

January

2024

Monthly News

“Welcome to this Queensferry & District community council monthly newsletter. Please browse by scrolling through or use the menus to select a specific report or document. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and our website for more information and latest updates.”

Thank you

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Communications
- Education
- Environment
- Health & Wellbeing
- Planning & Housing

- Cllrs Lang, Young & Younie
- Cllr Work

- Police Report
- Rotary Club
- Queensferry Heritage Trust

Meeting Agenda
Previous meeting minutes



Do You Want to Make a Difference in South Queensferry

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

Queensferry Community Development Trust
Together we can create



Chair's Report – Keith Giblett

Chair's report for virtual meeting 22nd January 2024

Almond Local Improvement Plans

I attended a meeting called by the CEC Empowerment Team to discuss the health and wellbeing agenda for the local improvement plan for west Edinburgh.

EACC Meetings

I have attended four meetings of the EACC since the November QDCC Business meeting one being the EACC AGM held on 23rd November when I was elected to the EACC Board. I and the Secretary circulate relevant correspondence from the EACC to QDCC Convenors.

Business Champion Network (BCN)

A BCN meeting was held on 17th January which I attended to learn about the plans for the spring of 2024. CEC Business Growth and inclusion support local high street business by using social media platforms to promote Edinburgh High Street business's. The meeting is held quarterly. Karen Stewart FBWH Tourism Officers attends and supports local businesses through BCN as well as promoting the FB UNESCO brand.

Asset Workshop

As reported by the Secretary I was contacted in my capacity as Chair and facilitated and attended a meeting to discuss the outcomes from the Asset Workshop and be informed about CEC Intentions and plans for further consultation.

Place Plans

When communicating with Ironside Farrer about outstanding High Street business I learnt that their services extended to providing Place Plan to government agencies and IF would be interested in supporting QDCC. They have an extensive client list with NHS being a client as well as other local authorities. This resulted in exploring how IF could assist. Following discussions, a formal cost effective offer has been made to QDCC.

High St Improvements

I was in discussions with CEC about the High St Improvements and a meeting was called and Grant and I met the newly appointed High St Project Manager. He is in the early stages of picking up on the project and a handover of the project is underway. Grant has provided an update in the Transport Report.

Echline Spinal Path

I received a bulletin from CEC that applications were being sought from ward councillors and community councils to be lodged by 31st March '24 for projects for the Place Based Investment Fund. With support from Ironside Farrer I have lodged a pro-forma with the Place Based Investment Fund for upgrading the Echline Spinal Path to an adoptable standard. I sought the support of ward councillors and councillor Lang offered to and obtained from officers for authenticity the history of the path and why it wasn't adopted.

Keith Giblett
Chair QDCC 21 Jan 24.

Secretary's Report – Terry Airlie

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY – January 2024 Report

1. The QDCC mailbox has been relatively quiet since the November business meeting no doubt in part due to the festive period but has picked up somewhat in the last week or so.

As is quite common several telephone calls and website queries have been dealt with and my thanks go out to my fellow Community Councilors who continue to respond to the varied questions that I circulate requesting assistance in formulating replies.

- Further to a request from CEC to meet with QDCC to discuss next steps on the Queensferry Buildings and Community Workshop report, a catch-up meeting was held on 27th November.
A follow up discussion was subsequently held on 18th January with Robbie Crockatt and Julie Duncan from CEC.
The outputs from these discussions will feed into the formulation of a Local Place Plan as well as further initiatives which will be covered later via The Chair.
- A meeting was held with Ironside Farrar to discuss the formulation of a Queensferry Local Place Plan. Details to be discussed later via The Chair.
- A further update on the Community Council Election and the Community Council Scheme/Boundary review has been received and circulated.
The outline consultation plan report will be submitted to a special CEC meeting on 8th February recommending an eight-week consultation period from 12 February 2024 to 8 April 2024. This eight-week period is Phase 2 of the Statutory Review and will be seeking feedback on the draft scheme and proposed boundaries.
The report, draft scheme and draft boundaries will be available on the 2nd February, in accordance with CEC Standing Orders that require them to be available 3 clear working days before the meeting.
- The Consultation Outcomes Reports from both Builyeon Road Primary and Kirkliston High School have been received and circulated.
- No further information has been received from CEC relating to the ongoing review of the existing Locality Improvement Plan.

Residents continue to engage with QDCC – mostly via social media although I continue to receive some 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 pass on these queries to the relevant local authority departments/officials.

Since the last meeting I have fielded a few calls and responded to a number of online queries from residents on diverse topics such as (yet again) boy racers at Newhalls Road/Hawes Carpark, speeding on Scotstoun Avenue, a number of concerns on attempted house break-ins, the settling of Ukrainian families in the Hawthorn Gardens development, a complaint about the power washing carried out in the High Street (damage), a request to assist with furniture removals, a complaint relating to the lack of electric vehicle charging points across the town, a query relating to an apparent job opportunity offered up by QDCC, a question on the fittings inside the Anchor Bar, a concern related to footpath damage along the old railway line caused by tree cutting and contact from Newton Community Council on QDCC plans for a Local Place Plan.

All in all a somewhat mixed bag!

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

2. I continue to correspond with CEC officials, CEC Councilors, and local residents on various community related matters. I continue to distribute information to office-bearers, members and/or portfolio conveners as appropriate.

Terry Airlie

Vice Chair & Correspondence Secretary – 21st January 2024

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Treasurer' Report – Diane Job

December 2023 - January 2024

MONEY IN THIS MONTH:

Cala - £800 - This funding is for Ferry Elves

MONEY OUT THIS MONTH:

Ferry Elves - Cala Funding - £800.00

Total CC Funds - £1549.22

COMMUNITY FACILITY FUNDING

Virgin Money

Cash Management Account - Oct - Dec £62.87 - £18540.25

95 Day Notice Account - Nov - Dec interest £420.32 - £63191.90

Nationwide Building Society - £87588.43

Barclays Bank - Oct - Dec interest £296.12 - £85335.24

RBS - Oct - Dec interest £700.51 - £88270.79

Charity Bank - £62144.97

Community Facility Funding Total = £405071.58

Diane Job
QDCC Treasurer

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Communications – Graeme McKinley

Community Engagement

QDCC continues to communicate with residents, authorities, stakeholders, developers and internally using various online tools: social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), QDCC website, email, messenger, MS Teams and Zoom. The monthly meetings either in person or via MS Teams are open to the public by request via our website, where it is advertised and on social media channels. Subjects discussed through those channels are incorporated in to each relevant sub-committee's reports which are published in our monthly newsletters, available on our website. 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.

Spotlight Magazine

Publications are now quarterly with online then printed distribution. Distribution will mainly be through key static dispensers in the area. This is a non-profit community magazine by Words & Pictures, please support by submitting relevant content or making use of the advertising opportunity.

Latest edition can be read [here](#).



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Education Report – David Flint

Ed/Rec. Report. January 2024.

No updates.

[Additional Education committee updates from Anne Marie Boyd...](#)

Queensferry Primary School

Acting headteacher Mrs Mclean is still in the position and there is no date yet for Mrs Macgregor returning to QPS.

Building Works

Internal building work has started in the annex building to convert the three North facing rooms back into classrooms. While this happens the music instructors are using the Community Centre hut for their lessons and the Breakfast Club is using the Cafe in the Community Centre building.

Singalong Training for Parents

Would you like to learn Singalong? Singalong provides training and resources to assist those with communication difficulties and English as an additional language.

This introduction to Singalong Training is open to all parents and carers and will be held at Gate 55, 55 Sighthill Road, Edinburgh, EH11 4PB on Friday 26th January from 9.15am -11.45am

Singalong is a key word sign-supported communication system based on British sign language and is used in spoken word order. It uses speech, sign, body language, facial expression and voice tone to reference the link between sign and word. This workshop teaches the basic building blocks to build signs, the opportunity to learn some vocabulary from Phase 1 as well as the opportunity to learn signs that you may need to use at home with your children and young people. You will have the opportunity to practice your signs with the group and create your own signing name. No prior knowledge is required to attend.

Queensferry High School

Queensferry High got a very good inspection report from the inspection carried out last year. All the details can be found here : <https://education.gov.scot/inspection-and-review/find-an-inspection-report/find-an-inspection-report/details?id=4136>

The first Parent Council meeting takes place on Wednesday 24th January at 7pm.

St Margarets Primary School

A new headteacher has been appointed into position.

Youth Engagement

Tuesday youth club started off really well with 41 young people coming along. The CLD (community Learning and Development) standards council Scotland are carrying out inspections of the service because the club is doing so well, we have been put forward to be one of two clubs they will inspect.

Open All Hours returns Friday January 26th.

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Environment Report – Neil McKinlay

[Dangerous wall at the Leuchold Gate entrance to the Dalmeny Estate](#)

I have spoken to the estate office to obtain a status report. Despite various meetings the estate and CEC have been unable to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement about the repairs to the wall. Accordingly the matter has now been passed into the hands of their respective legal teams so the matter can be resolved through more formal legal channels. Accordingly the traffic management system will subsist for some time to come. I will continue to monitor the situation.

[Safety Issue on the road that runs over the burn at Lovers Lane](#)

The new fences now have been erected and we thank Dalmeny Estates for their support

[Cycle/walking path along the old railway line](#)

The CEC forestry team have started work to remove diseased ash trees focusing on the stretch heading towards the Rail Bridge which has been deemed higher risk due to confluence of paths in that area. Some minor collateral gouging damage occurred to the path surface in the process but this was highlighted to the Community Council by a local cyclist and has now been repaired. There are a considerable number of remaining diseased ash trees to be removed along the path but there is no timescale to remove them at this time as they are deemed to be of lesser risk.

[Echline Woodland](#)

Keith Giblett and I recently undertook a “health check” inspection of the woods at the instigation of the Friends Group who manage this area of woodland. Keith and I will now prepare a report which will include some suggestions for possible engagement with some of the Echline Primary schoolchildren with the woodland development activities.

Neil McKinlay

21st January 2024

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Health & Wellbeing – Anne Mitchell

Health and Well-being report January 2024

[Ferry Elves](#) have had another productive year. Being a constituted group with a committee to share the work load made a massive difference as did being able to store donations in Rosebery hall. In total we supported 44 families /98 children with a mix of coats, shoes, gifts and food. We worked closely with several local organisations – referrals coming from schools, health visitors and St Vincent de Paul.

Financially we were incredibly well supported by Cala, Masonic Lodge, Jim Liddell memorial fund, church guild, Rosebery hall, registers of Scotland and many individuals. Having our own account and bank card saved a lot of transferring of money! Just giving plus a collection in Tesco brought in all we needed.

Groups also took on either getting gifts for specific children or just a generic gift for ages we were short for; grateful thanks to Scotts, CALA and NHS 24/SAS.

Tesco has truly been a partner with us this year- allowing us to have a weekend explaining to shoppers who we were and what we wanted, followed by a box for donations of food in store for 3 weeks, followed by having a trolley for toy donations! This really showed how much local people managed to contribute to this activity; thank you to everyone. Anyone willing to show thanks to the Tesco team please fill in the questionnaire on www.tescoviews.com store number 3214 they support not only the elves but breakfast clubs, youth club and st Vincent de Paul.

Currently we are drawing lots to allocate gifts of activities that have been donated by the zoo and public (Enjoyaball party and Conifox activity)

To finish our activities, we had a lovely evening this week donated by the Railbridge Bistro where a group of our older folk got together for a blether and a very tasty 3 course supper

[Walk about of communal areas owned by CEC](#) has been cancelled a couple of times but hopefully to go ahead in February

[Community fridges](#) are designed to prevent waste rather than target poverty and we have one in Dalmeny church and Queensferry parish church. Pop in when they are open and see what has been donated. Take what you can use and leave a donation.

[Warm spaces](#) continue as last year with Connections café, Dalmeny café foodbank and the library.

[Queensferry parish church](#) has a new parish liaison worker focussing on the older members of the community. The priory church has a new minister who is keen to meet local people.

[I Thrive](#) has workers based in the GP practice to support those finding themselves struggling with their mental health and plan to continue this drop-in service over the next few months. They cover ages 18 – 64 but not out with this. They are based in several practices across the north west and people do not have to attend at their local practice.

[Health in Mind upcoming courses](#)

Here is an update on some of our wellbeing courses which are taking place between February - April 2024 which still have spaces available!

Please note that **sign up is required** for all of our courses. In order to make a referral, [click here to submit an enquiry on our website](#), or call 0131 225 8508.

See below for details of some upcoming courses:

In-person courses:

Stress Management Course

- Where: 'The Crannie' Community Hub, 9 Cranston St, Edinburgh, EH8 8BE

- When: Thursday Mornings, 10am – 12pm (noon)
- Dates: 1, 8, 15, 22 February (4 weeks)

Anxiety Management Course

- Where: Pilton Community Health Centre, 73 Boswall Pkwy, EH5 2PW
- When: Thursday Afternoons, 12 – 2pm
- Dates: 18, 25 April, 2, 9, 16 May 2024 (5 weeks)

Online courses:

Stress Management Course

- Where: Online, via Zoom
- When: Saturday mornings, from 10am - 12pm
- Dates: 2, 9, 16, 23 March (4 weeks)

Anxiety Management Course

- Where: Online, via Zoom
- When: Tuesday Mornings, 10am – 12pm
- Dates: 12, 19, 26 March, 2, 9 April (5 weeks)

For all up to date information on scheduled and future courses, please refer our website: [Health in Mind | Wellbeing Courses and Workshops in Edinburgh \(health-in-mind.org.uk\)](https://health-in-mind.org.uk)

[Social Isolation sub group](#) continues to meet discussing items that impact on trying to minimise social isolation. They have plans to have a drop in session advertising volunteering opportunities which we will participate in but feel there is a need to have something similar in Queensferry and will work towards that.

[Foodbank](#) continues to be well used and has regular financial advice available from the food project.

[LAR housing](#) has reached out to see how they can develop a small space for community use that would not compete with existing lets

[RRT](#) managed to support one of our families needing an emergency food package following flood damage

[Ukraine](#)

Scottish Government have announced two new policies – Move-on and Re-entry – for welcome accommodation in relation to their recently published [A Warm Scots Future](#) policy position paper. New Scot families are gradually moving into the Taylor Wimpey houses. The second group of properties purchased will not be only for New Scots but be available to local families on the housing list. As they have workers helping coordinate their move I have only been involved with the 2 families I was already supporting.

Other meetings attended; Voluntary sector forum, Local Improvement plan,

Planning & Housing – Diane Job

December 2023 - January 2024

Applications

During the eight week period nineteen applications were received

23/06531/FUL - Modify and extend existing house (resubmission) - 12 Branders Place

23/06663/FUL - Enlargement of existing rear dormer - 42 Lawson Crescent

23/05545/?FULSTL - Retrospective planning permission for short term let use. Commenced May 2021 - 8 Villa Road

23/06652/FUL - Proposed change of use from Class 3, Food and Drink, to Class 11, Assembly and Leisure, Proposed Gym - Unit 13 Bankhead Steading 18 Bankhead Road

23/06739/FUL - These proposals are for the extension/alterations of an existing detached house. Proposals include the demolition of a bay window, various alterations to existing fabric and extension to the north and west of the dwelling forming anew entrance porch, larder and living room - 3 Station Road

23/06749/FUL - A loft conversion to form a second floor for a semi-detached house within the Queensferry Conservation Area. Includes the addition of new accommodation stair, two bedrooms and storage space. Conservation style roof windows to front and a slate and timber dormer to the rear to match existing materials and details - 6 Brewery Close

23/07041/FUL - Formation of single storey extension to rear elevation of existing end-of-terrace residential dwelling - 1 Rosshill Terrace

23/07031/ADV - Vinyl wrap to the front and side of the proposed Medpoint prescription collection machine with operation instructions, name and logo - Pharmacy 3 Ferryburn Rosebery Avenue

23/07032/FUL - Installation of a Medpoint solo prescription collection machine to the existing pharmacy tarmac area to the front of the property - 2 Ferryburn Rosebery Avenue
TWO applications for the same property but one is addressed 2 Ferryburn and the other 3 Ferryburn

23/07173/FUL - Replacement of single window to rear side of property - Flat 2 18c Hopetoun Road

23/07303/FUL - Proposed replacing of all windows. Existing stone paintwork to be removed back to the existing stone. Various internal alterations - 4 High Street

23/07304/LBC - Proposed replacing of existing windows with uPVC windows. Existing stone paintwork to be removed back to the existing stone. Various internal alterations - 4 High Street

23/07301/AMC - Application of matters specified in conditions 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 of planning permission in principle 21/04018/PPP to erect 60 bed care home - land 288 metres Southwest of 10 Builyeon Road

24/00035/FUL - A loft conversion to form a second floor for a semi-detached house within the Queensferry Conservation Area included the addition of a new accommodation stair, two bedrooms and storage space. Conservation style roof, windows to the front and rear.
Previous application 23/06749/FUL withdrawn - 6 Brewery Close

Certificate of Lawfulness Existing

23/05369/CLESTL - Application for the issue of a certificate of lawfulness confirming its existing use and a short-term visitors accommodation - Flat 2 19 Rose Lane

23/05568/CLESTL - The existing use of a boathouse as holiday let accommodation for more than 10 years of uninterrupted lettings - Boathouse Dundas Estate

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed

23/07495/CLP - Garage conversion - 13 Henry Ross Place

Trees in a Conservation Area

23/07118/TCO - Cherry tree approximately 10 to 12 metres in height and Field Maple approximately 9 to 10 metres we are looking to prune the cherry tree in height. We are also looking to remove the Field Maple - 10 Wester Dalmeny Steading & Land to rear

Decisions

During the eight week period ten decisions were made

23/06094/ADV - Interpretation, orientation and wayfinding signs as part of the Forth Bridges Trail (established in 2022), an interpretative walking trail covering North and South Queensferry - Proposed Tourist Information Signage Station Road Dalmeny & High Street Queensferry & Ferrymuir Gait Ferrymuir South Queensferry - Proposed Tourist Information signage 20 metres north of 1A Station Road - GRANTED

23/04490/FULS - Retrospective change of use from flat (Sui Generis) to short term let (Sui Generis) - Flat 6 18B Hopetoun Road - REFUSED

23/06208/FUL - Installation of replacement windows - 7 Ashburnham Loan - GRANTED

23/06132/FUL - Proposed front porch extension - 17 Ashburnham Loan - GRANTED

23/06439/FUL - Rear extension - 134 Echline Drive - GRANTED

23/06663/FUL - Enlargement of existing rear dormer - 42 Lawson Crescent - GRANTED

23/06531/FUL - Modify and extend existing house (resubmission) - 12 Branders Place GRANTED

23/06484/LBC - Copper roof pitches (installed 1950's) over part of Dalmeny House to be replaced with slate pitches - Dalmeny House Dalmeny Estate - GRANTED

23/06749/FUL - A loft conversion to form a second floor for a semi-detached house within the Queensferry Conservation Area. Includes the addition of a new accommodation stair, two bedrooms and storage space. Conservation style roof windows to front and a slate and timber dormer to the rear to match existing materials and details - 6 Brewery Close - WITHDRAWN

23/07118/TCO - Cherry tree approximately 10-12 metres in height and Field maple approximately 9-10 metres we are looking to prune the cherry tree in height reducing by 1m. We are looking to remove the Field maple - 10 Wester Dalmeny Steading and land to rear - NOT MAKE A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Planning Matters

Scotstoun Avenue

Scotstoun Ave - Section 75 - Resurfacing, Traffic Calming and Bus Stop Improvements. - no date has been given for this work to be progressed. QDCC are trying to get more information on timescales

Builyeon Road Development - Bridgewater Village

No update this month

Queensferry Heights - Springfield Development

First phase of affordable housing were handed over in December with all 19 occupied prior to Christmas

4 blocks of private apartments under construction

22 private low rise homes under construction

Toucan crossing looking to be installed. Waiting permit from Local authority

Hawthorn Gardens Development (South Scotstoun)

Nothing to report from Taylor Wimpey

Forthview Development (Corus site)

Ambassador are progressing to site completion - completion currently estimated by the end of the summer

Bridgewater Village (Builyeon Road Development)

Care Home Planning Application

23/07301/AMC - Application of matters specified in conditions 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 of planning permission in principle 21/04018/PPP to erect 60 bed care home - land 288 metres Southwest of 10 Builyeon Road

Deadline for comments to this application is Friday 9th February

Diane Job
QDCC Planning Convener

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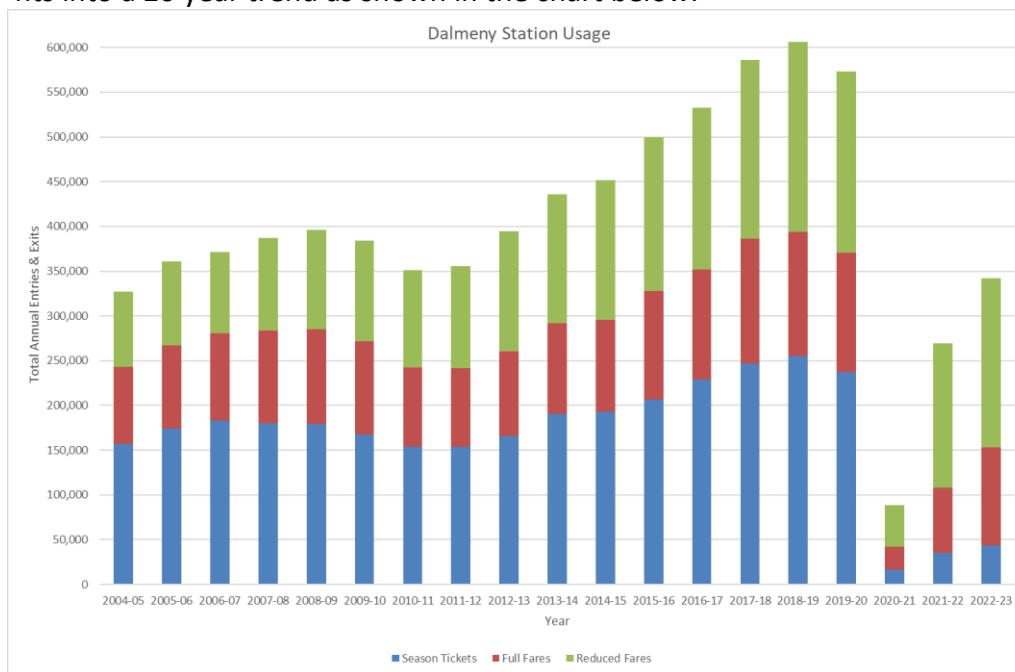
Transport – Grant Sangster

- Road & Pavement Conditions** – Fewer formal roadworks and road closures took place over the past couple of months, although emergency resurfacing of the B924 around Barnbogle Gate was necessary after some vehicles were damaged by the notoriously large potholes here. Roads and paths around Echline View reopened in line with a slightly revised plan following Scottish Water’s sewer upgrade. Some installation continued under temporary traffic lights after the new year and reinstatement is now complete. Hopefully the grass will regrow in a few months and the upgrade proves successful. Keith is also looking into a Place Based Investment opportunity to improve the nearby spinal path. Another area of concern just now is Loch Road, where we haven’t heard back from Hopetoun Estate on any plan to make repairs. The short stretch between Morison Gardens and Stewart Terrace has deteriorated rapidly. Although a nearby alternative route is available, vehicles attempting to use Loch Road as a short cut may be at risk of damage.
- Correspondence** – A resident contacted us regarding provision of rapid charger points for electric vehicles. Several initiatives are underway to help drivers unable to charge vehicles at home, and Queensferry already has some chargers rated faster than 50 kW, for example at BP and Forth Road Bridge. Provision in Queensferry seems broadly in line with average across the country but for particularly rapid charging we’ll probably benefit in future from our proximity to busy trunk roads. General rollout of facilities like lamp post charging and associated parking control often arises at forums such as CEC’s Transport & Environment Committee.
- High Street Resurfacing** – Staff moves at CEC are now confirmed, with a few changes to the team responsible for delivering this project. Traffic orders relating to the resurfaced stretch between the Bellstane and Sealscraig areas are in a mature state and the process of publicising and implementing these is expected to start shortly. These are necessary due to intended changes in how the roads and pavements around the area can be used. There has been very little change to the design proposed last year, and provision remains for flexibility in material choice closer to the time depending on prevailing costs.

4. **Forth Road Bridge Automatic Barriers** – Work will shortly take place to install special road studs that guide traffic when diverted onto the Forth Road Bridge. To support installation the junction at Scotstoun needs to close between 10.30pm and 6am on Thursday 25 January, with some closures in Fife during the previous two nights. When the Scotstoun junction is closed, general traffic on the A90 will be able to use the bus lanes (for example towards Dundas Home Farm) so this stretch remains open from Barnton. However M90 traffic will use a longer diversion. Local bus route changes for each night are linked [here](#). Builyeon Road will be used for some diverted traffic, which may be OK at the moment but hopefully only a rare occurrence once the road is diverted through the new housing scheme.

5. **Public Transport** – No news recently on retendering CEC’s 63 bus service, although the expectation remains that the route will only run between Queensferry and the Gyle, with the section to Balerno taken from there by another service linking to new houses around Cammo. Timetables reflecting the significant 63 service change due to staff shortages in 2022 have now been posted on bus stops along the route, which is good to see but unfortunate that it has taken such a long time. The 43 service remained quite stable throughout 2023 and it’s unlikely that revision will be a priority for Lothian Country given their challenges elsewhere in West Lothian. However we’ll try to ascertain if any adjustments are likely soon.

On the railway, figures for passengers using Dalmeny Station were released by [ORR](#) in December. The latest data covers ticket sales over the 12 months between April 2022 and March 2023 (ie prior to temporary withdrawal of full fare tickets last October) and fits into a 20 year trend as shown in the chart below.



Grant Sangster

Transport Sub-Committee Convenor, 21 January 2024

Cllr Lang, cllr Young, cllr Younie

January 2024 report

City of Edinburgh Council Budget – 2024/25

The Council will set its annual budget on 23rd February and thus all political groups are working to draft their proposals. Amidst a context of reduced funding for local authorities, we are looking to protect delivery of essential services, such as education.

Given the importance of this budget setting process for Queensferry, any view from QDCC on the community's needs would be welcome.

Community Safety

There were several criminal incidents throughout Queensferry, with many in the community getting in touch with us to register their concerns. We are keen to engage with the community over this further, especially through liaison with the Police and other elected members representing the area.

We would like to encourage anyone with any concerns whatsoever to get in touch with us, as it helps us get a better understanding of people's safety needs.

Childcare Provision

We are continuing to work with Alex Cole-Hamilton, MSP for Edinburgh Western, in determining what changes could be made to make childcare provision in West Edinburgh to better suit the needs of parents, carers, and young people.

We understand that there are plans for further meetings later in the year.

High School Provision – Kirkliston

The paper on the outcomes of the statutory consultation proposal concerning a potential Kirkliston High School was published on the 18th January on the Council's website here: <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/new-education-buildings/new-kirkliston-high-school-kirkliston-leisure-centre-site>

This report will be considered at Full Council on Thursday 8th February.

Cllr Work

Cllr Norman Work's report for January 2024 meeting.

Happy New Year.

EV Charge Points, In October 2023 I was asked by Graeme McKinley to make enquiries about the EV chargers promised for the Binks Car Park after this was raised at the September QDCC meeting. I finally received a response back on 28th November. *"We are planning to install two 7 kW charge*

points serving 4 charging bays. There is a power connection issue which we are currently working with our supplier and Scottish Power Energy Networks to provide a solution. This will mean a delay in the installation of these charge points and unfortunately these will not be ready until spring 2024.”

I also received a response regarding the EV chargers at the Plaza Car Park which Karen Stewart made enquiries about in September. *“The charge points located at Forth Bridges car park are owned by Transport Scotland (TS) and they have recently decided to decommission these chargers. Early discussions have taken place between CEC and Transport Scotland on how we can assist them with the possibility with re-purposing the charge points. However, Transport Scotland are still to make a final decision on this.”*

[Adopted streets](#), I sent another email to Karl Ivanov asking for an update on 4th December. I mentioned that the adoption of the remaining streets was mentioned at QDCC’s November meeting and specifically mentioned that information obtained from members of QDCC were that Cala had submitted documents. I sent another email asking for an update on Thursday 18th January, so far have not received a response to these emails.

[Queensferry Town Centre Project update](#), Almond ward councillors met with Dave Sinclair who wanted to update us on the project and introduce Robert Armstrong who will be the new project Manager. Dave mentioned he was meeting with QDCC a few days after our meeting. We understand there may be objections when the TRO’s are put forward but we were keen to have as little delay as possible.

[Queensferry Cemetery](#), I contacted Gareth Edwards after I was tasked at the QDCC meeting in November for an update on the land CEC has identified along the B904. I received acknowledgement saying that he is currently checking this out with our colleagues in estates to get a definitive answer and will get back to me. Two months have passed so I have emailed Gareth again asking if this land has been identified and at the time of writing have not received any further news.

Regards,

Cllr Norman Work

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Other Documents

Police Report



Northwest Monthly Community Meeting Almond Ward November 28th 2023 – January 22nd 2024

Road Safety

Complaints of dangerous/careless and anti-social driving remain a priority. We endeavor to carry out regular speed/traffic checks on roads most susceptible to driving offences or most at risk of accidents. This will include speed checks utilizing the 'speed gun' where possible.

Anti-Social Driving– 4 x reported incidents

2 x incidents refer to vehicles revving engines/sounding horns in the area of Hawes Brae.

1 x incident refers to vehicles racing/speeding in the area of Scotstoun Avenue.

1 x incident refers to vehicles racing/speeding in the area of Borrowman Square.

The issue of anti-social driving/racing and noise complaints remains a priority for Police Scotland, with high visibility patrols conducted at every opportunity.

Anti-social Behaviour/Youth Disorder: 4 x reported incidents

1 x incident refers a group of youths acting in a disorderly manner, shouting and banging on windows at the Bamboo Chinese Restaurant, The Loan – Local Officers continue to liaise with staff regarding this ongoing issue.

2 x incidents refer to youths causing issues at a property in the area of Ashburnham Road – Police attended and spoke occupiers, providing advice if issues persist.

1 x incident refers to a group of youths causing a nuisance in the area of Ferrymuir Gait – Police attended however youths had left the area.

Vandalism/Damage: 2 x reported incidents

1 x incident refers to graffiti in the area of Lovers Lane – Enquiries ongoing.

1 x incident refers to a padlock being cut at a building site in the area of Hopetoun Road – Crime recorded and enquiries undertaken.

Bogus Caller: No incidents reported

-
- [Property Security](#) * [Vehicle Security](#) * [Lock Snapping / Drilling](#) * [After Dark Home Security Advice](#)
-

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: @EdinPolNW

Facebook: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/EdinburghPoliceDivision>

Local Officers: PC Donald Macleod/PC Euan Sinclair

Rotary Club of South Queensferry

QDCC – Rotary South Queensferry - Report January 2024

Our Santa Sleigh programme was a great success with the club raising circa £3,500r which will be used to support local good causes.

The club held various wine tasting and cake and coffee afternoon events last year and this has raised over £ 900 which have been channelled to the International “Lend with Care” scheme. This scheme enables proprietors of small businesses across the globe to establish or develop their small businesses. These are requests that normal financial institutions would not be willing to support.

These are not “handouts” as the funds are lent to the proprietors and have to be repaid over time and historically the loan default rates among the borrowers is miniscule. Once repaid the loan monies are relent over and over again.

The club still has unallocated funds of circa £300 and it plans to get local primary school children involved in the scheme enabling them to help choose the businesses they wish to support.

The club have recently been approached to help develop a vegetable growing garden within the High School grounds so it looks like another Rotary/Greenferry project in the offing.

Neil McKinlay

21st January 2024

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Queensferry Heritage Trust

No report this month.



QUEENSFERRY
HERITAGE
TRUST

Promoting and protecting the
heritage of Queensferry

Agenda

QDCC January Business Meeting

Monday 22nd January 2024 at 7.30pm (Online Meeting)

1. QDCC Chair's Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Police Report
4. Gavin Sharp – CEC Ukraine Lead officer
5. Lydon Canes - Plymouth Brethren Church Rapid Relief Team
6. Minutes from the last Business Meeting (November 2023)
7. Any Matters Arising
8. Chair's Report
9. Almond Ward Councillors Reports
10. Treasurer's Report
11. Secretary's Report
12. QDCC Sub Committees Reports
13. CEC/EACC/QDCC updates
14. Any Other Business
15. Questions from the floor
16. Date and time of next meeting

Terry Airlie- Vice Chair & Correspondence Secretary – 15th January 2024

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Previous Minutes

QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monthly Business Meeting

Monday 27 November 2023 at 7.30pm

MS Teams – Virtual Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Keith Giblett (Chair), Terry Airlie (Vice-Chair & Secretary), Anne Marie Boyd, David Flint, Diane Job, Muir Kay, Neil McKinlay, Graeme McKinley, Anne Mitchell, Grant Sangster, David Learmond (QHT), Mark Meredith (QBC), Gillian Smith (QCCC), Karen Stewart (FBTS Manager), PC Euan Sinclair (Police Scotland), Cllr Kevin Lang, Cllr Norman Work, Liz Holmes (Minute Secretary).

Guests: Aileen Aitken (LAR Housing), John Hawryluk (EVOG), Nadir Khan-Juhoor (Morrison Care Homes), Alan Steele (Scottish Water), and 1 local resident (part meeting).

1. Chair's Welcome & Opening Remarks	Keith welcomed everyone to the last meeting in 2023. It was a busy agenda with 5 guests and he outlined the running order to allow them to attend for their specific item(s) if they so wished. He also welcomed Mark Meredith and PC Euan Sinclair, joining QDCC as Queensferry Boat Club and Police Scotland representatives respectively.
2. Apologies	Laura Sexton, Michelle Gordon (QHS).
3. Police Report	PC Sinclair highlighted the incidents covered in this month's report – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Road safety</u> Including ongoing driving related ASB. Roads team asked to assist. Camera at Hawes being reinstated.• <u>Youth disorder ASB</u> Various locations, regular patrols to help deter further incidents.• <u>Vandalism/damage</u> Cases were of tyre damage and smashed window.• <u>Bogus caller</u> Suspected incident reported but no crime identified.• <u>Home/vehicle security</u> Number of house break-ins and car thefts reported. Specialist resources and additional patrols deployed. Cllr Lang asked about number of break-ins. PC Sinclair advised around one per week, increase on previous year. Police advice on home and vehicle security was available and had been circulated to QDCC members. This would be posted on QDCC web and facebook sites. PC Sinclair also happy to assist with any other points on this from QDCC or residents.

	<p>Muir queried the forthcoming ban on parking on pavements and at dropped kerbs, in particular how this affected delivery vehicles in narrow residential streets. Cllr Lang advised national exemption for emergency vehicles and delivery vehicles is in place, but only where no other reasonable parking is available, and access isn't blocked. Local councils are to monitor this.</p>
<p>4. Morrison Care Homes, Builyeon Road</p>	<p>Keith introduced Nadir Khan-Juhoor from Morrison Care Homes, developers for new care home at Builyeon Road. Nadir outlined the company's background, other sites developed, and plans for Queensferry -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-shaped building providing accommodation for 60 residents over 3 floors. • Additional spaces for family and other social gatherings. • Care provision for a mix of full nursing, dementia, and respite. • Will include local authority needs. <p>Gillian welcomed the development and asked about charges. These were difficult to commit to at this stage as 2 years away from finished build. Nadir noted current Scotland-wide shortfall of around 16,000 care spaces. Morrison's aim to deliver as many homes/beds as possible. Managed by a mixture of UK-wide & Scottish based operators who focus on care delivery, not development.</p> <p>Anne asked about day care facilities. Nadir explained working to Cala's agreed plans for the site, they would need to advise if other land available for this. However, the social and personal care spaces should be available for local groups, eg dementia, to watch sporting events for example. Regarding timeline the aim was to submit detailed plans pre-Christmas, approval around 4 months, on-site end summer 2024, with build completion end 2025.</p> <p>Keith thanked Nadir for his presentation and responses to questions raised. He proposed that the company liaise with QDCC via the Planning sub-committee as the development progresses.</p>
<p>5. LAR Community Engagement, PE Naval Barracks</p>	<p>Keith welcomed Aileen Aitken and invited her to address the meeting. Aileen explained her role in developing LAR's community engagement strategy for the Port Edgar site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two buildings identified for community use including a restaurant & café. • Provision for learning, training and well-being opportunities. • 2 community rooms for groups to help 'fit out'. <p>LAR recognised the historical importance of the barracks and keen to work with local groups on taking the strategy forward. Contact with Anne had already highlighted difficult access for busses. Aileen looking to meet with relevant contacts to discuss further, noting work would be at the end of the redevelopment, in late 2025/early 2026. Keith suggested a meeting with the Rotary, QCCC, QBC, QHT, men's shed etc.</p> <p>ACTION: Keith to liaise with Aileen Aitken re meeting with local groups regarding LAR Community Engagement Strategy.</p> <p>Cllr Lang asked which road would be used for site construction traffic, given potential access restrictions. Aileen was uncertain and suggested QDCC query this separately.</p>

<p>6. Minutes from Last Meeting (Oct 2023)</p>	<p>Minutes proposed by Anne Marie and seconded by Anne.</p>
<p>7. Matters Arising</p>	<p><u>JANUARY 2021</u> Dalmeny Park Roads Adoption: CEC in discussion with Cala regarding McArthur Rigg, Lowrie Gait, and Dimma Park. All other streets now formally adopted. ONGOING – Cllr Work advised CEC awaiting information from Cala. Keith spoken with Cala, all paperwork submitted, works completed, and CEC notified. Unsure what CEC still requires. Cllr Work to check further with CEC.</p> <p><u>OCTOBER 2022</u> CDT: Terry to initiate work on taking forward CDT proposal in early 2023. DEFER – pending outcomes of planned discussion with CEC and Queensferry Assets workshop. Meeting arranged 27 Nov.</p> <p><u>FEBRUARY 2022</u> Echline Footpaths: CEC contacted by QDCC and agreed to inspect paths and consider temporary repairs. Adoption status questioned. ONGOING – Preparation works to be underway very soon, anticipated works at Echline Spinal Path will commence around Feb/Mar 24. Prior to the works commencing, a further notification will be sent out by CEC giving information on the restrictions that may be required to facilitate the works along with information on the expected dates of the work.</p> <p><u>MARCH 2023</u> Future Cemetery Provision: Meeting held w/c 18 Sept. CEC estimate 2-3 yrs capacity available at Queensferry cemetery based on current data. Looking into potential sites locally, and more generally across West Edinburgh. Other options could include ash vaults in place of full burial plots. ONGOING – Terry awaiting feedback from CEC regarding land at Builyeon Road, Sept 23.</p> <p>Additional action Sept 23: Cllr Work to check with CEC if potential site in Varney’s area identified. ONGOING - Cllr Work to chase with CEC, Oct 23.</p> <p><u>JULY 2023</u> FRB Toilets: Wider issues involved, being escalated to Transport Scotland. CLOSED – BEAR advise issues with drainage and capacity. Increased demand from coach parties, improvements required. BEAR waiting for instructions from TS as their budget. Leuchold Gate Wall: CEC and Dalmeny Estate in dispute over cause of the damage to wall. ONGOING – Dalmeny Estate structural surveyor looking into options for repair/rebuild whilst in discussions with CEC regarding level of input needed from them. Indication of timescale for these works to commence requested. Response awaited, to be escalated.</p>

	<p><u>AUGUST 2023</u></p> <p>QHS Business Contacts: Michelle to follow up QHS contact arrangements/responses to Cala, INEOS, TW and keep Neil informed.</p> <p>ONGOING - QHS met with INEOS and Cala. TW not yet responded, Oct 23.</p> <p>Wasp Attack, Kirkliston Road: Cllr Work to check CEC procedure. CEC will attend if nest is on public land but not if private property. Noted issue about 2-week time to respond, concern not seen as urgent by CEC. Cllr Work to pass response to Terry and Anne Marie, Oct 23.</p> <p>CLOSED – no further action.</p> <p><u>SEPTEMBER 2023</u></p> <p>Scotstoun Avenue: LibDem Cllrs to update QDCC on action involving s75 funding.</p> <p>ONGOING – Terry discussed with CEC, project become larger than originally planned. Update on traffic calming associated with s75 monies from both Dalmeny Park and Hawthorn Gardens developments requested, Oct 23. Has become more complicated due to Active Travel, trying to do too much. Dave Sinclair reviewing approach, calming measures need to be actioned.</p> <p>Ferrymuir Road: Cllr Work to check with CEC re status of proposed crossing point on Ferrymuir Road nearer to Echline Roundabout.</p> <p>ONGOING – Response awaited, revisit Jan 24.</p> <p><u>OCTOBER 2023</u></p> <p>Echline Sewer Upgrade: Grant to receive progress reports on Echline sewer upgrades from Scottish Water/contractors.</p> <p>CLOSED – see agenda item 8 below.</p> <p>Police Report: Terry to request additional information on recent youth related ASB.</p> <p>CLOSED – Police advised increase in incidents anticipated around Halloween and Bonfire night.</p> <p>Priory Church: Keith to check expected payment request from Priory Church.</p> <p>CLOSED – Diane to make donation.</p>
<p>8. Scottish Water, Echline Sewer Upgrade</p>	<p>Keith asked Alan Steele, representing Scottish Water, to give an update on the sewer upgrade at Echline. Alan summarised work to date including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding some unexpected pipes, these had slowed progress slightly. • Echline View complete, 4 properties with restricted access would be clear by 14 Dec. • Echline Avenue slightly behind as focus on the View, working weekends to move it on, should be done 1st week in Jan. • Had been a few claims for car damage and Alan confirmed Scottish Water happy to handle queries, problems etc. <p>Some properties had been missed from the initial 'letter drop' notification about the works, timetable etc. Recognised that a communications event for residents would have been a better way to handle this. Cllr Lang</p>

	<p>acknowledged the missing letters to some addresses had been a concern but was encouraged by the revised timetable.</p> <p>Keith thanked Alan for the update and asked for QDCC to be kept in touch by email as no December meeting.</p>
<p>9. Taylor Wimpey, Hawthorn Gardens</p>	<p>Keith introduced John Hawryluk from EVOC and invited him to outline his role ahead of discussion on the sale of houses and flats to CEC for Ukrainian refugees.</p> <p>John is EVOC's Ukraine Crisis Response Programme Coordinator supporting Edinburgh's voluntary sector engagement with the wider Ukraine programme. Part of a wider multi-agency approach to ensure the Ukrainian Community is well supported to integrate into local communities. There are 1,000 refugees in hotels locally and work is ongoing to find and provide housing for them. In addition to buying 20 houses at Hawthorn Gardens, CEC has approved the purchase of an additional 24 flats at the Taylor Wimpey development, at a discounted rate via the SG housing fund for displaced Ukrainian families. The properties will be let and managed by CEC for up to 3 years, and when no longer needed for refugee families will become part of CEC's social rent accommodation. This will help address shortage of housing stock available for future CEC rental and would benefit local people. Further details in Ward Cllr November reports.</p> <p>Terry noted comments from current residents querying lack of communication or consultation about the CEC purchase and seeking more information. It was understood consultation wasn't a necessary planning condition, and that education and health needs for example wouldn't alter as a result. However, residents could be concerned about potential future impact on property values given the change between owner occupation and rented numbers across the development. John advised that communications had been agreed by CEC. Ward Cllrs noted it was for CEC to lead on this.</p> <p>Keith thanked John for attending and issued an open invite to future meetings to update QDCC on progress with the settlement of Ukrainian families in Queensferry.</p>
<p>10. Chair's Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>Any questions to be forwarded to Keith.</p>
<p>11. Almond Ward Councillor's Reports</p>	<p>Cllrs Lang/Young/Younie. Joint report circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>No questions raised.</p> <p>Cllr Work. Report circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>Norman had received confirmation that safety fencing at the bridge over the burn on Lovers Lane was in hand.</p>
<p>12. Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>No questions raised.</p>
<p>13. Secretary's Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting.</p>

	Diane referred to the request for support for a community buy-out at the former Army HQ site at Craigiehall. It was understood CBCC and KCC were also looking at this. She asked for QDCC comments to be sent to her. Cllr Lang noted this is greenbelt land, therefore restrictions apply.
14. Sub-Committees & Local Interest Groups	Reports submitted and circulated before the meeting. Keith asked if there were any questions on the reports, none raised. Keith therefore proposed that due to other priority business the meeting accept the reports and move to the next agenda item. This was agreed.
15. CEC/EACC/QDCC Updates	Relevant CEC and EACC correspondence, updates etc circulated by Terry and Keith respectively between meetings. No additional comments from members/attendees.
16. AOB	Anne was pleased to report Anne Marie's nomination for the Evening News 'community champion' local hero award. Keith extended QDCC congratulations on the nomination noting Anne Marie's valuable contribution across a number of activities in Queensferry, and all hoped she was successful in being selected for the award.
17. Questions from the floor	None raised.
18. Forth Bridges WHMC	<p><u>Post Meeting Update from Karen Stewart</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Forth Bridges Trail signage</u> Advertising consent received from CEC for new Trail tourism signs, awaiting BEAR and Transport Scotland agreement on sign placement at FRB before confirming metalwork order. Thanks to QHT and NQHT for helping develop and check text. Work starting on graphics with photos, will share proof in due course. Funding bid to CEC mid-Dec, via ESES Regional Prosperity Framework, for remaining funds for Queensferry Trail tourism signage for 2024/25. • <u>Queensferry Business Group</u> Attended recent QBG networking event in the Boathouse, good turnout. Organisers have agreed Rebecca Burnett from CEC can attend in Jan, to scope out interest in various business support options available from CEC. Review afterwards and arrange further dedicated event, if required. • <u>Forth Bridges social channels</u> All local Christmas events and offers being shared via Facebook stories now https://www.facebook.com/theforthbridges with one main website article https://www.theforthbridges.org/news-and-blogs-from-the-forth-bridges/christmas-at-the-forth-bridges • <u>Christmas in Queensferry</u> Congratulations to ChiQ on the lights switch on event, very successful. • <u>CEC Visitor Levy</u> CEC running a survey prior to a consultation on the proposed visitor levy, the "tourist tax". The Visitor Levy for Edinburgh: Resident and Visitor Survey Share your views (surveymonkey.co.uk)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Contract Extension</u> Karen's contract extended for another 6 months pending outcome of the joint World Heritage Coordinator and Tourism role.
19. Date and time of next meeting	Monday 22 January 2024, at 7.30pm, via MS Teams.
20. Closing Remarks	Keith thanked everyone for their attendance with a very full agenda. He wished everyone best wishes for the festive season and new year.