

QDCC

Monthly Reports

2022

April

Reports

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
-
- Communications
- Education
- Environment
- Health & Wellbeing
- Planning & Housing
- Transport
-
- Cllr Lang & cllr Young
- Cllr Hutchison
- Cllr Work

Other documents

QHS Report, Rotary Report

Police Report, Agenda

March minutes

“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



Queensferry High School



A community development trust presents the opportunity to create local ideas, prioritise which to deliver, design it, plan it, fund it, deliver it, manage it, all for the benefit of the community.

We need people passionate about the area, willing and able to get involved in whatever way they can.

If you would like to be part of that, then please email: queensferrycdt@gmail.com



Chairs report for the Virtual Business meeting being held Monday 25th April at 7.30pm

QDCC Business

In my capacity as chair, predominately by email and telephone I continue to engage with CEC, stakeholders, developers and residents on QDCC business matters as well as attending Teams meetings.

Ferry Fair Bookshop Re-opening 9th April

I was invited by the Ferry Fair to attend the reopening of the Ferry Fair Bookshop located within the Rosebery Hall. The bookshop has been completely refurbished to a very high standard by Rotary. It was a pleasure to attend and enjoy refreshments in the company of the Ferry Fair volunteers and provide support.

Ukraine Support Group

I continue to support the Heath & Wellbeing Convenor and Environmental Convenor setting up a support group in the locality for any Ukrainians settling in Queensferry and have attended two meetings. A public meeting for interested parties and individuals for information sharing is being held on Thursday 28th April in the Rosebery Hall in the evening.

High Street Improvements

I continue to visit the worksite and talk to Gilmartins on site project manager regularly. As well as engage with CEC PM and the Consultants Ironside Farrer and field telephone calls with questions and queries from the public about the ongoing work. The work moves into the more difficult phase for the community and High Street traders with the resurfacing of the Loan junction and Hopetoun Rd with the necessary closure of the road for six weeks.

Follow up Meeting with Gareth Barwell Service Director Operations

I facilitated a follow-up meeting from September 2021 with Gareth Barwell on Queensferry Business; Harbour repairs, Scotstoun Avenue Traffic Calming, Hawes Toilets Improvements, Dundas Play Park, Liner Visits and Virgin media fibre optic cabling works. The update on these matters will be provided by QDCC Convenors or be discussed at the business meeting.

Local Government Elections

I am following the campaign literature being distributed by candidates for the pending elections with interest. Particularly the intention to support the strengthening of Community Councils which I fully support. The City of Edinburgh Councils lack of commitment to community councils by this administration over the last 5 years is noticeable and has been detrimental to the community of Queensferry compounded with the demise of the partnerships teams and meetings.

Meeting with Chair of Kirkliston Community Council

Along with QDCC Vice Chair I met with the Chair of Kirkliston Community Council to discuss High School provision for Kirkliston pupils along with common business.

Keith Giblett, Chair QDCC, 24 April 22.

[Back to menu](#)

Secretary's Report ▲ Terry Airlie

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY – APRIL REPORT

1. The QDCC mailbox – both incoming and outgoing communication has been very busy since the last meeting in March.

Like last month there continues to ongoing interest in a number of recurring items namely

the Hawes Car Park turning circle and associated matters, plans for the High Street refurbishment, the roadworks/reconfiguration at the foot of the loan and the South Scotstoun, Springfield, FerryMuir Gait and Builyeon Road developments.

Residents continue to engage with QDCC primarily through social media rather than direct contact via e-mail, although we still continue to receive quite a few phone calls – mostly from people who believe that QDCC is “The Local Council” and responsible for many of the services normally delivered by CEC.

Wherever possible I try to pass on these queries to the relevant local authority departments/officials, but that is not always easy given the constant personnel changes within CEC.

Since the last meeting I have once again fielded calls on “boy racers” and the availability of council/social housing.

Other queries included requests for permission to stream a wedding, information on Community Tax rebates, assistance with Universal Credit, information on the Virgin Media presence in Queensferry, a complaint regarding construction workers parking in Provost Milne Grove, information on CALA complaints process for forthcoming Builyeon Road development, Lothian Country 43 bus service routing changes, a complaint relating to Rosshill Terrace traffic changes, information on tree felling, a request for a copy of local sewage system plans, the availability of QHS swimming pool for local residents and information on forthcoming Cruise Liner visits.

A mixed bag indeed.

I continue to regularly engage with CEC Officers and should any further relevant information be received I will share with everyone as necessary.

QDCC business continues as normal using a combination of email, social media and MS Teams meetings.

My thanks go out once more to Diane for continuing to work on what seems to be a never ending number of planning matters on behalf of QDCC, to Liz for generating the meeting minutes and action list, and to Graeme for organizing both online meetings and the administration of our website and social media presence

2. A number of website enquiries have been received since the last meeting on various topics, and these have been circulated to respective stakeholders and dealt with accordingly.
3. I continue to support the working group associated with the idea of a Queensferry Community Development Trust looking at the various consultations that have been commissioned about Queensferry over the years.
4. On 14th April I chaired a meeting between QDCC and Gareth Barwell from CEC. This was a follow up session to a meeting held last year with Gareth and Paul Lawrence. Updates were provided on Section 75 monies associated with Queensferry developments, Queensferry Harbour repairs, Hawes Toilets, Dundas Playpark, Virgin Media and Cruise Liner Visits.

An agreement was reached to facilitate a post CEC Council Election forum on the future of Queensferry

5. On 15th April along with The Chair, I met with David Buchanan the Chair of Kirkliston Community Council. The main topic of discussion was the continuing frustration of both Community Councils with regards to the incompetence of CEC with regards to school provision in both areas. Following last months QDCC meeting where Robbie Crockatt of CEC provided an update in terms of where we currently stand, on 31st March I wrote to The CEC Leader and the 4 Ward Councillors expressing our concern and asked those who are standing for re-election what they planned to do in terms of resolving what has become a farcical situation. At the time of writing I have received only one response, and question the accuracy of its content. Essentially nothing has happened over the duration of the current CEC administration (5 years) and we are now faced with a Council election, new councillors, yet another consultation/review period and the prospect of temporary classrooms at Queensferry High to accommodate pupils and at the same time little prospect of a Kirkliston/West Edinburgh High School anytime soon.
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. Can I please remind all members to include me in the circulation of any email chains involving any QDCC business.

Terry Airlie

Vice Chair & Correspondence Secretary – 20th April 2022

[Back to menu](#)

April 2022

Money in this month:

None

Money out this month:

None

Total CC Funds - £937.92

Community Facility Funding

Clydesdale Bank

Cash Management Account - March interest £1.76 - £18349.11

95 Day Notice Account - March Interest £24.98 - £60802.63

Nationwide Building Society Interest Apr 2021 - Mar 2022 £172.16 - £86251.76

Barclays Bank - £85000.00

RBS - Interest Jan - Mar 2022 £33.88 - £85890.75

Charity Bank - £60872.28

Community Facility Funding Total = £397226.53

Updated March 2022 Treasurer Report - end of financial year

Money in this month: None

Money out this month:

Graeme McKinley - TsHost Invoice - £86.26

Eddie Sharp ECW - Strimmer tools, consumables and PPE - £126.21

EACC - Donation - £40.00

Zurich - Public Liability Insurance - £112.00

Total CC Funds - £937.92

Community Facility Funding

Clydesdale Bank Cash Management Account - March interest £1.76 - £18349.11

95 Day Notice Account - March Interest £24.98 - £60802.63

Nationwide Building Society - Interest Apr 2021 - Mar 2022 £172.16 - £86251.76

Barclays Bank - £85000.00

RBS - Interest Jan - Mar 2022 £33.88 - £85890.75

Charity Bank - £60872.28

Community Facility Funding Total = £397226.53

Diane Job,

QDCC Treasurer

[Back to menu](#)

Communications ▲ Graeme McKinley

Community Engagement



QDCC continues to communicate with residents, authorities, stakeholders, developers 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 reports. Anyone wishing to contact the community council on any matters please do so through our website <http://www.queensferrycommunitycouncil.co.uk/>, where all communication channels are explained. We are also now on **Instagram**, this is predominantly aimed at our younger community, particularly in relation to young people engagement projects.

QDCC will be sharing a stall with Christmas in Queensferry on 1st May at the Rotary Club's May Day Event Hawthorn Bank Garden. Thanks to those who came forward to cover, all welcome to drop by and help at any point 11am-2:30pm.

Spotlight Magazine

Next edition due soon. Anyone willing or know of people willing to help with future distribution of this bi-monthly community magazine should contact Alistair@wordsandpicturesuk.com.

CEC Engagement

Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC) continues to negotiate a stronger two way communication link between CEC and CC's.

QHS Community Facilities

The proposed plan to increase public swimming access at QHS has been successfully negotiated with EL and CEC. The new schedule will commence from August due to existing lets. During the summer holidays the centre will be open 10am-10pm weekdays and the usual weekend hours.

Young people engagement

Open All Hours will restart this Friday and a summer schedule of events is being worked on, including funding sources.

The p7 Transition club at the community centre, School Lane is now scheduled to commence this week 26/4.

The Blue Light Disco will be held on 27th May. This is a jointly arranged and managed event (BLEW – Blue Light Edinburgh West) between Police Scotland and CEC Lifelong Learning Services with support of the Community Alcohol Partnership. The decision was taken to hold the disco in QHS, helping familiarise transitioning p7's with their new high school, making use of the extra space and facilities, as well as better accessibility. The displaced OAH evening will be added on to the term, so not lost.

We do however still need to negotiate or find additional funding to increase the available weeks of OAH; as it stands there is 23 weeks' funding for this financial year out of a possible 39 term time weeks in a year.

Graeme McKinley,
QDCC Communications

[Back to menu](#)

Education ▲ David Flint

Ed/Rec report. April 2022.

The schools have been on holiday for the past two weeks.

Together with Graeme and Anne Marie I attended the Community Alcohol partnership meeting on 11th April. The action plan was discussed and updated. I can provide a copy on request. DONM. 8th June.

The situation regarding future school provision in Queensferry is causing much concern. The City Council has known about the situation for over 5 years but, although there may have been much discussion, there has been no noticeable progress over these years.

The future primary school provision has not yet been decided. The need for another High School in the area has been well established but the council has not even identified a site for it. From planning to school opening will take at least 5 years, so there is going to be a problem when the new Queensferry High School becomes full in about two years time.

The council has known this but has failed to address the problem.

David Flint. 22.04.22

Environment ▲ Neil McKinlay

QDCC – Environmental Committee Report for April 2022

Council Waste Ground on Burgess Road

Further dialogue held with David Stevenson from the CEC Housing Department and he is hopeful early work can commence to make the site more secure once he receives confirmation that ownership of the land is being transferred to the Housing Dept. After that further consideration and an application can be made for the funding for the possible development of the site into a small number of allotments.

Dangerous Wooden Steps near Dalmeny Oil Tank Depot

The dangerous state of these steps (part of the Queensferry to Newbridge cycle path route) has been raised with Michael Jump. Following investigative work it is clear the steps are located on ground owned by Network Rail and not the owner of the caravan park as Network Rail initially contested. The matter is being progressed between CEC and Network Rail.

Following the above I have now made contact with Elin Williamson, CEC, Head of Business Growth and Inclusion who is endeavouring to clarify the land ownership on which the steps are located as clearly the land owner should be primarily responsible for the repairs. The possibility of some “pro bono” work from local firms to repair the steps is another option but this could raise insurance issues if any subsequent step related claim arose and we have asked Elin for her views on this matter.

Land Opposite the High School

David Flint contacted me to inform me that the Queensferry High School PTA have raised the issue of the area of grass border on CEC land on the North side of the High School which has completely dug up to accommodate the significant sewage works completed last year and remains in a very poor state of repair. I will take this matter up with the main contactors, McKenzie Construction, to see what their restoration plan is for the ground and for the smaller parcel of land to the West side of the school which was similarly affected.

Following the above I have now made contact with Greg Deenan a Contract Manager with MacKenzie Construction who has undertaken to make good the land with re seeding, timeline still to be agreed. I will continue to track this one.

Plastic Free Queensferry

Subject to some minor wording amendments QDCC councillors formally supported the Plastic Free Queensferry aims and objectives by signing a pledge document at our March meeting.

I am in the process of signing up The Rotary Club of South Queensferry as a Plastic Free Queensferry “Community Ally” and will be contacting the High School shortly to hopefully garner their support too.

Rotary Club of South Queensferry Environmental Team

Work will commence rebuilding the 6 flower planters on Dalmeny Village green next week. CEC have confirmed they will purchase the top soil and some plants for the planters. Dalmeny Estates have kindly paid for a new beech tree which has already been planted on the green

Network Rail have committed a fund of £560 to help the group enhance the Dalmeny Station gardens and flower tubs on the platform.

The raised vegetable raised bed in the poly tunnel at St. Margaret's Primary School has been filled up with top soil and the vegetable growing classes will be held next month with the older pupils.

Friends of Ferry Glen

Routine maintenance tasks continue and plants will be kindly provided by CEC shortly to enhance the Station Road flower borders.

Community Sculptures in need of repair

Keith Giblett has reached out to the Civil Engineering firm BEAR to enquire if they might assist with the repairs needed to the damaged seals sculpture at the Hawes Pier and the "Guardian of the Bridges " sculpture on Mclvor's Brae . We are still awaiting a response

Neil McKinlay , Convenor, QDCC Environmental Committee

24th April 2022

[Back to menu](#)

Health & Wellbeing ▲ [Anne Mitchell](#)

Health and Wellbeing report April 2022

Excel spread sheet covering activities and support in Queensferry and District is now complete and happy to share. Older adult section is to be merged from QCCC. This will remain a dynamic piece of work as inevitably activities change or may have been missed.

Figures for Ferry elves have been completed and submitted to Almond Neighbourhood Network. Thanks to this community, the grant from CEC and working with Rotary and St Vincent de Paul we supported 69 children this year including coats and shoes as well as gifts.

Along with Neil and Keith and 2 members of the community we have set up a group Ukrainians in Queensferry to identify what we as a community can do to support families

and their hosts if any families from Ukraine move to the area. Support can vary widely from friendship to translation to transport. While some hosts will want to do much of this themselves others may be working and unable to go to appointments.

The group has created a Facebook page and group. We have managed to get forms required for joining a GP practice translated into Ukrainian and shared with the practice. We hope to complete a FAQ document around how to access medical care, dental care, opticians, schools and national insurance. There is a planned open meeting to be held in Rosebery Hall on Thursday 28th April.

Neil and Anne have had an initial meeting with Emily Ronaldson from greenspace and health who has funding to develop more aspects of outdoor health in the area. GP practice are keen to take advantage of this and will follow up. Opportunities include using the outdoors to improve mental health, couch to 5 k, walking etc.

Anne Mitchell, QDCC Health & Wellbeing.

Planning & Housing ▲ Diane Job

April 2022

Applications

During four week period nine applications were received

22/01161/FUL - Remove existing unused rear chimney (shared ownership of 5,6,7 & 8 Villa Road), new roof windows over bedroom, new window over top floor WC, replace existing roof finishes over 6 Villa Road - 5-8 Villa Road

22/01203/FUL - Proposed extension to side of dwelling house to create new living room and WC - 9 Clufflat Brae

22/01404/FUL - New entrance doors, railings to front garden area and balcony to sea-front elevation - 33 High Street

22/01405/LBC - New entrance doors, railings to front garden area and balcony to sea-front elevation - 33 High Street

22/01353/LBC - Internally, alteration to modern partitions to toilet and glass-wash areas together with lighting and fixed furniture adjustments. Externally, provision of areas of boarding and replacement of floodlights - Cramond Brig Hotel

22/01385/FUL - Remove existing and install new rosewood uPVC windows - Flat 2 6 Rose Lane

22/01645/FUL - Form side extension for accessibility - 7 Echline Drive

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed

22/01638/CLP - Extension to house - 26 Branders Place

22/01658/CLP - New side door and window, alterations to rear patio doors, velux to front - 14 Ashburnham Gardens

Decisions

The planning authority made twelve decisions during the four week period

22/00939/TCO - 1 Sycamore - remove 2 lowest branches. T2 Oak - crown raise and lift canopy by 4m.

T3 Western Red Cedar - fell completely as had distorted trunk. T4 Tree - fell dead tree at junction of wall and railings. T5 2 x Western Red Cedars - crown raise and lift the canopy to approximately 4m.

T6 Cypress - fell heavily leaning Cypress tree. T7 Yew - sever Ivy on Yew. T8 Laurel Shrub Tree - fell.

All previous trees - trim back any overhang from over the road - Hawes Inn 7 Newhalls - NOT MAKE A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

21/04116/FUL - Proposed change of access to provide pedestrian and cycle access at Russell Place and change house type (as amended - 6 Hugh Russell Place - GRANTED

22/00857/LBC - Proposed alteration to existing property including; replacement roof lights, formation of new roof lights, replacement door and installation of gas stove with roof mounted flue - 9 Wester Dalmeny Steading - GRANTED

22/00858/FUL - Proposed alteration to existing property including; replacement roof lights, formation of new roof lights, replacement door and installation of gas stove with roof mounted flue - 9 Wester Dalmeny Steading - NOT DEVELOPMENT

22/00749/FUL - Change of use from office to residential - 16 The Vennel - REFUSED

22/00483/LBC - Replacement of existing single glazed, timber sashes on a like for like basis with new sashes, custom fitted with IGU's - Seaview 29 High Street - GRANTED

22/00387/LBC - Internal alterations and refurbishment to existing bar/restaurant and hotel bedrooms. External redecoration of the building - Hawes Inn - GRANTED

22/00388/FUL - Internal alterations to bar /restaurant /hotel and external redecoration - Hawes Inn - GRANTED

22/00100/FUL - Application to re-new existing planning permission per 18/01560/FUL Demolition of existing bungalow to form two new houses- 22 Kirkliston Road - WITHDRAWN

22/00666/FUL - Internal wall removals and renovation with external changes to north elevation, and window glazing /fenestration change to east elevation - 32 High Street - GRANTED

22/00667/LBC - The main proposals alter an old extension to the listed building. There is some internal work to the listed building itself - changing a bathroom to an en-suite - 32 High Street - GRANTED

22/00532/FUL - Construct a 2 storey rear extension - 4 Long Crook - GRANTED

Planning Matters

Dundas Park Children's Play Park

The upgrade of the play equipment is scheduled to start in May - fingers crossed

Scotstoun Avenue

Scotstoun Ave - Section 75 - Resurfacing, Traffic Calming and Bus Stop Improvements. - no date has been given for this work to be progressed

Builyeon Road Housing Development

QDCC will be having an Ms Teams meeting with Cala on Wednesday 27th April to be given an update on the progress of the site and what to expect moving forward.

Springfield Cala Development - Queensferry Heights

The Archaeological Survey is complete. Drainage work is now to be scheduled - this falls under the Scottish Water approval process, residents in Clufflatt and Springfield Lea have been informed by letter of the forthcoming works which is outside the Cala site boundary and in the open space between these two housing developments but is where Scottish Water wish these works to take place. These works do not need planning permission. QDCC will have a better idea of the timescales of these works when we meet with Cala on the 27th April.

Hawthorn Gardens Development (South Scotstoun)

No updates on the building/site progress this month.

Scotstoun House

21/04755/FUL | Redevelopment of Scotstoun House including conversion and extension of existing buildings to residential use, part-demolition of office extension, and erection of new build residential development with associated infrastructure, landscaping, access and parking. | 1 Scotstoun House South Queensferry EH30 9SE

21/04756/LBC | Internal and external alterations associated with proposed residential development. | 1 Scotstoun House South Queensferry EH30 9SE

There has been no indication when a decision will be made on these applications.

Forthview Development (Corus site)

The planning application to remove the road link into the development from Hugh Russell Place was approved. Ambassador are still in discussions with Transport Scotland over the Ferrymuir Gait Road.

Royal Elizabeth Yard

21/06675/PAN - Proposed erection of bonded warehouses, cask filling and disgorging facility with associated tank farm, tanker filling bay, welfare facilities and associated work - Royal Elizabeth Yard Kirkliston

This project is at a very early stage - there will be a public digital consultation event at a later date - the date to be confirmed this will be advertised in the EEN and QDCC has agreed to publicise this event on our website and social media channels once the information has been forwarded to us. QDCC will also have an MS Teams meeting with the agent representatives from North Planning and Development Ltd prior to the public consultation - no further update

Two Bridges Restaurant (Three Bridges)

21/06247/LBC - Alterations and extension to existing bar/restaurant - The Two Bridges 2 Newhalls Road (Three Bridges) and 21/06248/FUL - Alterations and extension to existing bar/restaurant - The Two Bridges 2 Newhalls Road

The snack shack and the porch addition have been removed from the application - the revised plans can be viewed in the portal.

Former Port Edgar Naval Barracks

Ann Leslie from LAR has advised that all the required documents for the planning application have been uploaded and the documents should go live soon in the planning portal, which will give people the opportunity to comment on the application.

Diane Job

QDCC Planning Convener

[Back to menu](#)

Transport Report for April 2022

- 1. High Street Resurfacing** – Work at the bottom of The Loan has progressed further and is approaching a period of closure to resurface the carriageway. This is roughly in line with the expected schedule, with diversions via Stewart Terrace including bus routes. A short range taxi service is available by appointment for bus users with mobility issues. The speed table on Rosshill Terrace is now complete, intended to address dissatisfaction with traffic speed, type and volume amongst nearby residents. Construction was timed to coincide with Easter holidays and involved closing the road. Some drivers felt the two week closure was unnecessarily lengthy, with the alternative route being inconvenient and some bus passengers had difficulty understanding the bus diversion route. A meeting with Ironside Farrer and CEC is planned later this month to hear an update on funding position for the main High St work, traffic orders and the possible future project schedule. Obviously some elements of the scheme remain uncertain but it is hoped that plans will be sufficiently mature to share with the public over the next couple of months. Despite last year's construction of a turning circle to allow large vehicles travelling west to avoid using the High St, a social media post suggested tour buses were sometimes turned elsewhere.
- 2. Burnshot Bus Lane Camera** – Following a period of grace, fines for drivers of non-permitted vehicles (including private hire cars) were expected to commence from Tuesday 19 April 2022. Restrictions apply 24 hours per day.
- 3. Condition of Steps at Dalmeny Tank Farm** – Neil pursued this with CEC, who are now convinced that responsibility for repair rests with Network Rail. Other avenues are being explored, such as using CSR goodwill from local contractors or community service. However this would only provide a temporary solution and our preference is to secure longer term maintenance.
- 4. Meeting with BEAR** – BEAR manage Transport Scotland's trunk roads between Kirkliston and Halbeath, including the Forth Road Bridge. A meeting is arranged for Monday 9 May to discuss community issues around the operation and maintenance of these routes. Matters highlighted previously included traffic diversion plans, research into ice accretion, condition of pedestrian/cycle demarcation lines and anti-social behaviour. If anyone wants to attend I can forward the Teams invitation, or just let me know if there are topics anyone wishes to raise.
- 5. Public Transport** – ScotRail's train timetable is due to change from 15 May, with a reduction in daytime off-peak journeys. Balancing the gap between 2 trains per hour to Edinburgh means removing regular direct journeys between Dalmeny and Kirkcaldy. Lothian Buses have registered the X99 Cruiselink service from 17 May, in anticipation of liner visits. Concerns were expressed on arrangements for passenger collection during liner days with its effect on local businesses and public safety, particularly during Ferry Fair week. We're still seeking an update meeting with Lothian given the present staff shortage challenges and with a view to establishing how they can support travel patterns following the pandemic. Some fare changes are taking place on Stagecoach and First buses.

Grant Sangster

Transport Sub-Committee Convenor

23 April 2022

Cllr Lang & cllr Young

No report submitted

[**Back to menu**](#)

Cllr Hutchison

QDCC Final Report – April 2022

I'd like to start this final report of my 5 year Council term by thanking everyone at Queensferry and District Community Council for the positive and constructive working relationship we have enjoyed during the past 5 years and for the absolutely sterling work you do for and on behalf of the local community. As I have on at least a couple of occasions at your meetings, for me QDCC is the model of how a community council should operate and I commend all of you for your effort, commitment and professionalism.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as a Councillor for the Almond ward and the city more broadly and to represent the residents of Queensferry for the past 5 years.

I entered politics because I didn't like what was happening in our city and our country and local politics more specifically because I felt, as a Kirkliston resident at the time, that the rural west of Edinburgh was poorly served and under-resourced by the local authority. Sadly having served as a Councillor for 5 years my impression on both counts is worse than before I started.

The local authority is not fit for purpose and despite the best efforts of so many dedicated officers, it is failing the citizens of Edinburgh. Nowhere is this more clear than in recent reports on whistle blowing and abuse. As someone who in my own opinion entered politics for the right reasons, I am genuinely sickened by what amounts to an attempt at an institutional cover up by senior officers and Councillors.

The dismantling of local accountability and what seems to have been a deliberate attempt to reduce the influence of community councils have also been extremely disappointing.

Two clear highlights of the 5 year term have been the collective efforts to improve the leisure facilities in the new high school and to secure the new 43 Lothian Country bus service.

Thank you all once again, it has been a pleasure and I wish yourselves and the community all the very best in the future.

[**Back to menu**](#)

Cllr Work

Cllr Norman Work's report for April 2022 meeting.

Ferry Fair Bookshop reopening.

I was invited to attend the reopening of the Ferry Fair Bookshop on Saturday 9th April after a major refurbishment. Well done to all the community groups, businesses and individuals who helped improve the bookshop.

Virgin Media.

I received complaints from several residents in Longcrook on Thursday 21st April by the sudden appearance of Virgin Media digging trenches to lay cables. The lack of advance warning were the main complaints but also barriers put up blocking access to driveways and properties. I visited the location the next day and observed they were filling in most of the trenches and were hoping to get the work done by the end of day and moving on to Stoneyflatts and other streets in Echline. Although barriers were blocking access the guys were only too keen to move the barriers when requested.

Entrance at Provost Milne Grove.

I asked for the road markings to be refreshed at the entrance to Provost Milne Grove as there were a lot of complaints from residents about vehicles going to and from the development not observing the right of way. I also asked if give way markings could be added to the junction to emphasise the right of way but I was informed that there are plans to reconfigure the priority at the junction when the development is finished so only the current marking were refreshed.

Noise complaint.

I received a noise complaint from a resident who lives close to the Moorings about a disturbance which the Police had attended so I contacted the Police to get report from them asking what, if any interventions they had carried out and if there had been other disturbances they had attended in relation to these premises. I believe this is a one of incident but I supplied the resident with contact details of the Police and Licensing Standard Officers if they need to make a complaint in future.

Marine Response Exercise.

I received the following from Chris Spence in relation to a Marine Response Exercise that will be conducted down by Hawes Pier in South Queensferry on 13th May. The exercise will commence at approximately 0900 and there will be a tanker that will sound her emergency sound signals (ships whistle) and shortly after there will should be Fire, Police and other emergency services onsite.

Regards,

Cllr Norman Work

Other Documents

QHS REPORT FOR QDCC MEETING, MARCH 22

- Craig Downie – HT has contacted regarding the school name and the removal of the word community – this has been brought in line with the CEC names for schools. Concern raised that funding has been made available for the community aspect of the school supporting community activities. MG reassured the council that this is the hope that the ethos and community engagement progresses and remains even though the name has been taken out the title
- Note of increased staff and pupil absence due to COVID 19 – very much still prevalent and an increased pressure
- Main focus of SQA/ Exams / developing Reporting and Tracking/ Timetable and progressing with the New Curriculum
- The new curriculum changes the structure of the school day (7 x 50 mins periods Mon – Thurs and 5 x 50 mins periods on a Friday) This has allowed us greater opportunities such as increased choice in the BGE, 7 subjects in S4, wellbeing increase for S1-6, the introduction of Skills Academies and more options of senior pathways including our increased partnership with college coming to deliver some options in the senior phase
- Parent/ Carer increased communication launched our School App earlier in the year and introducing Class Charts after Easter.
- We have significantly improved the learning environment with graphics
- Uniform – delighted to have 750-800 blazers order from all our pupils and encouraging S1-4, S5 and 6 expected to wear blazers – there is support for PEF identified as well as other support for families finically to purchase blazers to remove this barrier or concern
- Equalities – still on our journey through our UNCRC Rights Respecting Programme and LGBTQ+ Charter – We support the month of Ramadan for our Muslim community and have set up support in school
- 16+ Partnerships – Plans for a June Business Partners Breakfast
- Staffing – we welcome our new DHT after Easter and we will move next session to a house system with an allocated DHT to each of the 4 houses in line with the Pupil Support Team
- Awards – still on going
- P7 – S2 Transition – visited primaries – enhanced transition and 3 day to go ahead next term – Transition Cluster Teacher introduced
- Community use of PE equipment raised for Open All Hours (which has been very well attended by our pupils and the community) and Edinburgh Leisure having access to equipment from the school – this has been locked away and storage is proving difficult – MG will speak to Craig Downie and Karen Dickson (CL Health and Wellbeing) to support

Report for The Rotary Club of South Queensferry - April 2022

Club Assembly –June 2022

The club is preparing our strategic plans for the Rotary Year 2022/23 which will be communicated to our members at our June Assembly meeting when the incoming President Sandy Mackenzie will take over the reins from Derek Clark. We will be aiming to get back to more regular weekly face to face meetings and the active participation in Community and Environmental projects will continue to feature prominently in our plans.

May Community Fete

The Rotary Community Fete being held at Hawthorn Bank Gardens will take place on the 1st May with circa 21 local groups and organisations participating. Unfortunately we were unable, due to space restrictions, to accommodate all the local groups who wanted to take part so perhaps an opportunity for other groups to hold a further event of this type?

Neil McKinlay, Junior Vice President



Northwest Monthly Community Meeting March 2022 Report *QDCC*

Road Safety

High Visibility patrols continue to be conducted throughout the area in an effort to deter drivers committing any driving offences. Traffic/Speed checks at various locations around South Queensferry are regularly undertaken.

Boy Racers/Anti-Social Driving – 7 x incidents reported

Reported incidents primarily relate to Newhalls Road/Hawes Brae, with 1 incident relating to Ferrymuir. Issues persist, however the volume of incidents remains comparatively low, following the targeted initiative during mid-February.

The problem caused by boy racers/anti-social driving remains a priority for Police, not only at Newhalls Road but throughout South Queensferry. Both local Police and Traffic Officers have been tasked to make every effort to provide a visible presence in the area to deter further issues while work alongside Edinburgh City Council continues in an effort to find a long term solution.

ASB/Youth Disorder: 3 x reported incidents

Incidents relate to youths causing a general nuisance, stealing a wheelie bin at Plewlandcroft, attempting to enter an abandoned building and causing a disturbance near to Queensferry High School. All incidents were attended by local Officers who liaised with informants and youths in the area.

Operation PAX is currently underway, resourced by Local Community Officers, with the primary objective to tackle anti-social behavior across North West Edinburgh. This will run indefinitely with specific emphasis around school holidays.

Bogus Caller: No reported incidents

CONTACT US;

Email (for all ward areas): EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Email address is not monitored 24/7 or for reporting crime or ongoing incidents. These should be reported by calling 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency).

Twitter: @EdinPoINW **Facebook:** <https://en-gb.facebook.com/EdinburghPoliceDivision>

Local Officers for Almond Ward: PC Macleod E0742/PC Campbell E0081

Agenda

QDCC April Business Meeting
Monday 25th April 2022 at 7.30pm (Virtual Meeting)

1. QDCC Chairman's Welcome & MS Teams Protocols
2. Apologies
3. Police Report
4. Minutes from the last Business Meeting (March 2022)
5. Any Matters Arising
6. Community Development Trust Update
7. Chair's Report
8. Almond Ward Councillors Reports
9. Treasurer's Report
10. Secretary's Report
11. QDCC Sub Committees Reports
12. CEC/EACC/QDCC Business updates
13. Any Other Business
14. Questions from the floor
15. Date and time of next meeting

Terry Airlie- Vice Chair & Correspondence Secretary – 18th April 2022

Previous Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Monthly Business Meeting

Monday 28 March 2022 at 7.30pm

MS Teams – Virtual Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Keith Giblett (Chair), Terry Airlie (Vice-Chair & Secretary), David Flint, Neil McKinlay, Graeme McKinley, Anne Mitchell, Grant Sangster, Laura Sexton, Michelle Gordon (QHS), Muir Kay (QBC), David Learmond (QHT), Gillian Smith (QCCC), Karen Stewart (FBTS Manager), Cllr Norman Work, Liz Holmes (Minute Secretary), PC MacLeod (Police Scotland) Item 3.

Guests: Kenny Fearnside (Atkins Global), Robbie Crockatt (CEC Learning Estate), Debbie Sanderson (SQUIDS) and 1 local resident.

1. QDCC Chairman's Welcome & Opening Remarks	The Chair welcomed everyone to the online meeting via MS Teams and noted relevant protocols for conduct of business. In addition to members, meeting links are available to the public on request and 1 local resident was attending. Keith also welcomed Kenny Fearnside from Atkins Global, Robbie Crockatt from CEC, and Debbie Sanderson from SQUIDS. Congratulations were expressed to Anne on her appointment as Gracious Lady for this year's Ferry Fair.
2. Apologies	Diane Job (Treasurer), Cllr Graham Hutchison, Cllr Kevin Lang, Cllr Louise Young, Jenni Meldrum (QBA).
3. Police Report	Report circulated to QDCC members before the meeting. PC MacLeod summarised the main items including continuing high visibility patrols, recent speed checks and tickets issued, and couple of reported youth related incidents. The previous month's initiative had led to lower level of reports at the Hawes area, but still persisting. David L commented on cars parked on double yellow lines or in disabled bays on the High Street. PC MacLeod advised parking in disabled bays would be addressed by the Police if seen. Double yellow lines are a Traffic Warden responsibility. Keith thanked PC MacLeod for attending and asked members to contact Terry if any other questions.
4. Queensferry Active Travel Routes Project	Keith introduced Kenny Fearnside and asked him to update QDCC on work done by Atkins on the Active Travel Routes project. Kenny advised that a wider consultation exercise was planned for April, together with the CEC Education consultation on future school provision. Active Travel was focusing on the following 2 areas –

	<p><u>QHS to Craws Close link</u> – taken forward from the feasibility stage, looking at ramp gradients for mobility impaired, low-level lighting, mature trees, QHS gate access, cyclist/pedestrian signage.</p> <p><u>Wider Queensferry area</u> – from new Cala Builyeon Road/Springfield developments to Taylor Wimpey Hawthorn Gardens site, plus Ambassador at Forthview. Predominately east/west but opportunity also taken to look at north-south link through Echline. Emerging concepts and layout, potential design improvements, for Council approval. Then public consultation at the Community Centre on Kirkliston Road, with feedback via CEC Hub.</p> <p>Norman asked about connectivity between South Scotstoun and Builyeon Road and level of engagement with CEC on school provision. Kenny advised this was being discussed by the CEC Education team at the other concurrent meeting that night.</p> <p>David L noted the long list of recommendations from previous reports, quoting examples previously identified and agreed such as connectivity of existing cycle paths, but not implemented. Kenny was aware of some of these and under discussion, eg ramp access link at Scotmid car park. He was keen to look at Forthview link but had limited scope due to the LDP. Keith suggested Kenny engage with other CEC stakeholders, ie Active Travel and Planning Teams, to maintain awareness of developments.</p> <p>Graeme referred to proposed LAR development at former Port Edgar Barracks on Society Road. This could provide an Active Travel link to new Springfield development and improve access to the John Muir Way. Kenny agreed to look into this further.</p> <p>Keith commented on the Builyeon Road/Echline north-south path which leads down to the Crossroads and onwards to the High Street. Hopetoun Road is difficult for pedestrians and dangerous in parts, as pavement only on one side and narrow, and didn't seem included in the plans outlined. Kenny to pick up separately with Keith.</p> <p>ACTION: Kenny Fearnside to contact Terry on dates for meeting/site visit to discuss Hopetoun Road link with new High Street.</p> <p>Keith thanked Kenny for outlining the proposals to date and answering questions.</p>
<p>5. Minutes from Last Meeting (Feb 22)</p>	<p>Minutes proposed by Terry and seconded by Grant.</p>
<p>6. Matters Arising</p>	<p><u>FEBRUARY 2020</u></p> <p>Museum: Meeting with Head of Heritage & Museums & Galleries to be arranged.</p> <p>ONGOING – awaiting date from CEC</p>

JANUARY 2021

Dalmeny Park: To confirm roads/pavements formally adopted.

DEFERRED TO JUNE 22

MAY 2021

Queensferry Business Register: Discuss number and scale of business activity within Queensferry, and potential benefits of seeking formal engagement. In progress.

ONGOING – low priority

Harbour Repairs: Listed building consent with CEC, anticipate work starting June.

CLOSE - monitor via Project Team and Newsletter updates, and QBC reports.

CEC Engagement: Concerns regarding CEC lack of community engagement with CCs. EACC proposal to have officer appointed to work directly with CCs. Paper to Edinburgh Partnership in February for review and approval.

ONGOING – monitor further post May council election.

NOVEMBER 2021

QDCC Promotion: All to consider how to improve clarity and presentation of QDCC role and responsibilities. Discussed Jan 22.

CLOSE - participation in Rotary event 1st May, opportunity to publicise QDCC role and activity.

JANUARY 2022

Burgess Road: Meetings along with CEC representatives to discuss options, costings etc and then share with residents.

ONGOING

FEBRUARY 2022

Hawes/Newhalls Road: Keith to contact residents for feedback on action taken. Done, response satisfactory.

CLOSE

Ferrymuir Retail: Residents at Ferrymuir reporting late night car related activity at Tesco car park. Keith to advise Police contacts. Done, Police aware.

CLOSE

CEC Budget 2022/23: Keith to arrange meeting with Ward Cllrs to discuss CEC budget allocations and implications for Queensferry.

ONGOING – meeting to be agreed after May council election.

Museum Visit: Keith to request Museum visit for Karen Stewart, FBTS

	<p>Manager. Done, April date agreed.</p> <p>CLOSE</p> <p>QCCC: Terry to check-in with Gillian. Done.</p> <p>CLOSE</p> <p>CEC Comms: Keith to contact Louise re CEC communication with QDCC. Done, examples provided & feedback awaited. Meantime problems persist.</p> <p>ONGOING - see also CEC engagement action (May 21)</p>
<p>7. School Infrastructure Plans</p>	<p>Keith welcomed Robbie Crockatt, CEC Learning Estate Planning Manager, and thanked him for making time to speak to QDCC on the Council’s proposed education infrastructure plans. Robbie explained the Strategy for West Edinburgh covered Maybury to Queensferry and addressed 3 issues –</p> <p><u>Primary school provision in Queensferry</u> - additional pressure due to new housing, QPS has been extended, but there are new developments at Builyeon Road and South Scotstoun planned. The LDP includes a new primary at Builyeon Road but question is which primary school for South Scotstoun pupils?</p> <p><u>Secondary school for Kirkliston</u> - forecasting pressure on QHS, capacity is 1200 but could rise to 1700 if Kirkliston Primary continues in catchment. A new secondary for Kirkliston would resolve that, but the question is where this could be built due to existing land ownership in the area.</p> <p><u>Secondary school for new Primary school at Maybury</u> - decision needed on which secondary school will serve this new primary school.</p> <p>The current engagement includes meetings with Parent Council Chairs and Headteachers, attendance at CC meetings, and workshops with stakeholders – first one that night pre QDCC. Outcome is report to Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 June but important to get process and outcome right, and aligned with other CEC areas, engagement, etc and if need more time the report date may be later.</p> <p>David L highlighted the current traffic congestion with 3 schools in the central Queensferry area and felt needed addressing. He invited Robbie to see for himself how busy this is on a Friday lunchtime, for example. Robbie accepted the invite and agreed no easy solution. Consultation was therefore important on how residents and others move around the town, including drop off/pick up from schools, in determining catchment areas.</p> <p>Terry observed the issue of a High School for Kirkliston/West Edinburgh has been live for 5 years, and needed resolved before now. Robbie agreed and commented on the City Plan and direction taken across West Edinburgh on housing and development, leading to need for clearer vision on options and views. Keith queried funding provision for a new site at Kirkliston. Robbie confirmed capital funding needed for either a Kirkliston or West Edinburgh</p>

	<p>location. On capacity Keith noted the original plan was for QHS to be for Queensferry pupils, with Kirkliston going elsewhere. He also asked if an extension at Dalmeny Primary was possible. Robbie believed this was difficult due to proximity to the tank farm and could raise objections from HSE.</p> <p>Keith thanked Robbie for updating QDCC and will get back to him on representatives for the Steering Group.</p> <p>ACTION: QDCC to nominate representatives for West Edinburgh Education Stakeholder Engagement Group.</p>
8. CDT Update	<p>David L commented on previous consultations and recommendations, and lack of delivery. Enabling actions had been identified and reported to Keith and Terry. Report now with relevant CEC teams and need to make sure the 3 teams involved connect with each other on decisions and action.</p> <p>Graeme noted requirement for a Board, with Directors. Moving forward good to start with quick win projects, and planning for delivery.</p>
9. SQUIDS	<p>Keith introduced Debbie Sanderson, from SQUIDS After School Club. Debbie spoke about current difficulties with not enough space for children wishing to attend. Feeling is that after school provision gets forgotten when considering new housing applications.</p> <p>Child care demand had dropped during Covid but growing again and now at capacity, plus waiting lists. Did have space at Echline Primary but needed for classroom, and also difficult to provide Active Schools classes as can't now use the gym hall either. Looked at expanding into the Community Centre but Care Inspectorate standards require disabled access and facilities, and application refused as no disabled toilets. Now working with Rosebery Hall for August new school year.</p> <p>But bigger problem and the question was whether provision of pre/after school care be included in the discussions on new Primary School.</p> <p>Keith thanked Debbie for explaining the current position and difficulties encountered. These were noted and QDCC would keep SQUIDS advised as appropriate.</p>
10. Chair's Report	<p>Report circulated before the meeting, nothing to add.</p> <p>No questions raised.</p>
11. Councillors' Reports	<p>Cllr Work. Report circulated before the meeting. Online connection lost, no questions.</p> <p>Cllrs Lang/Young. Report circulated before the meeting. Any questions to be forwarded separately to Kevin or Louise.</p> <p>Cllr Hutchison. No report.</p>

<p>12. QHS</p>	<p>Michelle summarised recent activity at QHS. Points covered are listed in report at the end of these minutes.</p> <p>On the name change David F noted he had been messaged by Craig that day, to let him know that ‘Community’ was being removed. He shared David L’s concern at potential implications of this. QHS was built to provide facilities for the community as well as pupils.</p> <p>Regarding uniforms Anne asked about funding, and for parents who might find it difficult to purchase blazers. Michelle confirmed that arrangements are available to provide support if needed.</p> <p>Grant asked about the school curriculum and whether that may be affected should Primary school catchments change, ie Kirkliston. Michelle understood that there would be sufficient roll numbers to maintain the subjects covered and associated teaching staff. Anne asked about current limits in relation to taking refugees. Michelle said that S1 is full, but there is capacity at S2 and above.</p> <p>Graeme commented that sports equipment was being locked away at night so not available for the Open All Hours (OAH) sessions and people were having to bring their own. He understood Craig’s authority was required to change this. Michelle would report back.</p> <p>ACTION: Michelle to raise lack of availability of equipment for OAH sessions.</p>
<p>13. Treasurer’s Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting. Any questions to be forwarded separately to Diane.</p>
<p>14. Secretary’s Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting. Nothing to add. No questions raised.</p>
<p>15. Forth Bridges WHMC</p>	<p>Karen advised event involving 20 local businesses had been cancelled due to Covid, rescheduled for 5 May. Tourism in the area was opening up, eg Boat Trips, Hopetoun House. Signage procurement currently at the ‘standstill’ stage, includes 6 replacement signs and 2 new ones. David L mentioned the John Muir Way re-routing at Port Edgar as part of the proposed Naval Barracks site development. Updated signage would be needed in due course.</p> <p>Keith had received an update on the FBE from Network Rail. Formal planning consultation now ended, 9 objections and 3 in support. CEC had advised Planning Committee meeting moved to 15 June, to allow time for new Cllrs to be trained. Project Team preparing for engagement with potential contractors, pending planning permission from CEC and approval of full business case by TS.</p>
<p>16. Sub-Committees & Local Interest Groups</p>	<p>Planning, Transport, Health & Wellbeing, Communications, Education/Recreation.</p>

	<p>Nothing additional to report.</p> <p>Environment. Neil referred to the Plastic Free Queensferry initiative in his report. On the draft Motion covering QDCC action David L queried the wording of the second bullet point. This was edited slightly and the full adopted Motion is as follows –</p> <p>“Plastic Free Queensferry is a voluntary group that has been established with the aim of reducing the amount of Single Use Plastic (SUP) that is generated in the local community.</p> <p>In support of this initiative QDCC is committed to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil McKinlay, QDCC Environmental Committee Convenor, will act as the QDCC representative on the Plastic Free Queensferry Group. • QDCC agrees to support the aims of the Plastic Free Queensferry Group to reduce the use of Single Use Plastic in the area. • QDCC agrees to act by example to remove Single Use Plastic from its premises and operations.” <p>QBC. Muir reported due to planning it would be June before Harbour repair work starts. New chains should be laid late April, intend keeping the old one for added weight. Laid up boats expected back in the water late May, keeping one bay free for the repair works. Sailing and racing restarting, and hoping to participate in Anstruther event.</p> <p>QCCC. Gillian advised return to face-to-face contact and attendee numbers building. Day care and Supper Club enjoying being back with other people, looking for referrals for Supper Club.</p> <p>QHT. David L noted cancelled meeting on Wednesday. Action Note drafted re the High Street meeting, to finalise and share on receipt of comments from Dave Sinclair, CEC. Cockburn Trust have announced they will pause their involvement in organising this year’s ‘Open Doors’ event for Edinburgh after 32 years. QHT have written to Scottish Civic Trust to determine if local arrangements can still go ahead. Grant application submitted for the new play, and looking for rehearsal space.</p> <p>Rotary. As per report, nothing to add.</p>
<p>17. CEC/EACC/QDCC Business</p>	<p>Nothing to report.</p>
<p>18. AOB</p>	<p>Graeme proposed Anne Marie Boyd be formally elected as an Associate Member of QDCC, recognising her attendance at all online meetings and her wider involvement in community and youth related activity across Queensferry. The nomination was seconded by Terry and approved by QDCC.</p>

19. Questions from the floor	No questions raised. Keith thanked everyone for attending what had been a busy meeting. Challenges for QDCC and the community on active travel, school rolls, and school provision were noted.
20. Date and time of next meeting	Monday 25 April 2022 at 7.30pm, via MS Teams.