development unviable. The application was taken back to the committee who then refused the application because the legal agreement was not met. The documents being used in the new application seem to be the same/similar as the previous one. The demolition and build would be a challenge of which QDCC does have concerns but this is out with planning approval and would have to be taken up with the contractor if/when the application is granted.

Comments on this application need to be submitted by the **30th October**.

Sealscraig

20/03640/FUL - Conversion of restaurant/hotel into 5x dwellings - 23 Edinburgh Road (former Sealscraig Hotel/Restaurant)

20/03641/LBC - Conversion of restaurant/hotel into 5 private dwellings with External alterations including upgrading of windows + doors, partial removal of non- original extension and erection of replacement offshoot, reinstatement of windows

The application is to change the interior of the building into 5 flats. I feel the majority of people will be pleased that someone is going to invest money in this building as it is in a bad state, becoming an eyesore and I feel getting to the point of dangerous. I doubt anyone other than a developer would have the funding needed to bring this building up to the required standard. The drawings look a vast improvement in the appearance that we have at the moment although the proposed East Elevation may cause concern with the 2 storey full glass windows(sliding door to new balcony) and some may will feel the design is not in keeping with this historic building and in a conservation area, although the Character Appraisal should be taken into consideration and planning officers should ensure that the plan complies. There are other details in the plans that need to be looked in depth.

No car parking but each flat will have double bike lockers and there will also be guest cycle parking. QDCC has concerns regarding the actual work that will take place to strip and reconstruct the building, deliveries, uplifts, contractor vans etc which will be required for this conversion as space at this location is very limited. The access and the impact of the works on neighbours especially those who share the lane at this location has to be taken into consideration but that is out with planning approval/control and would have to be taken up with the contractor if the application is granted.

Comments on this application need to be submitted by the **30th October**.

Glenforth Court Ferrymuir

Link have been in touch with QDCC regarding the flats that will be for sale in this retirement development and that they are in the process of creating a sales brochure which will include pricing details. When complete a pdf of this brochure will be sent to QDCC for us to share. Link would also be interested to know of any local groups who they can share the brochure with. Properties to rent in this development are allocated through Edindex. No Further update

Diane Job
QDCC Planning Convener

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QUEENSFERRY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Transport Report for October 2020

- 1. Various Planning Applications** – Some continuing dialogue with Varney Estate representatives on the access for the new housing development on the former Corus site. As the site enters a construction phase, use of particular entrance points shown in the planning application may be subject to legal dispute.
- 2. Spaces for People and High Street** – Another virtual meeting was held with CEC regarding Spaces for People plans for the High Street. The scheme for one way traffic flow from west to east is now quite mature. Aspects remaining to be resolved are a facility for turning large vehicles in the Hawes area, discouragement for traffic leaving the Hawes area from using Station Road, and placement of diversion signs on the section of A90 managed by Transport Scotland. Another meeting with Ironside Farrer is anticipated in November, where revised plans for resurfacing the High Street, now including a permanent one way proposal, should be taking shape. Hopefully some of the more awkward design features will be approaching a stage where design choices can be presented. Some kind of public engagement will be required, so Ironside Farrer hoped to be able to show mitigation measures for some of the clear problem areas. As previously reported, implementation has been delayed due to a large number of emerging influences but activity in the 2021-22 period may be possible. On the eastern edge of Queensferry, a Spaces for People scheme has been proposed for the A90 between Cramond Brig and Dean Bridge. One potentially controversial aspect is the introduction of a bus lane from just beyond Miller & Carter to Barnton, which would limit general citybound traffic to only one lane for about 400 yards. Under normal traffic conditions this could lead to fairly significant delays for car drivers, especially during the morning peak. However many people campaigned for additional bus priority on the A90 corridor last year, which was rejected due to the likelihood of disruption. Perhaps this is an opportunity to monitor effects during this period of lighter traffic. In the long term there may be a possibility to use more road width on part of this stretch by converting a layby into a bus lane, but space is very tight. Comments are invited to CEC until 4 November.
- 3. Car and Motor Bike Anti-Social Behaviour** – As per September, correspondence continues to be received regarding actual or potential nuisance from cars and motor bikes being used or parked in the Hawes and High Street areas. We've also heard from Dalmeny Station Residents Association about vehicles on Rosshill Terrace.

Grant Sangster

Transport Sub-Committee Convenor

25 October 2020

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Cllr Kevin Lang & Cllr Louise Young

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E: kevin.lang@edinburgh.gov.uk /

louise.young@edinburgh.gov.uk

 /AlmondCouncillors



Queensferry & District Community Council - October 2020

High Street one-way system - we expect to see the changes taking place soon over the coming weeks

- footways to be widened and creating safer spaces for pedestrians. There will be a very limited impact on car parking with a loss of only five spaces on the High Street itself. Plans to relocate residents' parking to the area next to the Hawes car park will not be taken forward. Significant signage telling motorists to drive slowly will be installed along Station Road.

Road safety changes delayed - the ongoing delays to the new traffic calming on Scotstoun Ave and Rosshill Terrace are generating a lot of complaints from local residents. As part of the SfP proposals for the High Street, we pushed for the new speed table on Rosshill to be in place before the one way system took effect. Unfortunately the SNP/Labour administration did not support this. We continue to push for progress on these and for the new promised and funded crossing on Bo'ness Road, which is being reduced to a 20mph road.

Plans for Echline housing site - The proposed 'master plan' for the Echline fields south of Builyeon Road has now been published. Whilst we long opposed building on this site, it is now important to get the best possible development. The master plan from Cala Homes involves:

- Up to 980 homes, including 25% affordable homes
- The new primary school
- A new care home
- A new discount foodstore (e.g. Lidl or Aldi)
- A petrol station
- Two 'drive-thru' restaurants.

Ferrymuir housing plan approved - The planning committee has now approved the new housing on the Corus site. We pushed hard for road access from the west via Ferrymuir Gait as to reduce traffic

through the existing estate. Whilst we were pleased to see revised plans that included this western access via Ferrymuir Gait, we remain concerned about the lack of guaranteed access rights over what is private land.

Queensferry primary school catchment changes - the proposals were due to come before the Council earlier this year but have been delayed due to Covid. Now that the Education & Families Committee has restarted, we expect this to come on the agenda soon.

Hawes Car Park - we have supported the extension to the nightly closures and have had a lot of positive feedback on this from residents. There are still concerns being raised with us about noise being generated from motorbikes and late evening cars, but the Police have advised that as they don't breach any regulations, there's no enforcement possible.

Speeding cars (Loan/Kirkliston Rd/Builyleon Rd) - we continue to receive complaints about speeding vehicles and have discussed this with the local police who have enforcement powers. Frustratingly the loss of all funding for community police officers from the Administration budget means we have lost the dedicated officers who would have been able to give this the resource required.

63 Bus service - the new expanded timetable took effect on 28th September and now includes weekend service and increased weekday frequencies. Obviously, this may be impacted by reductions in customer numbers from recent increased Covid restrictions or from changes to local Tier levels, and we will keep every informed when we hear further.

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Cllr Hutchison

Queensferry and District Community Council Councillors Report — October 2020

COVID-19 Response

The council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be analysed through update reports to the Policy and Sustainability committee and the associated recovery programme is discussed at a monthly all-party oversight group.

Full Council

Full Council met virtually on Thursday 15th October, in a meeting again lasting for almost 9 hours. There were lengthy debates on the Spaces for People programme and the Council's whistleblowing culture, both of which centred on issues of openness and transparency.

The next meeting of Full Council will take place on Thursday 19th November at 10am on Microsoft Teams. The meeting will be webcast in the usual fashion.

Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee will meet on Thursday 29th October. A key focus of the meeting will be reviewing the update on the Council's budget in the context of the ongoing pandemic and looking ahead to the budget setting process in February 2021.

Hawes & Longcraig Pier Users Committee

There has been a meeting of the Hawes & Longcraig Pier Users Committee scheduled for Wednesday 18th November.

I was happy to add my name to a letter penned by the QDCC Chair to senior council officers, highlighting the need for urgent repairs to the Hawes Pier.

Local Issues

St. Margaret's Primary School — Issues relating to a smell of sewage and vermin within the vicinity of the school were investigated and dealt with by the appropriate Council Officers, the issue having been brought to my attention by the parent council.

Queensferry Cemetery - Having reported on the generally poor upkeep of the cemetery in recent months and damage to some gravesites last month, the grass was recut, the staff involved were spoken to about the apparent lack of care and the constituent who reported the issue was sent an email of apology and also received a follow up phone call.

Hawes Pier Toilets - The toilets were not opened in a timely manner Wednesday 30th September, I reported this to the appropriate officer who advised that this was due to an unanticipated staff absence and that agency staff had been brought in to avoid recurrence.

In a report to the Finance and Resources Committee meeting on 24th September, the usage figures for the toilets showed a downward movement on last year, while all other public conveniences which had been reopened reflected a significant increase in footfall. I contacted the officer who had written the report to ask, that the fact that there were 10,000 cruise ship passengers last September against zero this year, be taken into account when considering the report. This was duly mentioned when the report was presented to committee and a day by day breakdown of figures year on year which was subsequently provided shows that setting aside the footfall from cruises, Hawes Pier toilets have also seen an upturn in usage in common with other locations in the city.

Street Light – Footbridge over the old railway - I received a report that the street light at the south end of the footbridge over the old railway, behind the bowling club, had been removed, leaving the area in darkness. On investigation I established that the lamp had sat atop a wooden column and that there were regular issues with the Scottish Power supply, leading to frequent outages. A decision was taken to remove the old column and this will be replaced by a new metal column shortly.

Surgeries

My surgeries are postponed indefinitely until the COVID-19 advice to Councillors on face to face meetings changes. Constituents requiring assistance can contact me by telephone or email.

Councillor Graham J. Hutchison

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Cllr Work

Queensferry & District Community Council

Cllr Norman Work's report for October 2020 meeting

The City of Edinburgh Council proposes to advertise a Traffic Regulation Order which will introduce a 20mph speed limit on Bo'ness Road between Walker Drive and Echline Avenue.

Due to coronavirus and the need for physical distancing, CEC are unable to display the documents relating to this proposal at Council Offices, nor are they able to display street notices on site at the affected locations. Therefore, the proposals relating to this Order can be viewed online at the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/trafficorders from 9 October 2020 to 30 October 2020. You can also register for email or text alerts via the Tell Me Scotland portal at www.tellmescotland.gov.uk which also provides details of this proposal.

I was asked to contact the council to assist Queensferry Care finding storage for their Trishaw. I put Gillian Smith in touch with CEC's David Stevenson who agreed with their request for storage unit to be sited next to the Haven on Burgess Road. Residents adjacent to the site have been contacted by letter to inform them about the container.

Arrangements are being made to hold a virtual Hawes/Longcraig Pier Users Committee meeting in November. Date still to be finalised.

Reports of green liquid substance on the old railway path under the rail bridge was reported to me and on social media. I contacted the council's environmental officials and Scottish Water. SW say they do use different colour of dye and confirmed one of the colours is green and assured me the liquid is nontoxic. Contractors operating on behalf of Scottish Water have excavated an area on the path near the car park behind the recreation centre. Apparently, there may have been a drain in this location and investigations are underway to check if one was there but so far after excavating the area it has been left as it is and made safe by being barriered off. At the time of writing this report I'm still waiting for a more detailed update from SW.

On Tuesday 13th September, Christmas in Queensferry held a virtual meeting where discussions centred on holding some sort of virtual switch on. Plans are in the early stages and may include a mixture of pre-recorded and live streaming based on the same type of event normally held but drastically scaled down and without the crowds.

Later the same day I attended a virtual meeting of the High Street Working Group where detailed plans of the proposals for temporary Spaces for People measures were discussed. Another meeting is planned in early November.

Cllr Norman Work

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Other Documents

QDCC Chairman's Annual Report 2019 and 2020

In the life of QDCC, 2019 into 2020 has probably been one of the most challenging times with the demise of the Almond Partnership, followed by the Localities Committees compounded with CEC's reorganisation plans to centralise their operation has made it very difficult for QDCC to represent the views of our community. Little or no support has been provided to QDCC by CEC during Covid. In fact, we have received more bulletins from CEC about what we cannot do as opposed to how we might be supported and function during the virus constraints.

It's a measure of the members of QDCC that their skill knowledge and sheer determination has shone through and QDCC continues to function strongly representing Queensferry with providers of services at The City of Edinburgh Council and others such as Government agencies.

The work undertaken by QDCC is significant and I would challenge any other Community Council that they had a workload that we do, representing Queensferry & District. Housing developments will grow the town by forty per cent, High Street improvements, Spaces for people changes, supporting High Street businesses, Visitor issues and Liner visits and of course Covid 19, just to list a few items of business.

By far the biggest portfolio is the Planning Account and in 2019/20 we have seen the planning applications coming forward for the LDP: South Scotstoun by Taylor Wimpey, Springfield and Builyeon Road by Cala and the one that has proven to be most challenging and remains so is the former motel site by Ambassador Homes. At the same time other applications continue month on month: The Forth Bridge Visitor Centre, applications for signage to be installed on roundabouts and for developments on the High Street which all need to be viewed, monitored and commented on.

Transport is another of the larger portfolios supporting the planning sub-group by studying the road layout designs proposed in plans, the ongoing High Street Improvements, as well as more recently Spaces for People plans. The day to day business continues with complaints about the functionality of the High Street, car parking around the town as well as operational matters that arise with the Bridges.

How QDCC engages with the community is very important and good communications are essential. We have an excellent team looking after our communications. A new website was built and the monthly reports are now translated into a newsletter report on all of the Sub groups work that can be viewed on the Website. Facebook continues to be very popular as the medium for publishing information promptly. QDCC Twitter Account was re-opened earlier in the year.

The Environment is another important aspect of QDCC's work and the sub group have and continue to work with the local authority on waste management issues, fly tipping, noise on the High Street as well as the problems experienced with anti-social behaviours by some drivers at the Hawes Promenade which resulted in the closure of the car park from 10pm till 6am.

Health & Wellbeing is a new sub group that was formed which in a short period has become an established and very important portfolio supporting families with health issues and engaging with

health providers. QDCC was delighted to support Health & Mind by providing facilities for courses that they organised in Queensferry. Publishing Covid 19 guidelines and providing support and help with interpretation of the rules was another area where QDCC could assist as well as publishing updates about the flu jab arrangements.

Recreation is still an important portfolio for QDCC and our role whilst diminished due to the closure of buildings because of the Covid constraints hasn't stopped QDCC enquiring of Edinburgh Leisure about the opening of the new High School facility. We have been advised that initially it will be the same service as provided by the former High School.

Our local interest groups play an important part in the work of QDCC and we are fortunate with the diversity of the groups represented being Queensferry Heritage Trust, Queensferry Churches Care in the Community, Queensferry Boat Club and Queensferry High School.

Our four ward councillors regularly attend our QDCC monthly business meetings and play their part in the workings of QDCC by informing us about the content of meetings they attend and the intentions of The City of Edinburgh Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your contribution and volunteers time given to QDCC work. Often at short notice and at the cost of family time and other pursuits.

Keith Giblett
Chair QDCC

22nd October 2020

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY – ANNUAL REPORT-2019/2020

Queensferry & District Community Council (QDCC) is a non-political voluntary but statutory body of local residents representing the people of Queensferry and Dalmeny, involved in a wide range of issues making local representation on areas such as planning, transport, housing, education, licensing, safety, health, environment and policing.

Sub-committees of the community council meet local stakeholders and City of Edinburgh Council officials to take forward issues on behalf of the community in addition to monthly business meetings of the full community council as well as engaging with directly elected representatives in the Almond Ward, the City of Edinburgh Council, as well as both Scottish and Westminster Parliaments.

Primarily appointed to represent the views of the community with the local authorities, government bodies & agencies and Police Scotland, QDCC are statutory consultees on planning and licensing matters. We engage with developers on the large applications and endeavor to ensure that adequate public consultations are held.

Following dialogue with the CEC Community Council support team we took the decision in March 2020 to suspend all face to face meetings of the Community Council until further notice and informed CEC accordingly and we now know this will continue until at least the end of this calendar year.

Throughout the COVID-19 lockdown period QDCC has continued to work remotely using various online tools having restarted full community council monthly meetings from August 2020 using video conferencing tools.

We continue to advise all residents to follow government directives and advice on social distancing and limitation of spread of the coronavirus.

The current Community Council was formed after the election that was held in October 2019. Unlike other Community Council elections across the City of Edinburgh, this election was the only contested one and judging by the results it was clear that a large section of the local community were happy to engage in the process.

My appreciation goes out to all those who participated.

The Community Council currently is operating at full capacity in terms of elected members, however here is one vacancy on the Community Council – the role of Minute Secretary.

Most people nowadays tend to engage with QDCC through our social media presence rather than by other means, however direct contact via e-mail, our website “Contact Us” facility, phone communication and postal mail still continue.

Whilst it remains encouraging that local residents are keen to engage with QDCC, most communications tend to be complaints, issues with CEC service delivery and queries about local service provision.

Further details in terms of the type of issues and matters that the Community Council deal with can be found on our website.

My thanks go out to the conveners of the various sub committees – in particular planning, transport and the environment as well as health, education and a special mention to our communications guru in helping to organise online meetings, updating the website and maintaining our social media presence.

Local interest groups are valued and active participants in the Community Council, and my thanks also go out to the representatives of Queensferry Heritage Trust, Queensferry Churches Care in the Community, Queensferry Boat Club and Queensferry High School.

We continue to receive and circulate regular information updates from CEC on the ongoing role and responsibilities of Community Councils during the current pandemic.

However, in common with other Community Councils across Edinburgh, QDCC continues to struggle in terms of positive engagement with the City of Edinburgh Council.

Little or no support has been provided to QDCC by CEC during the pandemic and as such, as a voluntary group we continue to rely on the goodwill of our elected Community Councillors in terms of time, resource and financial goodwill

I would encourage everyone to visit our website and social media presence to keep up to date with all our activities.

Terry Airlie

Vice Chair & Correspondence Secretary – 24th October 2020

Queensferry and District Community Council

Annual Accounts 2019-2020

Summary

Income For The Year

CEC Annual Grant - £703.12
Attendance at Airport Workshop - £40.00

Expenditure

Echline Community Woodland Expenses

Membership Fees - £10.00
Strimmer Cord - £18.95

QDCC Running Costs

Preparation of Accounts - £75.00
Zurich Liability Insurance - £112.00
CEC Tenant Insurance - £101.04
Postage - £7.10
Envelopes - £1.09
Meeting expenses and parking - £22.10
Sundries (Water) - £3.40
Dalmeny Hall Let For June Meeting (Donation) - £20
Website Costs - £41.76
Hosting of Museum Forum - £99.10
(includes £35 donation to Sea Cadets for use of mini bus and driver)

Donations etc

Ferry Fair Floats Sponsorship - £90.00
Remembrance wreath - £30.00
Room Hire for CPR Training - £24.00
Gift Voucher for Retirement of Minute Secretary Volunteer - £20.00

Diane Job
QDCC Treasurer