

## **Queensferry & District Community Council**

### **Chairman's report for the QDCC Business meeting being held on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

I have attended the following Meetings representing QDCC noted below.

#### **Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy Launch – 24<sup>th</sup> April '19**

I was invited and attended with Graeme the launch of the Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy by Fiona Hyslop Cabinet Secretary for Culture Tourism & External Affairs. The main event was held in the Hilton Tree Tops Hotel, North Queensferry where Fiona Hyslop spoke to the audience by reading out the introduction for the Tourism Strategy. A few invited guests then attended at the North Queensferry Lighthouse for the press release. There was no opportunity for Community Council representatives to be introduced to the Cabinet Secretary and ask questions about the strategy. Local interest groups; The Briggers, North Queensferry Heritage Trust and the Burryman (Artist Gordon Muir) had been asked to provide a display. Transport Scotland chose to display samples of the Forth Bridges tourism wares depicting the Three Bridges, Graeme and I used the time to network with both Edinburgh and Fife Councillors and Council officers. We have a few hard copies of the Tourism Strategy but it is available on the Forth Bridges Heritage website for anyone that is interested.

#### **Meeting with Taylor Wimpey**

I attended the meeting that had been arranged with Taylor Wimpey on 29<sup>th</sup> April '19 to learn about the detail in the revised plans.

#### **Network Localities 30<sup>th</sup> April '19**

I along with North West CC representatives were invited to an informal meeting called by Peter Strong Neighbourhood Manager held in Blackhall Library for a briefing and discussion about the plans and timescale being proposed for the forming of Network Locality Committees. The meeting was well attended. The majority of those attending were opposed to the plan in its present form as the feelings were that it undermined the role of Community Councils and the work carried out by Councillors. Previous briefings to Ward Councillors and Community Councils had been miss-leading. Peter Strong advised that public meetings would be held for groups whether constituted or not in the next 7 -10 days as agreed between The City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Partnership.

#### **Planning Training 1<sup>st</sup> May '19**

QDCC was invited by David Leslie Head of Planning to attend the next planning training session being held primarily for new Community Councillors. QDCC were invited to present a talk about QDCC's experiences with due process; consulting with the community, preparing and making representations to the CEC Planning Department, planning concordat agreement and consultation, our experiences with housing developers and how we use social media to engage with the community.

#### **Meeting Transport Convenor 3 May '19 Hawes Toilets & Liner Visits**

Following representation made by Councillor Young to Lesley Macinnes Transport & Environmental Convenor about the condition and fabric of the Hawes Toilets and QDCC representations about the necessary changes to the layout and operation of the Liner Visit arrangements an onsite meeting was arranged at the Hawes Promenade with Councillor Macinnes and the Lead Council Officer. Councillor Young invited QDCC to attend and Graeme and I provided information about the operation on the days of the Liner visits. Councillor Macinnes intends meeting and discussing the issue/s with council officers and will revert to Councillor Young with their intentions.

#### **Review of Liner Operation Arrangements 22<sup>nd</sup> May '19**

QDCC were invited by Dave Sinclair to review operational matters for the liner visits on the day of a liner visit and specifically the new turning point which should free up additional car parking spaces

after 12pm. Graeme and I attended the meeting. It's disappointing to report that few changes have been made to the operational management scheme other than the new turning point which was used for the first time that day. The headline is that CEC Officers responsible for the Liner management are reluctant to change any of their plans. They claim that changing any of the present operational arrangements will have the reluctant effect of putting off the liner operators from visiting Queensferry in favour of Newhaven!!

#### Correspondence

I continue to receive email bulletins from CEC and circulate them to convenors and community councillors as appropriate.

Keith Giblett  
26<sup>th</sup> May 2019