

## QDCC Communications Report - Aug 2018

QDCC Facebook page remains the popular contact media supporting our website. Visit Queensferry continues to grow gradually, promoting Queensferry to the world.

### Social media

Relatively quiet in the way of feedback over the last month. A complaint about the noise from Station Road being cleaned regularly and overspill station parking in Ashburnham.

The use of silly string at the Ferry Fair given the subsequent mess was raised as a complaint and a suggestion to ban it along with a request to include the Terraces in the council clean up. The supply of plastic containers by local takeaways came under fire too. **(discussion point Mon)**.

The CEC directed withdrawal of lets for Active Schools in Echline Primary and apparently every school under refurbishment for the rest of the school year has been cause of parental upset. The late notice and lack of clarity of reason, given the hall is still in normal school hours' use, are the key concerns. Cllr Lang has indicated he has already raised some initial enquiries and cllr Work has forwarded an email. **(Update from KL Mon)**

A question was raised over only a few remaining plots left in the cemetery and what CEC's plans are to address this. Cllrs Lang & Work responded but no clear way forward at present. **(discussion point/update Mon)**

GreenFerry celebrated a soft opening of the Hawthorn Bank Walled Garden on Ferry Fair Saturday. Main works of phase 2 completed bar snagging; furniture and planting ongoing.

We were asked for our view by someone apparently from Texas, USA on proposing that the Portuguese MV Funchal, currently laid up in Portugal, be preserved as a hotel and museum ship in South Queensferry, (no connection to Queensferry given or found).

### Police matters raised

Anecdotal feedback on the policing of the Ferry Fair was very positive. A number of youngsters were stopped and searched with alcohol being removed and destroyed whilst maintaining a good rapport. Many youths from surrounding towns/villages present. No negative incidents highlighted on social media channels other than the theft of prize cash in Burgess Park.

Report of a silver car approaching a young girl around 4pm on Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Aug in Stewart Terrace, male driver asking her to jump in his car. Other claim from someone else that a very similar incident, same time of day and location, also silver car, happened a few weeks before the summer break up with abusive language. Reported to police and school at the time, still unclear as to whether latest incident was reported. **(Police update request Mon)**

Cash stolen from the HoneyPot Creative Cafe's till allegedly by three teenagers on bicycles around 3pm on Sat 5<sup>th</sup> Aug, staff shaken up.

## Cruise Ship Visits

This project has highlighted an underlying issue within CEC which has nothing to do with lack of budget or resource. We designed a short term and long term solution for the car park issue, with negligible cost and easy implementation, yet CEC have failed to pick this up and do anything with it. As a result the liner season will pass once again with no improvement despite us initiating this issue in November last year and ultimately doing the work for CEC. This matter along with many others will be presented at the meeting with Paul Lawrence, Director of Place and other CEC officials at our meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep.

Needless to say, the short term solution is no longer necessary as we will be looking for the long term off site stacking and just in time pick up/drop off proposal to be developed in time for next season, potentially releasing the car park completely.

## Youth Engagement

The Youth Talk project moves in to phase 2 'The Gathering' on Sep 14<sup>th</sup> with invitations out to the community to join a discussion with 40-50 pupils from QCHS on local facilities, environment and engagement with the community. The aim is to establish the awareness, strengths and the areas to develop or introduce, for the younger element of our community.

We need a good representation of local facility organisers and adults with an interest in helping shape the future of Queensferry. So please spread the word and encourage relevant key people to engage in the event at the Scout Hall, Port Edgar, Fri Sept 14<sup>th</sup> at 9am for 9:30am until noon. Space is limited so register an interest by emailing [youthtalkQDCC@gmail.com](mailto:youthtalkQDCC@gmail.com) (request out to CC Mon)

G.McKinley, 26<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018