

Queensferry & District Community Council

Chairman's report for August 27th Business Meeting at 7.30pm in the QDCC Meeting Room

I have carried out the following business in my capacity as Chairman on behalf of QDCC over the last month.

- On 31st July along with Grant and Graeme I attended the quarterly Forth Bridges Forum meeting held in the FB Contact & Education Centre. The headline from this meeting was the report presented to the meeting by Transport Scotland officer Scott Lees. Attending the meeting were local residents who are lobbying for improvements to the roads infrastructure around Queensferry. I spoke to the meeting and following on formalised the representations by emailing Scott Lees with the points being made. To date I have not received an acknowledgement of my email but can confirm that I received a delivery receipt. My email was circulated to all.
- Earlier along with Graeme, and Diane I attended a meeting with AMEY FRB to be given an update about the work maintaining the FRB. It was a productive refreshing meeting with a good honest exchange of views. AMEY are not yet responsible for the day to day operation of the Queensferry Crossing as it is not completed so they will not take on the asset.
- On the morning of 9th August I attended and lobbied the Transport & Environmental Committee about the Public Transport Priority Plan and attempted to have the section on Dalmeny Car Parking amended. This section of the report is flawed and is not fit for purpose for Queensferry. The meeting can be viewed on the CEC Webcast.
- On 14th Aug a Forth Bridges World Heritage meeting was held. I raised the Queensferry Roads Infrastructure business, raised at the Forth Bridges Forum meeting. Attached is the draft minute of the meeting.
- On the 15th August the two bids, Ferry Play Café and Queensferry Churches Care in the Community presented their proposals to the QDCC Community Facility Group. Prior to this considerable work had been put into preparing an assessment for the assessors that could be rated and scored. Four external assessors had been appointed to support QDCC being; Queensferry Health Centre, Orroco Pier, Evans of Leeds and The Duncan Walker Partnership. The two bids are "in assessment" whilst we await the reports from the four businesses. We have given an undertaken to the two bids to feedback our decision by mid-September.
- On the evening of the 15th Aug there was a High Street Improvements meeting held in the Rosebery Hall Court Room to receive the outcomes from the last consultation. It's fair to say that there was nothing between the three proposals the preference being a third of the respondents each. The proposals need worked up and a trial is an option.
- On 20th Aug I called a meeting with Exec and Group Convenors to discuss QDCC's pending meeting with Paul Lawrence Exec Director of Place and CEC Senior Managers. The objective of the meeting is to raise the profile of LDP 2 Shortfalls from planning gain and the Dalmeny Car parking issues, lack of progress with improvements with the Liner Visits working party and that little note has been taken from the Placemaking consultations report. It's questionable whether CEC are committed to the work of the Forth Bridges Forum and supposed deliverables from World Heritage status. There is little or no evidence.

- I was invited by the Chairman of KCC along with the Chair of C&BCC to a meeting with Crawford McGhie Schools Asset Planning Manager CEC to discuss and be better informed about CEC's plans for High School provision in West Edinburgh.
- On the afternoon of 23rd Aug I attended another Forth Bridges WH Tourism committee meeting. The main business is the signing off of the tourism strategy by the stakeholder groups of the Forth Bridges Forum which is proving to be a challenge.

Other business

Correspondence in the main has been about the above topics, ensuring progress with the office repairs, working on preparation for the community facility presentations and meetings. I have reached out to the Environmental Wardens following receipt of emails to QDCC about silly string, cleanliness of terraces along the High St and waste collecting and fly tipping.

I'm pleased to report that the Queensferry Sea Cadets lease was approved by the Finance Committee which now allows the lease to be negotiated and signed off. Thanks to the Councillors for their support.

Keith Giblett

Chair QDCC 23 Aug 18.