

QDCC

MONTHLY REPORTS

NOV 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.

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Thank you

Keeping Well over the Festive Period



Are you feeling worried or anxious about the approaching festive period?

Come and explore ways to protect and improve your wellbeing over this challenging time in a safe group.

When: Mondays at 12:00 - 1:30 pm
30 November, 7, 14, 21 December

Sessions will be online on ZOOM.

If you do not have experience with zoom, we can support you with accessing it.

For more information and to register email Anna Chmiel at anna.chmiel@health-in-mind.org.uk or call Health in Mind: 0131 225 8508 - ask for Anna

www.health-in-mind.org.uk



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

Chair's Report ▲ Keith Giblett

Chairman's report for 23rd November 2020 Business Meeting

Harbour repairs

I received an acknowledgement for Mr Paul Lawrence Executive Director of Place but to date no reply has been received from the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council. I emailed Mr Lawrence on the 16th November asking if he could provide me with an update for the QDCC Business meeting. Councillor Hutchison has advised me by email this morning; "Mr Lawrence has been off ill and has therefore been unable to respond."

I have had permission from Peter Watton, to update you that there was a report on harbour repairs presented to the agenda planning meeting for Finance and Resources last week. At the Finance and Resources Committee on December 3rd, members will be asked to approve £500k of funding from the common good fund to make the required repairs to the harbour.

As my groups Finance Spokesman I can confirm that myself and my two Conservative colleagues on the committee will of course be supporting this recommendation."

Spaces for People Virtual meeting

Spaces for People issued a pdf drawing of the final proposals for the scheme and advised that they wish to progress with the work in the next couple of weeks. QDCC has raised their concerns about the compromised proposal for the turning circle by using the gap in the raised central pavement of the promenade that is used by the coaches for the liner visits. QDCC is concerned that this option compromises safety for the mix of uses by pedestrians, cars, motor bikes and pedal cycles as well as the loss of fifteen car park spaces. Yet again the communities' views have been ignored.

Local Business Initiative

I can only describe the response from local businesses to QDCC proposal as being poor. I am grateful to Graeme for his support by posting on the business Facebook page "business bulletins" that QDCC receives from CEC and other agencies.

Remembrance Sunday

On behalf of QDCC I invited and thank the Vice Chair Terry for laying the wreath at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

Barclays Bank Community Facility Funds

I reported at the October meeting that I had 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. I haven't received a reply and intend visiting the Princes Street branch sometime next week to discuss the matter.

High St Improvements

I contacted Dave Sinclair for a telephone conversation update. I was informed that a bid was lodged with Sustrans for £1.7m for the High Street improvements. I have requested a High Street Improvement's Steering Group meeting soonest.

FBWHMC – Tourism Group

A quarterly virtual meeting will be held on Thursday 26th November at 2pm.

Sea Cadets

I was contacted by the Sea Cadets who requested a meeting with QDCC to discuss Port Edgar Holdings using the land adjacent to their property which is subject to being leased by CEC to the Sea Cadets for a new build. Neil McKinley and I met with the Sea Cadets Commander and I took up the matter with Councillor Work.

The underlying cause is the time being taken by CEC Legals' to progress the lease which has been the subject of discussion for two years. The lease has been approved by the CEC Finance Committee some time ago.

Christmas in Queensferry 2020

I think the majority of Community Councillors will know that I chair the Christmas in Queensferry group.

Like all organisations this is a challenging year for ChiQ. You will see that some of the Christmas decorations have been installed with the remainder, the pole-mount decorations along with the banner type decorations being installed tomorrow by the contractor Phoenix that we use. This work involves using a van mounted cherry picker from the road so has to be carried out by professionals. The work is subject to a road occupation permit from CEC.

I am grateful to our volunteers a team of twelve people who install the decorations on the High Street which will be completed tomorrow. Queensferry Rotary have provided help to the Rosebery Hall who are extremely grateful for their assistance in installing infrastructure and decorating the hall gardens. It would not have been possible without their help.

The switching on of the Christmas lights by Mary Hutcheson and her two grandchildren in memory of David will be a virtual switch on this Thursday 26th at 6pm and you can pick up the link from ChiQ Facebook account. The virtual switch-on has been produced by a small sub-group of the committee.

ChiQ is very grateful to all of the schools and community brass band who have provided material for the virtual switch-on. It would be remiss of me not to mention Norman Watson who has given an inordinate amount of time producing the Facebook virtual video.

ChiQ is also very grateful to all of last year's sponsors as we are able to fund this year's event through their generous donations and careful management of our funds. This was one of our key objectives in not seeking sponsorship funding in this very difficult year..

My main community council work this past month has been email correspondence supporting the Community Council convenors and the subject matter will be covered in their reports.

Keith Giblett , Chair, QDCC

23 November 2020

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Secretary's Report Terry Airlie

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY – NOVEMBER REPORT

1. The QDCC mailbox – both incoming and outgoing has recently increased in terms of volume since the October Business 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 once again queries on Council House availability, Council House repairs, traffic calming on Scotstoun Avenue, High Street improvements, house location advice and one from a lady who requested help in arranging a correction to a birth certificate.

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 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 November Meeting will therefore be the third of these.

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. However following a query raised by Cllr Young, no financial assistance is likely to be forthcoming.

We had one ongoing enquiry from a local resident who expressed interest in taking up the role of Minute Secretary but no progress to report as yet.

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.

I followed up with CEC after an error in street naming associated with the Scotstoun Park development where a name (Riggers instead of Briggers) had been incorrectly transcribed and passed over to Taylor Wimpey. It now appears it will be possible to correct this, so a successful conclusion all around. Thanks to Cllr Lang who assisted QDCC in this matter

2. Once again an increased number of website enquiries have been received over the last month on a number of topics including housing developments across the town in general, missing waste bins, speeding along Scotstoun Avenue and a request for help on installing a cat flap in a property covered by the Conservation Area.

Notes of interest in attending the virtual Business meeting have also been received via this tool.

No significant postal mail was received this month

3. I was honored to lay a wreath on behalf of QDCC on the socially distanced Remembrance Day service
4. I attended a QDCC MS Teams meeting to discuss the potential of a Queensferry Community Forum. The Community Facility was also part of the discussion
5. I attended a QDCC planning sub-committee MS Teams meeting with John Wright a consultant from Strutt and Parker who gave us a presentation on behalf of Rosebery Estates with respect to a proposal for development at Bankhead Steadings
6. 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 – 22nd November 2020

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Treasurer's Report ▲ Diane Job

Treasurer Report - November 2020

Money in this month:

None

Money out this month:

Keith Giblett - Remembrance Wreath - £31.00

Total CC Funds = £1514.95

Community Facility Funding

Clydesdale Bank

Cash Management Account - £18345.04

95 Day Notice Account - (October interest £23.13) - £60541.35

Nationwide Building Society - £85892.17

Barclays Bank - £85000.00

RBS - £85770.93

Charity Bank - £60582.19

Community Facility Funding Total = £396131.68

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 published in the Nov/Dec edition of Spotlight Magazine which was distributed through the local doors in mid November. Anyone willing to or know of anyone willing to help with future distribution of this bi-monthly community magazine 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 have opened to organised clubs, general public access is currently expected to open in January 2021, updates will be given nearer the time if this remains in play.

Two new Head of School leaders are expected to join our November meeting following a request to QHS to provide a younger representation from the community.

The Forest Kindergarten at the Vat Run is progressing and is expected to open soon. This will form a blended model with Echline Nursery, operated by CEC. We believe there is a private Forest School currently being constructed on Dundas Estate.

Graeme McKinley on behalf of David Flint, 22 Nov 2020

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Environment ▲ Neil McKinlay

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

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

I have sought an update on the transfer of ownership of the recycling units managed by CEC to Tesco and I am awaiting a response.

Scotmid have removed one of the recycling containers which was seldom emptied by the contractors who owned it and due to the amount of food waste dumped in it it was attracting increased vermin activity. They have also cut the surrounding shrubs and installed CCTV camera to deter fly tippers which is a continuing issue, see below.

Fly Tipping

Unfortunately this issue is seeing no reduction with instances identified within Echline Woods and at the rear of the Electricity sub- station on Lovers Lane. Keith Giblett is pressing for a greater presence from CEC environmental regulatory officers to act as a deterrent.

Vandalism

Regrettably we have experienced instances of fires being started within a couple of woodland locations across the town including the VAT run. This issue needs to be monitored carefully.

Sewage issue on the old railway line

Norrie Work is seeking an update from Scottish Water as they had previously stated the source of the issue had been identified in Bankhead Grove

and would be sorted in “ a couple of weeks” which timeline has now passed.

Car and Motor Bike Disturbance Issues

Keith Giblett has provided details of a number of high revving /very noisy motor bikes that he witnessed passing along the High Street to PC Martin Crow as from the noise they generated it sounds as if the exhausts are not street legal.

Rosebery Halls Gardens and Rosebery Halls Annex

Rotary members helped to erect the new framework to accommodate this year’s Christmas in Queensferry lights in Rosebery Halls gardens

and also to erect the lights themselves. The Friends of Ferry Glen team have also undertaken a Winter tidy up of the gardens.

Flower Planters along the High Street

Work has commenced to replace 11 wooden planters that are in poor shape and the first 3 replacements the West end of the High Street were completed this week. The pastel shades of the new planters have drawn positive comments from the community. The work will be completed by the Spring of 2021 ready for planting up in May. The aim is to also replace the 2 large planters at the medical centre which are literally falling to pieces.

Neil McKinlay,

Convenor , QDCC Environmental Committee

Friday 20th November 2020

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Health & Wellbeing ▲ **Anne Mitchell**

Health and Wellbeing Report November 2020

Covid19 vaccine news is very positive and it is hoped that immunisation could start as early as December. The exact means of rolling this out has not been released for this area but will start with the over 80,s and care workers. Everyone will need vaccinated twice. As well as this the over 50,s are still to be offered free NHS vaccines for the normal flu. Currently both Lloyds branches are offering NHS and private Flu vaccines although it is still best to book on line.

Please note that the exemption on travel for exercise has been tightened and that people may now only travel within 5 miles.

The new **Scottish Child Payment** is now open for applications ahead of its introduction on Monday 15th February 2021 to help manage the expected demand. The new benefit will give eligible families on low incomes with children under 16 an extra £10 per week for each child. Families with a child under six are being prioritised call 0800 182 2222 for more information.

VOCAL has expressed concern that the number of referrals are decreasing and ask group how to best reach unpaid, informal carers in the NW

If you have recently lost your job – first step are here to help you. They have teamed up with The City of Edinburgh Council to offer free support for your immediate employment needs. But we don’t stop there...We will also stick with you long term to get you back on track in getting the job you want and deserve. We are also

working with employers who are recruiting right now. We are contactable by phone [0300 365 0025](tel:03003650025) or by email at admin@communityrenewal.org.uk

PATIENT / RELATIVE / CARER / STORIES

NHS Lothian would like to invite you to tell them about your experiences about the aspects of care you value and the aspects of care they could improve. By listening to good and bad experiences they can look at ways to improve and develop the care they deliver. Think about the things in your experience that you would like to share with them. They would like to know how you felt about your experience and will ask questions about this. There is a template for you to write your story down in your own words. The template includes a small number of key questions that they would like you to consider when completing it. There is no right or wrong answer. They are keen to hear your story about your experience rather than answering a set of questions. Taking part will not compromise your care or support in any way. All information will be anonymous and confidentiality is of utmost importance. Your name will not be used in the story. Once you have completed the template, we would like to invite you to share it with staff in the organisation so that they can learn from your experience. This may include sharing your story at the NHS Lothian Healthcare Governance Committee or putting your story (or parts of it) on the NHS Lothian Intranet which is open to all staff in NHS Lothian.

Consent

You will be asked to sign and return a consent form and this is included with the template. It is important that you know this is your choice and that you are free to change your mind at any time. It is important however that if you raise something of great concern this will need to be acted upon it. Please be assured that they take confidentiality very seriously. Once you have completed your story they ask that you return this to the Patient Experience Team (feedback@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk) and they will safely store your story in a secure way.

Both the consent form and template for your story have been put on the local community Facebook group.

If you thought a summer lock down was bad, for people already struggling with mental health a winter one is going to be worse please keep a look out for your family, friends and neighbours that may be struggling. Relapse and overdose rates have increased by 30% since March 2020. Mental health issues related to our lock down and the pandemic are especially hard for people with depression or anxiety.

MIND has a helpline: 0300 123 3011 Mon to Friday 9am to 6pm.

If you're based in Scotland: Support in Mind Scotland can be reached on 0300 3231545 or **SAMH** on 0344 8000550.

Childline NSPCC also offers support 0800 11 11 (24/7)

Samaritans provide support (24/7) ph 116123 or email jo@samaritans.org but the response is not immediate this way.

Throughout the month the team continue to work with Health in Mind/ I Thrive. I thrive Edinburgh has developed a listing of all support groups by area all you need to do is put in a post code—groups include a wide variety of support. This is part of Health in Mind who have run some excellent courses here.

<http://www.ithriveedinburgh.org.uk/>

The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board which is responsible for the decision making and strategic planning of health and social care services for adults in Edinburgh and delivers services through the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership, held presentations entitled **Your health. Your care. Your future** The EIJB want to support and nurture the thriving communities in our city and take the opportunity to create a new relationship with people and organisations. Their first step is to listen and learn what health and social care means to us. Anne attended the conversation about the future of health and social care in the capital and how to help shape the future. This session did appear to connect the people of Edinburgh with the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership and some heartfelt pleas were made by users of the service which appeared to be taken on board.

We were invited to join the **QCCC AGM** on 28TH OCT and continue to be amazed at the flexibility and ability to adapt in this team. Although the proposed community facility cannot progress at this time there are strong working relationships that have grown from this work between QDCC and QCCC.

Gillian attended the **EVOC round table conference** on 3rd Nov where the focus was around what needs to change to end poverty and redesign services as a community led approach. For the AGM the keynote speaker was the new CEO of The Robertson Trust, Dr Jim McCormick, who did a presentation on tackling poverty. This is Robertson Trusts focus for the next 10-years. This is on the back of the recently published poverty commission report which is available from the City of Edinburgh website.

Mission Christmas is accepting donations in Tesco and will take financial donations on line.

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Planning & Housing ▲ Diane Job

Planning Nov 2020

Applications

During four week period thirteen applications were received

20/04413/FUL - Extend existing door and window openings onto rear garden and install new sliding folding glazed doors with flat brick arch - 5-6 Rosshill Terrace

20/04518/FUL - Attic conversion with dormer - 20 John Mason Court

20/04597/FUL - Proposed single storey extension to rear of existing storey and a half detached dwelling - 34 Echline View

20/04664/FUL - Two storey side and single storey rear extension - 26 Long Crook

20/04749/LBC - The two existing gantries have been removed for refurbishment and an additional gantry will also be installed, such that there will be one gantry on each span. The new gantry will be largely identical to the existing gantries - Forth Road Bridge A90 - Cramond Bridge To Forth Road Bridge South Queensferry

20/04862/FUL - New single storey extension to side of existing dwelling house - 10 Lawson Crescent

Trees in a Conservation Area

20/04541/TCO - Wallside mature sycamore - remove lower branches extending over grave yard. Wallside mature Norway maple - reduce and shape crown to remove less vigorous branches. Roadside mature horse chestnut - crown lift branches extending over carriageway. Driveside conifers - reduce height by 4m metres for there to be less shading to house - Gospatric House Main Street Dalmeny

20/04583/TCO - Hawthorn - Prune back from Smiths Land building by 2 metres - 2 Smith's Land

Prior Notification - Telecommunications

20/04236/PNT - Removal and replacement of 3 No antennas, installation of 1 No. GPS node and associated ancillary works thereto orange mast Dalmeny - Proposed Telecoms Apparatus 150 Metres Southwest Of The Bungalow Easter Dalmeny

20/04486/PNT - The removal and replacement of 3 No. existing antennas with 3 No. upgraded antennas affixed to existing support poles affixed to the headframe; The installation of 1No. GPS unit located on an antenna support pole; The installation of 1 No. outdoor cabinet and L Rack installed on a concrete base and ancillary development thereto - Telecoms Mast Adjacent To East Cragie Farm Cramond Bridge

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed

20/04487/CLP - Change of use from Class 2 financial/professional to part Class 1 retail - 35A High Street (Former Clydesdale Bank)

20/04794/CLP - Erection of a sun lounge - 57 Springfield View

20/04893/CLP - Proposed rear extension to form family room - 13 Station Vie

Decisions

The Planning Authority made twelve decisions during the four week period

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

20/03711/FUL - Proposed single storey extension to rear of dwelling - 20 Forth Place - GRANTED

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

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

20/03752/FUL - Erection of a conservatory - 6 Ochil Court - GRANTED

20/04486/PNT - The removal and replacement of 3 No. existing antennas with 3 No. upgraded antennas affixed to existing support poles affixed to the headframe; The installation of 1No. GPS unit located on an antenna support pole; The installation of 1 No. outdoor cabinet and L Rack installed on a concrete base and ancillary development thereto - Telecoms Mast Adjacent To East Cragie Farm Cramond Bridge Dalmeny South Queensferry - PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT

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

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 Shore Road - GRANTED

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

20/03624/FUL - Erection of sun lounge - 57 Springfield View - PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT

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

20/04099/CLP - Rear extension and loft conversion - 9 Queen Margaret Drive - 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 FUTHER 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. The work was going out to tender early November. It is intended that the work will be programmed to begin in early 2021, which is a bit later than was originally anticipated. One bus stop has had a shelter replaced. QDCC will be updated on the progress.

Taylor Wimpey - South Scotstoun Development

In December there will be another two week period of 'piling' for foundations. These works are closer to the motorway than existing residents so sound levels etc should not be as high as they have been previously. Show homes are likely to open in December but this may push out to January

In conversation with Taylor Wimpey and asking what street names had been allocated for the development, QDCC found what looked like an error in one of the names given to them by CEC. QDCC contacted CEC and the Street Naming team and further investigation found unfortunately an error had been made at the CEC end for which they have apologised and it is in progress to be rectified, so fingers crossed we will have Briggers replacing Riggers.

Builyeon Road Housing Development

16/01797/PPP - 20/01137/PAN

QDCC reps had a MS Teams meeting with Iain MacPhail from Justin Lamb Associates to give us a preview on the affordable housing policy statement for the development.

There will be the full 25% affordable housing requirement delivered on-site, 201 will be delivered by housing associations (DunedinCanmore/Manor Estates). 41 homes out of the 245 affordable units will be delivered as Golden Share housing. Golden Share is price-capped housing for sale (with prices capped for all time at 80% of open market value, on first sale and all subsequent sales, regulated in perpetuity by a Deed of Conditions on the Title) Golden Share homes are available to those on average incomes or lower.

QDCC do however have a few concerns on the CEC Golden Share Scheme especially when a Golden Share property fails to find a qualifying buyer within 13 weeks on the resale market and can be sold on the open market to anyone, effectively losing an affordable home in the area. We are in the process of finding out more on where the 20% equity goes when the house is sold on the open market. The theory is it goes towards future affordable housing here or an adjacent ward. We have found however that some of the South Queensferry Golden Share money seems to be helping to fund housing in a development in the Forth ward in Pennywell!!

Ferrymuir Gait

Some preparation work has been started on the development and QDCC did receive some concerns/complaints from residents one of which regarding damage to a fence and shed in Stewart Terrace and the work being progressed at the entrance and approach road to the site from Ferrymuir Gait road both were reported to the contacts QDCC has for the development.

QDCC is in the process of arranging an MS Teams meeting with Ambassador and Ryden to discuss the development.

Springfield LDP Site HSG1

Cala have lodged the application for this development with the CEC planning department. This has

still to be validated. QDCC planning sub-committee will be holding a MS Teams meeting with Cala to discuss the proposals and any issues or concerns QDCC have. Cala have issued a press release signifying the lodging of the application.

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

Commenting for this application has closed and the application is awaiting a decision.

QDCC did comment and this was mostly highlighting our concerns regarding the demolition and the build in such a restricted area - this is out with planning control but we are hoping this can be included in the building warrant if the application is granted.

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

Comments on this application have closed and the application is awaiting a decision.

QDCC commented on this application but although generally supportive we did have a few concerns that we feel need addressed.

Glenforth Court Ferrymuir

We have had no further communication re the brochures from LINK.

Bankhead Steading

QDCC planning sub-committee had an MS Teams meeting with John Wright a consultant from Strutt and Parker who gave us a presentation on behalf of Rosebery Estates with their vision for the potential expansion of the existing Bankhead Steading with mixed use proposals which could compliment the Forth Bridge Experience project. This would include business accommodation for class 4, 5 and 6. A discussion followed the presentation.

Diane Job
QDCC Planning Convener

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Transport ▲ Grant Sangster

QUEENSFERRY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL Transport Report for November 2020

- 1. Various Planning Applications** – Ferrymuir Gait - As with last month, use of particular entrance points shown in the planning application are being disputed. Recently bollards across the Ferrymuir Gait entrance point which Transport Scotland maintain have led to diverting construction vehicles transferring a significant amount of mud onto the cycle route between the Varney estate and Forth Road Bridge. Diane highlighted the issue to Ambassador. Springfield – Diane distributed quite a lot of documents in connection with CALA's new housing scheme, showing full details of the development. Proposals include pavement widening (road narrowing), traffic calming and a signalised crossing on Bo'ness Road. The unmade path bisecting land between Springfield and Clufflat is unaffected for the time being. Sealscraig – the application for conversion of the former hotel/restaurant into 5 residences contains no off-street car parking facilities, although cycle shelters are proposed.
- 2. Spaces for People and High Street** – The Spaces for People scheme for one way traffic flow from west to east on the High Street is now quite mature. A diversion sign scheme on the A90 for traffic approaching Queensferry from Barnton has been agreed with Transport Scotland. As there is already a sign discouraging traffic from taking the Dolphington off-slip to access the historic town the diversion may be futile but could help placate Station Road residents if obeyed. The facility for turning large vehicles in the Hawes area remains under review. As reported last month another meeting with

Ironside Farrer is anticipated soon, where revised plans for resurfacing the High Street, now including a permanent one way proposal, are taking shape. There is nothing solid to report at this stage but public engagement is anticipated shortly and activity commencing in the 2021-22 period may be possible. Part of the Spaces for People scheme proposed for the A90 between Cramond Brig and Dean Bridge has moved forward, with the cycle lane and Learmonth Terrace junction closure phases presented to CEC's November Transport & Environment Committee. The bus priority aspect, including the potentially controversial introduction of a bus lane from just beyond Miller & Carter to Barnton, hasn't been dropped and is still expected to progress later.

- 3. Burnshot Bridge** – We received a note from CEC stating that the majority of work on the site had been completed, including landscaping and formal handover. However some wild flower and tree planting has been postponed until spring 2021. The programme was reported as falling within budget and would have been on time if not for delays enforced by Covid-19. CEC agreed that removal of temporary white lining on the A90 seemed incomplete and their Roads Operations team would look into burning off the remaining paint (which is balanced against a risk of damage to the road surface).

- 4. Public Transport** – No changes to local bus or train times have been publicised over the past month. Train timetables are due to change from 13 December but will probably remain quite similar to existing emergency arrangements. Edinburgh and Fife councils no longer financially support Christmas & New Year bus services. In the recent past Lothian Country have run Queensferry's 43 commercially on 26 December and 1-2 January. It isn't clear if there will be a service this year, not least because registrations are still being made in arrears rather than through the regular notification process. However it seems likely because they are operating contracts for West Lothian Council from the same Livingston depot.

Grant Sangster

Transport Sub-Committee Convenor

22 November 2020

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Cllr Lang & cllr Young

Queensferry & District Community Council – Nov
November 2020 report

Road safety changes

Contrary to the earlier assurances provided to us, it is now clear a number of key road safety projects have been delayed because officials have been diverted to the 'spaces for people' programme. This has impacted both the Scotstoun Avenue traffic calming and the new pedestrian crossing on Bo'ness Road. Kevin had a specific question lodged about this for this month's full Council. However, the decision of the Lord Provost to move question time to the end of the agenda and guillotine the meeting so it ended at 5pm frustratingly meant no questions were able to be asked of any Convener.

Most concerning is the news that the installation of the speed table on Rosshill Terrace has now been put back yet again, this time to Spring 2021. We are enormously frustrated that something so simple has taken such a long time to be put in place. We are all the more annoyed that this traffic calming will not be in place before the High Street one-way system is introduced.

We also await the results of the speed monitoring which was carried out on Kirkliston Road.

High Street changes

We have been in regular contact with the main official responsible for delivering the 'spaces for people' changes on the High Street. Advanced signage should be erected from this week to advise road users of the impending changes. All of the various work should be complete by the end of week commencing 7 December of the week after.

Meanwhile, we have been asked for further suggestions to join the Queensferry Small Business Network, one of several such networks created across the city. We are in discussions with a number of businesses on the High Street about this.

Primary school catchment changes

Following correspondence with education officials, we have had it confirmed that a final report on the changes to local primary catchments will now not

come to full Council until early 2021. It means any agreed changes will only come into effect from the start of the 2021/22 school year.

Springfield housing site.

Like others, we have been alerted by CALA homes to the fact it has now submitted its full planning application for the Springfield site. We are pleased a number of changes were made as a direct result of the pre-application consultation. However, we need to look carefully at the full details before commenting. The dates for the Council consultation will be confirmed once the application is validated.

Inchcolm play park

We have once again pursued the new climbing frame for the play park at Inchcolm. Given funding was secured earlier this year, we were concerned at the lack of progress. We have been promised this will now be progressed.

Queensferry Library

Like others, we have been keen to see the reopening of the library, in line with other such openings like Kirkliston. Unfortunately, the specific layout of the building has created additional challenges around social distancing. Plus, the limited budget for cleaners has had to be reprioritised for schools to ensure they can remain open. It regrettably means the library will need to remain closed for now. Contrary to some suggestions made to us, we have seen or heard no suggestions towards keeping the library shut permanently.

Dundas Home Farm forest school

After being contacted by some constituents, we are trying to get clarity on the planning status of the proposed forest school at Dundas Home Farm. A number of other such forest schools have been progressed without the need for planning permission. However, we understand the one at Dundas Home Farm is being told to go through planning.

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Cllr Hutchison

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 19th November, in a meeting curtailed by the Lord Provost after 7 hours with much business unfinished. There were lengthy debates on the Spaces for People programme and LTN's once again and also on the revised business case for the trams which very much sees the city stuck between a rock and a hard place.

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

Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee met on Thursday 29th October. A key focus of the meeting was Council's budgetary position in the context of the ongoing pandemic and looking ahead to the budget setting process in February 2021. It is estimated that a future second lockdown were it to happen, would have an impact of around £10m each month on the Council's finances, this is particularly concerning given the low level of reserves held by the Council as highlighted by the external auditor.

Hawes & Longcraig Pier Users Committee

There was a meeting of the Hawes & Longcraig Pier Users Committee held on Wednesday 18th November, the first in over 12 months. The main items for discussion were the uncertainty over next years cruise ship bookings, the impact of the high street project and its site compound on car parking and the urgent need for repairs to the harbour

I am aware that the letter penned by the QDCC Chair to senior council officers, highlighting the

need for urgent repairs to the Hawes Pier, has not yet received a substantive response and I have followed up on this.

Local Issues

Queensferry Spaces for People — The revised plans for the Queensferry Spaces for People scheme have been circulated .

CALA Springfield — I have been contacted by CALA regarding their revised plans for the site at Springfield. The planning application has been submitted and is in the process of being validated at which point the plans will be made public.

Street Light – Footbridge over the old railway -

After my reporting of the removal of the existing light fixture last month, I received confirmation that a new pole and light would be put in place in the week commencing Monday 16th November. I hope to be able to provide a verbal update to the meeting that this work has been completed.

Golden Share Homes - Following an email from Graeme McKinley with questions on golden share homes, I have circulated a briefing note from officers.

Section 75 Contributions - Following an email from Diane Job with questions on S75 contributions on affordable homes, I have raised a query with planning officers and am still awaiting a response.

Events

I was pleased to be able to attend the scaled down Remembrance commemoration on Sunday 8th November at the Queensferry war memorial where Councillor Work laid a wreath on our behalf.

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

Cllr Work

Queensferry & District Community Council

Cllr Norman Work's report for November 2020 meeting

Remembrance Sunday; Cllr Hutchison and I shared wreath laying duties in the Almond ward. I had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of both of us at Queensferry War Memorial.

Cycle signs; I passed on information from Grant Sangster regarding cycle signs with inconsistent distances. I received a response from Andrew Easson, Road Safety and Active Travel Manager at CEC stating that an investigation will take place and any inaccurate signs will be replaced as soon as possible. I have passed this information on to Grant Sangster and will follow up on any action taken.

I've been tasked with contacting Rosebery Estates after Gillian Smith from QCCC contacted her ward councillors asking if there is a way to accommodate **Queensferry Care** getting access through the barrier at the Dark Entry with their trishaw. I'm still waiting for a response, so I have tried another contact from Rosebery Estates.

Hawes/Longcraig Pier Users Committee held a virtual meeting on Wednesday 18th November. The main discussion was about extra safety issues and stewarding with 32 cruise liner visits expected next year.

Ferry Fair AGM; It was a pleasure to be asked to chair the AGM of the Ferry Fair Committee held virtually on 10th November. Tracy Guyan was elected Chair for her 2nd year and it was encouraging to note a new volunteer coming on board.

Christmas in Queensferry have been meeting virtually and as the usual live event has been cancelled this year in the High Street, volunteers have been working to put on a virtual show. A video will be posted on Youtube and be broadcast at 6pm on Thursday 26th November. A preview is currently available on the CIQ Facebook page.

Received an update from **Scottish Water** who have identified a blockage in the sewer on the path behind the recreation centre and work was planned at the weekend to replace a section of pipe. I'm seeking a further update with the problem identified on the Railway path behind Bankhead Grove. The last update from Scottish Water had identified the source of the problem and said they would be fixing within a couple of weeks.

Springfield development (HSG1); Derek Lawson from Cala contacted me to confirm that they have lodged the planning application. Cala have also submitted an application for temporary construction access off Bo'ness Road. Plans will be made public once the application has been validated.

Cllr Norman Work

Other Documents

Queensferry Boat Club (QBC)

Report

November 2020

Boat club social and planned summer activities stopped at Covid 19 lockdown. When the Scottish Government eased the anti Covid regulations and recommendations we were able to launch boats both here in the Ferry and at Bo'ness. It was good to see the harbour full of boats again. There was some individual sailing activity out of the harbour but nothing like our usual planned events and the Annual Regatta was cancelled.

Unfortunately I have nothing positive to report at this time. The club winter events are cancelled and will be missed by all hands.

The harbour management side of our club responsibilities continue, the annual boat mooring inspection was carried out and third party boat insurances maintained. I wish to thank the QDCC and our Chairman in particular for the continuing support of our efforts to have the fabric of the harbour maintained to an acceptable level. In the last few months there have been incidences of vandalism in and around the harbour, this has now turned into the theft of City of Edinburgh property. Three of the four harbour lifebuoys in the area have been stolen along with their associated ropes. The lifebuoys were quality pieces of kit and worth in the region of £70 each. Unfortunately the equipment was not marked with the city logo or harbour identification and therefore untraceable.

I propose that CCTV equipment be fitted at the head of the harbour. I am reliably informed that CEC have people who specialise in this sort of thing. The QBC would be able to add financial support for this project.

This report is by necessity brief, hopefully there will be a more positive report forthcoming in the new year.

Stay safe, stay well,

W. Muir Kay,

QBC Commodore.