

QDCC Chairman's Report

Meeting Date; 28th January 2013

This report covers the two month intervening period over the holidays from the 28th November 12 to 28th January 2013.

Chairmans diary

- In my capacity as Chairman of Christmas in Queensferry I have carried out the duties expected of me, erecting dismantling decorations, meeting and communicating with council officials and dealing with correspondence from individuals and businesses.
- On the evening of the 11th December along with Grant, Transport Convenor I met with QBC Commodore Mike McDowall to discuss parking issues in and around the Harbour head, maintenance of same and the merits of forming a Queensferry Trust for funding repairs and improvements for the town's assets.
- The ANP business meeting was held on the evening of the 12 December but I was unable to attend due to family commitments. The deputy QDCC Secretary was unable to attend due to the short notice and business commitments.
- On the afternoon of the 19th December I was invited to meet Mr Euan McMeeken | Planning Officer, Built and Natural Heritage City of Edinburgh Council to learn about the proposed plans for the Forth Bridge World Heritage Status. I have been invited to attend the next steering group meeting being held on the 4th February 13.
- On the 17th January I facilitated an induction meeting with the Executive members for the new members joining QDCC. Mr Paul Kirkwood and Ross Martin along with Ms Fiona Duncan from QBC will be joining the council and ask that you give them a warm welcome and support them in the interim as they become familiar with the workings of QDCC.
- On the evening of the 22nd January I chaired a close out meeting of Ch I Q.
- On the evening of the 23rd January I attended a training meeting at the City Chambers to learn about the next stages of the Edinburgh Local Development plan. There is a set electronic form and process for making representations. The new plan will likely be published around June 13 but is dependant on outstanding matters being resolved with SESplan.

- On the evening of the 24th January along with the Secretary, Assistant Head Teacher Jim Ferguson and Councillor Work I attended a Forth Bridge World Heritage Presentation being given by James Rebanks an economics consultant expert in world heritage sites and hosted by Historic Scotland. QDCC have invited representatives from Historic Scotland to attend a QDCC meeting and present FB World Heritage plans to the wider audience. The evening was organised by QA and hosted by the Orocco Pier.

Correspondence

I have been in correspondence with:

Local West Team Officials:-

- Vermin infestation at the Bellstane
- Urgent repairs to the High Street
- Land Slippage at Ferry Glen Back Braes
- A drainage problem at Hamilton Close
- Repairs to the pavement on the High Street outside the Physiotherapists
- Missing drain covers in Echline Avenue - they had been stolen
- Lighting repairs at the Police Station and Priory Church
- I have received a list of the planned liner visits to Queensferry in 2013 and note an increase by one to 22. There is no visit planned as yet for the Friday of Ferry Fair week.
- Along with the Exec members ongoing emails and discussions about transport matters.

Others:

I made contact with Punch Taverns to ask about their plans;

“We are currently reviewing our plans for the pub, including a significant investment scheme. This is a lengthy process and I am sure that you can appreciate that it will take time to ensure the building is compliant.”

Web site;

The Exec members have been working hard to bring on line the new website and I am pleased to say that it is now up and running. Terry will advise further.

Keith Giblett
Chair QDCC