

# Clr Kevin Lang & Clr Louise Young

A: City Chambers, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ

T: 529 4389/ 529 4572

E: [kevin.lang@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.lang@edinburgh.gov.uk) /

[louise.young@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:louise.young@edinburgh.gov.uk)

 /AlmondCouncillors



## Queensferry & District Community Council – March 2019 Report

### Delay to High Street project

We are obviously frustrated by the one-year delay to the project to upgrade and improve the High Street in Queensferry. Work has been ongoing over the last year to develop detailed plans for the new High Street. It comes after two rounds of consultation where residents were able to feed in their ideas.

The final consultation is now due to take place in April. However, the significant changes planned for traffic control, parking and servicing of the shops mean new traffic regulation orders will be needed.

This means the construction tender is now expected to be issued in the autumn of this year with site works to start in early 2020. This represents a delay of about a year.

We have made clear to local transport officials how unhappy we are at the poor communications with the community over these last few months.

### Scottish Water high street works

Scottish Water has had to undertake emergency works on the Queensferry High Street. This has been caused by a collapsed section of the underground sewer. Due to the depth of the pipe, the road has been closed in order to carry out the work safely.

The work is likely to take another two weeks to complete. A local traffic diversion has been put in place during this time. Pedestrian access is being maintained at all times and we would encourage folks to visit the local businesses on the High Street, all of which are open and can be accessed.

### Shop/office plan at Dalmeny Station

The Planning Committee has approved the application to build a new three storey building on the vacant land on Burdock Road/Craw's Close, just up from Dalmeny Station.

Permission was given in principle for an office block on this site when the original housing scheme was approved. The latest plan proposes a retail shop on the ground floor with two office floors above. We will make sure to keep people posted on the building timetable and who might be taking on and running the new shop once we have more information.

### Edinburgh tram extension approved.

A majority of Edinburgh councillors voted (by 36 votes to 26) to allow the tram extension to Leith and Newhaven. As we explained some weeks ago, we both chose to vote against progressing the project for five key reasons;

1. The fact Lord Hardie has yet to report his final recommendations following his independent inquiry into the first tram project.
2. The failure of the SNP/ Labour administration to show how the tram extension will be linked to wider public transport improvements, especially in our area of west Edinburgh.
3. Insufficient information to explain what impact the £20m special dividend from Lothian buses could have on bus routes, fares and other operations.
4. The substantial impact the project could have on the Council's reserves at a time of wider economic uncertainty.
5. The impact of Brexit which could affect the assumptions on which the business case has been based.

Given the project has been approved by SNP and Labour councillors, we will continue to scrutinise the project. More importantly, we will continue to argue for the improvements to public transport which we so desperately need in our area of west Edinburgh.

### **Queensferry parking changes**

Council transport officials have published three sets of plans to extend yellow line parking restrictions in parts of Queensferry. These relate to

1. Bo'ness Road at the junctions with Walker Drive and Inchgarvie Park.
2. Rosshill Terrace at the junction with Forth Terrace.
3. In the Dalmeny Park development on Borrowman Square.

Any comments need to be submitted to the Traffic Orders team by 5 April.

### **Wimpey plan for Scotstoun extension**

Taylor Wimpey is to submit a plan to extend the scope of the new housing development at South Scotstoun in Queensferry. The company is now suggesting adding a further phase to the development of around 40 additional homes. This would be on the land just to the south east of the agreed development, just south of Dimma Park.

There will be a public exhibition of the plans 4-7pm on 30 April at the Queensferry Community Centre, just off Kirkliston Road. Residents will be able to see the plans before the Council starts the formal consultation period.

### **Station Road**

We have been notified about some major road works which will take place on Station Road in Queensferry during April. The works are by BT and will run from Monday 8 April (8am) until Wednesday 10 April (6pm). There will be three-way traffic lights covering the junction with Burgess Road.

### **Recycling centres**

We're sorry to say the administration running Edinburgh Council has voted through a massive 33% reduction in the opening hours for local recycling centres.

From 1 April, the new opening times for the Council operated recycling centres are:

- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: 9am to 5pm
- Thursday: 9am to 6.30pm
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday: 9am to 5pm.

This compares to openings from 8am to as late as 7.20pm.

We are very frustrated by these changes which are making it more and more difficult to recycle. After all, this cut in opening hours comes on the back of the new garden tax charge for brown bin collections. We will continue to champion recycling and push to make it easier, not more difficult, to recycle.

### **Other updates**

- The new yellow lines on Shore Road are to be painted in April.
- We are working to get the damaged barrier at the north east corner of the Forth Road Bridge roundabout repaired.
- Society Road is due to resurfacing treatment in April. We know there have been issues with the neighbour notification mailings.
- We are working with some residents on the High Street about sustained failures on waste and recycling collection.
- We are expecting the formal consultation on the proposed traffic calming on Scotstoun Avenue any day now.