

Queensferry & District Community Council

Chairman's Report for the business meeting being held on Monday 25th June 2018

Safety Forum 6th June 2018

Along with David I attended the Almond Partnership Safety Forum meeting held at Housing Office 26 Granton Crescent. The purpose of the meeting was to hold a review about whether the meeting was still appropriate following the transformation programme changes. Following holding discussions and break-out sub group meetings the general feeling was that better use of time would be to hold a localities meeting which would feed into the localities committee. We still await the minutes for the meeting which will be circulated.

Public Meeting Echline Primary School & Almond Partnership Meeting 7th June 2018

I attended the Public Meeting called by Councillor Young to discuss concerns about public safety when crossing Bo'ness Rd. The meeting was well attended. The Transport Convenor CEC spoke to the meeting about walking, cycling and active travel alluding to these being choices and solutions. I spoke at the meeting about how difficult it can be to walk around Queensferry particularly from Echline to the High Street. That the pavements were not fit for purpose and invited the convenor to walk to the high Street or High School from Echline. That is why, with some of our residents, car travel is popular. It's a matter of fact that the cause is under investment by CEC in Queensferry. I made reference to the Place-making events promoted by CEC Planning and QDCC held in Queensferry in 2015.

The public Almond partnership meeting followed on from this meeting. Community Grants, NEP's budget were all discussed. It's fair to say that Queensferry was prevalent and successful with partnership grant applications.

High Street Improvement Works Meeting 13th June 2018

Along with Grant & Councillors Work & Lang I attended the third meeting to discuss the High Street Improvement works. The meeting discussed the feedback from the consultation event and translated this information in to the design for two proposals for the consultations which will be held next week. Remember to attend the consultation meeting.

LDP2 Briefing for Ward & Community Councillors at Drumbrae Hub 18th June 2018

The LDP Team held a briefing session for Ward and Community Councillors to provide information about the timeline and the process. It was an informative meeting which raised a number of questions. I will circulate the slides used at the meeting when I receive them.

George Grubb's funeral service 20th June 18

I was privileged to know and work with George former Ward Councillor and Lord Provost on matters for Queensferry and the wider West Edinburgh during my time as a Community Councillor. Sadly he passed away in his sleep on Saturday into Sunday 10th June. I have many fond memories of George for his good counsel, advice, dignity and many other attributes. For events that he got me involved in such as Christmas in Queensferry, the visit by Princess Anne to Queensferry, for his kindness towards QDCC by arranging our 25yr anniversary in the Lord Provosts office, are just a few my memories during his Provost's tenure. He will be sadly missed. I along with many attended the funeral service first as a friend and to represent QDCC.

Liner Visits Meeting 20th June 2018

Graeme and I have been working towards holding a meeting with Council Officers and stakeholders who are all involved with organising the liner visits. I reported that I had written to Peter Strong Localities Manager North West requesting that he organise a meeting with the clear objective of formulating a plan to improve Liner Visits for all. Graeme and I had a pre meeting with Peter to outline our objectives and expectations. Following this a meeting was planned and held in the early evening of 20th June. In advance of the meeting Graeme spent considerable time on the Hawes Promenade on the day of the liner visits and viewed the activity. He then formulated a report about the issues, provided supporting information and made recommendations about some quick and easy fixes. I would describe the outcome from the meeting as “work in Progress” and that we have still some influencing to do to get the changes we would like to see. I would like to commend Graeme for giving of his time to this piece of work which is a significant contribution and way beyond the call of duty for a volunteer.

Correspondence

Queensferry Registrar’s Office

I was in correspondence with Councillor Hutcheson about a request for a report lodged at the Finance Committee meeting seeking to consolidate Edinburgh’s registrars’ offices and the impact that decision could have on Queensferry Registrar office and therefore the High Street businesses. Graham has advised that he has requested that the report be withdrawn. I now consider the matter closed other than how we raise the profile for investment by CEC in the fabric of the building. I look forward to working with Graham and all of our ward councillors on this matter.

Queensferry Harbour Repairs

QBC have advised some storm damage to the visitors berth. A further meeting has been held with Brain Paton surveyor facilitated by Dave Sinclair to discuss a plan for affecting repairs.

Setting up of Queensferry Business Group

The local businesses have held a couple of meetings and are trying to form a representative group. I am in the process of organising a meeting with them on 2nd July ’18.

QDCC Office Repairs

CEC Facilities management are planning to start work on the 28th June. There will be an initial two day strip out followed by a one week drying out period. Thereafter a ten working days reinstatement. I would forecast that we should allow a month and plan that our July meeting be held elsewhere. Might we take the next meeting to Dalmeny in the Church Hall?

Keith Giblett Chair QDCC 21 June 2018