

GRAHAM HUTCHISON

Scottish Conservative & Unionist Councillor for Almond

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Queensferry and District Community Council

Councillors Report – June 2019

Full Council

Full Council last met on Thursday 30th May.

A clause in a motion on Edinburgh Gateway by my colleague Councillor Mowat worded as follows;

Notes the potential for a new station serving Kirkliston and believes that the revival of the Almond Chord project would make a significant difference to transport choices in West Edinburgh and help address transport concerns raised by the Scottish Government in rejecting Sesplan 2.

was unfortunately struck out by the administration in their amendment. An amendment by Councillor Lang on parking at Dalmeny Station was incorporated into Councillor Mowat's motion but this was also removed by the administration.

The Full Council will next meet on Thursday 27th June at 10am in the City Chambers .

Almond Neighbourhood Network

The nomination process for members to represent the Almond Neighbourhood Network on the North West Locality Community Planning Partnership is open until June 30th. It has been agreed amongst my ward colleagues and I that as the former Neighbourhood Partnership Convenor I will start out as the elected member for Almond on the Community Planning Partnership.

Local Issues

Boathouse Steps – Following reports from a resident to QDCC of a broken slab on the Boathouse Steps I raised this as an urgent repair due to the dangerous position of the slab. I was told this would be tended to by Friday 7th June but have yet to receive positive confirmation that this has been done.

Council Office Property Maintenance - Following an email from QDCC Chair Keith Giblett I have raised the matter of maintenance issues with Senior Manager in Facilities Management. If a response is not forthcoming I will take this to the Head of Service.

Queensferry High Street - The meeting held on 5th June, was again arranged for a time I said I was unable to make, as such I was not in attendance. I reviewed the plans and shared my thoughts with Dave Sinclair in advance of the meeting. While I am pleased that the plans continue to move forward, I was underwhelmed by what has been produced. I have included the full quote I provided to the Evening News below which encapsulates my thoughts.

"The Queensferry and District Community Council have fought for many years to bring the redevelopment of the high street to fruition. A long-running public consultation has helped to put together a transformative plan which would have significantly improved the public space in the High Street. It was most disheartening therefore to see the finalised plan which, aside from a much needed crossing and turning circle, is delivering very little. The residents of Queensferry are being short changed as a result of the funding restrictions of the SNP Scottish Government and this long awaited project will not deliver the revitalisation that this picturesque and charismatic street deserves."

In addition to the above I have also been working on homelessness cases, missed bin complaints and council housing repair issues.

Events

I was delighted to attend the launch of the Council's Summer Reading Programme with Primary 5 pupils from Queensferry Primary at Queensferry Library on Thursday 20th June. Queensferry Library was chosen for the launch as it had the highest participation rates for the 2018 challenge.

Surgeries

A reminder that I hold monthly surgeries at Queensferry Library—6pm and Kirkliston Library—7pm on the second Monday of every month, with the exception of April, July and December.