

# CLLr Kevin Lang & CLLr Louise Young

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## Queensferry & District Community Council – September 2018 Report

### High Street Project

The next drop in event for the High Street project will take place on 24 September in Orocco Pier. At that event, more specific proposals will be presented by the project consultants for people to view and comment on.

The second round of consultation showed an almost exact three way split in views on the different options presented (limit on HGVs, one way only, no through road). So more work is going into options that can command overall support.

There was more than three to one support for using natural stone setts for the surface as opposed to tarmac.

### Garden tax update

The new brown bin collection service for those who have paid the garden tax will start on 8 October. Permits and calendars will be posted to residents the week beginning 24 September.

The next registration window for paying the garden tax runs 1-16 October. Once residents have registered it will take 6 – 8 weeks to be added to collection routes and send a garden waste permit before officials can start emptying their bin. Another registration window will be available for residents to sign up from 4 – 19 February 2019.

Residents who have not registered and no longer want their brown bin can take it to one of our recycling centres. An online form will also be available at the end of October for residents to arrange for their brown bin to be uplifted. The bins will be taken away during December.

### 2019/20 budget

The Council is now preparing for the consultation on the 2019/20 budget consultation. A set of options for cost savings was provided to the Edinburgh Evening News and included possible cuts to street cleaning and roads repairs.

At the full meeting of the Council, Kevin specifically asked the Council Leader to rule out cutting the budget for these core areas. The Leader refused to give that promise. Edinburgh already sits near the bottom of the league table on both street cleaning and road defects. This is not the time to cut these budgets.

### Hawes public toilets

We are pleased to say the motion which was brought to the most recent meeting of the North West Locality Committee on the Hawes public toilets was passed unanimously. This requires officials to look again at

allocating part of the liner docking fees for a fund to renovate and upgrade the toilets or to identify a specific budget for this purpose. We will update on progress in future reports.

### **Traffic study results**

Louise attended a meeting with Council officials and the consultants who carried out the rural west Edinburgh traffic study which covered Queensferry and Dalmeny. This was only an initial review of the data which will now be considered further with suggestions on possible interventions.

### **Bo'ness Road crossing**

As reported before, we have been pushing hard for changes to improve the safety on Bo'ness Road, particularly around Echline Primary. Back in June, the neighbourhood partnership agreed to allocate £20,000 to cover half of the cost of a new pedestrian crossing near the school. We hoped to use that money to leverage in the remaining money from Transport Scotland.

However, Transport Scotland has now turned down our request. They are not prepared to put any money into a new crossing. We have been working with local MSP, Alex Cole-Hamilton has now picked this up and is pursuing the matter with the Scottish Government Transport Secretary.

### **Queensferry Primary extension**

The works to construct the extension at Queensferry Primary School began in September. The new classrooms are due to be completed in time for pupils returning to school after the summer holidays in August 2019. The contractor will also be carrying out refurbishment works to the main school building.

### **Binks park**

In September, Kevin hosted a site visit with the head of parks and greenspaces and residents on Rose Lane to discuss the park area around the Binks car park. It was agreed that more could be done to improve the area and make it more attractive for residents and visitors. The officials have promised to come back to us with ideas.

### **Scotstoun Avenue traffic calming**

The initial design for the planned traffic calming on Scotstoun Avenue has recently been completed. There will be a consultation in October. We are very keen to see this work progress as soon as possible given some of the current excessive speeds seen on the road and the degree to which traffic is passing through Dalmeny Park.

### **Corus Site application**

Corus Hotels has submitted a new application to have part of the condition attached to the 2014 PPP housing development consent removed. We are still investigating this but the condition relates to the requirement to comply with the original design master plan which set out access arrangements and the mix of housing.