

QDCC Communications Report - Nov 2018

The **QDCC Facebook page** remains the popular public interaction media supporting our website with over 2,600 followers and an average post reach of around 5,000-6,000 people.

The **Visit Queensferry Facebook page** continues to grow in popularity with almost 600 followers.

Spotlight Magazine (formerly Local Directory Live) launches in early December. We have submitted an article from QDCC summarising 2018 (see below) and have the offer of up to 4 pages ongoing. Whereas the previous trial with Local Directory Live was aimed predominantly at reaching our offline residents, this new design of magazine invites a more relaxed read rather than the 'list and reference' nature of LDL. Anyone who has any community content they wish to submit in future editions just let me know.

Social media

Complaints over CEC's new waste collection schedules are gradually falling but still an issue for some.

Parking, drop offs and pick ups around schools, particularly on the zig-zags highlighted as a danger. Calls for police presence. Cllr Lang and cllr Work took this forward.

Parking on Bankhead Rd raised as an issue with building contractors parking at the blind brow of the hill.

Trees cut down at South Scotstoun, although compliant with the planning application were a point of complaint, possibly due to the earlier developer statement that "some conifers were going to be cut down as part of preliminary work".

City of Edinburgh Volleyball Club has applied to the Aviva Community Fund for the up to £25k category. Voting by the public has closed now but with 11,801 votes they should stand a good chance of progressing to the finals which will be announced on Tuesday. The funds are towards a beach volleyball court in Queensferry. They are in discussion with Queensferry Hub regarding location. Unclear at this point as to what other funds are required or have been secured.

Queensferry Memorial Pipe & Drums Band are seeking to crowdfund £10k to help set back up.

Westpoint Homes have sold 8 of the 15 homes in Rosebery Grange, Dalmeny. They are holding a Christmas themed open event on 8th Dec at the showhouse and have sponsored Christmas in Queensferry to help promote their location.

Youth Engagement

Attached separately is the report from Scott Donkin, CEC Lifelong Learning Services on the data from the work this year. The YE group will be meeting this week to discuss progress.

G.McKinley, 25th Nov 2018

Queensferry & District Community Council Update

Firstly we welcome the introduction of the Spotlight Magazine and the potential benefit it brings to the area. Congratulations to Claire and Angus for this initiative.

Whilst 2017 saw some great results for the town, much of 2018 has been about groundwork, the fruits from which we expect to see in 2019.

One of the most exciting projects being Youth Talk. Over 500 young members of the community were interviewed over the summer in school and on the street by personnel appointed by City of Edinburgh Council's Lifelong Learning Services to establish feedback on Queensferry, Dalmeny & Kirkliston facilities for youths. In addition the Youth Talk event held on 14th Sep, well attended by local adults, facility organisers and youths from the High School gave us lots of constructive information. Our Youth Engagement team are working with CEC's LLS team to turn this data into deliverable outcomes. Communication between youths and the community has clearly been identified at the top of the list for development. Our desire is to engage the young community in helping to shape developments within the area and build a true sense of ownership of the town and villages.

Other projects include the long pressed for Queensferry High St refurbishment, with three stages of public consultations held this year and proposals expected to be presented to the community in Jan 2019.

The ongoing issues relating to traffic flow displaced by the opening of the Queensferry Crossing and unsafe crossings in the town are still in discussion. The results from the CEC traffic study conducted by local firm, Arup, are currently being interpreted. We are scheduled to have constructive discussions with CEC and Transport Scotland to seek delivered solutions.

A report on the cruise liner visits' impact on the town and the experience for visitors, residents, businesses and organisers was compiled and presented to CEC as early as June after the initial few liner visits of the season. A number of recommendations, both long and short term, were given by QDCC but disappointingly none were adopted over the remainder of the season despite our requests. We have, however, been given an assurance that changes will be made prior to the 2019 liner season.

We continue to develop Visit Queensferry, supported by a few local businesses, to promote the beauty of the town to the world. This enables us to share some of the fantastic photographs of the town and its offer far and wide through various traveller forums.

Work continues on the proposals for the Ferrymuir Community Facility investment. Some of the local businesses have formed a Business Association to make representation of their ongoing interests. These are just some of the key points from this year.

If you believe you can help bring about positive change for the area then please come along to one of our monthly meetings and speak to us. You can put as much time and effort in as you wish, the drive really comes from within each of us to achieve results for the area.

Things very rarely ever change through social media comment, phone call, email or even a chat with whomever. It more often than not takes tenacity and resilience, building a case, negotiating, adapting and following through to conclusion. More info:

<http://queensferrycommunitycouncil.co.uk/>

The Voluntary Sector in Queensferry

Queensferry is blessed with a number of self start groups of volunteers; they are the unsung heroes of the town. Few will know their names or faces; you will not see them complaining on social media or in the pub but you may see them with the sleeves rolled up or around the town dealing with what they can sort between themselves. They are a different breed where blame and complaint is of no value or interest to them; they own the issue regardless of cause and make progress without any expectation of support.

Groups such as CleanFerry, GreenFerry, Friends of Ferryglen, Queensferry Care, Scouts, community council, Rotary Club, Ferry Fair, Christmas in Queensferry ... to name a few, all welcome volunteers with various skills from just another pair of hands to befrienders, gardeners, tradespersons, leaders, negotiators, etc. Many require fundraisers to help draw in the capital required to deliver, this can be event organisers, sponsorship negotiators or administrators to apply for various grants and funding sources. There is also much cross collaboration between the groups. They all have a presence online, so search and contact if you think you may be one of those who can support them. Alternatively contact Queensferry & District Community Council who will be happy to advise.

On the subject of volunteering there may be an exciting opportunity coming up to become involved in activities and projects to support the local community through Rotary. The local members are in the process of looking at the possibility of establishing a new "alternative" club which is aimed to suit the busy lives that many people now live . This option strips away a lot of the formality associated with Rotary so folks can meet as frequently as they wish and in locations that best suits the members. If you are interested in getting more information please contact Graham Leith at gjleith@btinternet.com