

Queensferry & District Community Council

Chairman's Report for the June 24th QDCC Business Meeting being held in Dalmeny Church Hall

Rosebery Hall AGM 29th May

Along with David Flint I attended the Rosebery Hall AGM representing QDCC and Christmas in Queensferry.

Meeting with Network Rail to discuss Forth Bridge Walking Experience 29th May '19

On 29th May I facilitated and chaired a meeting with Network Rail Officers to be given an update about their plans prior to the consultation event. As the Community Council had met with Network Rail at the concept stage of the project it was an opportunity to discuss the plan being brought forward. QDCC councillors seemed relaxed about the proposal. The Walking Experience will deliver a first class visitor experience as well as significant infrastructure improvements to Jacobs Ladder steps and footpath with street lighting, as well as improve the historic Forts abutment and provide new additional parking solely to accommodate visitors.

High Street Improvements Meeting 5th June '19

Along with Community Councillors and Ward Councillors I attended this meeting to discuss the revised plan for the High St remaining a two way system. There was a prolonged discussion about this change and the driver for change, being the risk of the one way system proposal going to a public enquiry might there be objections. A briefing statement has been circulated. Despite the additional £1m being awarded to the High St project from the City Centre Government Scheme savings will still have to be made. A proposal for savings is to have mixed surface finishes where some locations will be laid in asphalt material as opposed to sets. The following week I met with Gillian Smith PM Ironside Farrer to walk the High St to get a better appreciation and understanding. My concern about retaining the two way system is that we cannot deliver the desired improvements for pedestrians and traffic management/congestion.

Community Facility Meeting with QCCC Representatives 17th June '19

Following from correspondence Terry and I met with representatives of QCCC to discuss progress with the Community Facility. QCCC has been offered funding of £150k from one Trust so far. However there are conditions attached that needs QDCC's involvement and approval; that they need to jointly own the land. We discussed the proposal; that QDCC and QCCC have joint ownership of the land and property.

With approval and legal advice our intention would be to work on this proposal. To take the project forward QCCC would require an agreement in writing. Once QCCC has the following in place - A Full planning permission granted by City of Edinburgh Council and the Funds in place to complete the building of the property the land title would transfer to Joint ownership of QDCC and QCCC. Land title for the site being joint ownership is the only way this project will work for QCCC as their Funders or potential Funders are requiring this before we can draw or obtain funds. All the Trusts that they have approached have asked for this. This is probably because QCCC is a charity and have no other tangible assets.

Joint Community Council Meeting - Lesley McInnis Transport & Environment Convenor 19th June '19

Following from the meeting held approximately 3 months ago a follow up meeting was held in the City Chambers with the Convenor and Transport Officers. Representatives from QDCC CBCC and KCC attended. The updated Public Transport Priority Plan was the topic for discussion and the A90 corridor study. Grant will provide an update on this report which outlines CEC's intention and the timescales. The Convenor offered to meet in 3 months' time to provide an update on the work in hand with Transport Scotland through the City Regional Deal.

Meeting with Taylor Wimpey 19th June '19

Along with other councillors I attended a meeting with Taylor Wimpey representatives. We discussed development of working relationships with QDCC/Taylor Wimpey for the life of the project, how we will communicate with one another and how best to inform Queensferry residents. And site access, environmental issues and the impacts upon the immediate neighbours that need to be considered over the life of the development. Taylor Wimpey also committed to keep QDCC informed about the S75 agreements with CEC.

Meeting Dalmeny Road Safety

Dalmeny residents contacted me about a near miss in Dalmeny on the brae of the hill approaching Dalmeny Church at the access junction to the new housing development, primarily caused by parked cars on the east side of the hill. Councillor Work and I met with the residents and then organised a meeting with Patrick Coogan which took place on 20th June '19. We agreed that action needs to be taken but decide what is appropriate after the roads within the development are completed in early July.

Correspondence

- Grounds maintenance issues of Ferrymuir Suds with Evans and Bellway.
- Craigiehall development planning application withdrawal.
- High St Improvements with local residents.
- Taylor Wimpey offer of meeting QDCC.
- Energy Street Lighting work.
- Network Rail FB Walking Experience.
- Walker Drive LIP update on programme – waiting building warrant.
- Property Maintenance Survey of Council Office.
- Network Committees with CBCC, KCC & Drumbrae CC.

Keith Giblett

Chair QDCC. 22nd June '19