

QDCC Chairman's Report for the June business meeting to be held in Dalmeny Church Hall on 30th June 2014

I have represented QDCC in my capacity as Chairman over the last five weeks at the meetings and events noted below:

- On the 28th May along with Grant I attended the Forth Replacement Crossing South Forum held in the CEC. Matters discussed and raised were; the re-launch of the website, outstanding compensation claims (134 claims lodged, 28 are settled, 27 part paid) and TS are re-advertising. The engaging with community's document has been reviewed and will be published in June. The Builyeon Rd and A800 resurfacing works is planned for spring 2015 and will be carried out by CEC and there will be a planned closure of the A90 mid September 14 to accommodate the A800 bridge works.
- On the 3rd June I was invited by TS, Graham Porteous to attend a meeting at the CEC along with representatives of QA and NQCC. We discussed our relationship and terms of engagement with TS officials in relationship with the WH Steering Group and Tourist Groups.
- On the 4th June I attended the Inspiring Volunteers award ceremony to acknowledge my work with QDCC and Christmas in Queensferry. It was a good opportunity to network and discuss with other some common issues. I am pleased to report that Queensferry was well represented at the awards by CEC noting the work of QDCC, QCCC and Ch I Q.
- On the 9th June along with David I attended the Roseberry Hall Association agm. Representing QDCC and on behalf of the community I acknowledged that the community is grateful for the work they do. I undertook to raise with council officials repair works to the Rosebery Hall that has been outstanding for 3 years.
- I then attended the TSC meeting with Scotrail.
- On the 10th June at the request of the Rachel Howarth, Heritage Planner CEC I facilitated a meeting attended by QDCC, QA and the High Street Residents Trust Group (John Murphy) to discuss CARS (Conservation and Regeneration Scheme) grant. An application for a CARS grant is being led by Fife Council for improvement works within the conservation areas and Historic Scotland have advised that should a joint grant be lodged by both authorities then it has a good chance of being successful. I tabled a list of potential works.
- In the early evening I attended the Edinburgh Civic Forum in the City Chambers (organised by the Cockburn Association). Matters discussed were current planning issues, Edinburgh Green Belt and the LDP. The next meeting is 2nd Sept 14 at 4pm.
- On Sunday 15th June I viewed the Commonwealth Games Baton tour of the High Street and the Loan!
- On 18th June I attended the World Heritage Tourism forum. The forum is still in the forming stage and there is little to report. Following on I attended the Forth Bridges Forum public event held in the CEC. An update was given on the work of the WH Steering Group and the forming of the Tourism Group. Members of the public present asked some very good and pertinent questions.
- On the 19th June I attended the Planning sub committee meeting and was asked to chair the meeting. Ross will be issuing a minute of the meeting. I

think we made some progress and came away from the meeting with a plan and consolidated views.

- I was asked for support with Craigie Farm Environmental group. This group of volunteers has been set up by local people who are interested in horticulture and see this as a way for those younger members of the community with special needs to give them an interest. John Sinclair has given them a piece of land where a polytunnel has been erected. The idea is that they plant and grow vegetables from seed, sell them on into the community and reach a point where the project is sustainable. I attended my first meeting on Friday 20 June.
- Along with Diane Job I visited the Agilent site on 23rd June p.m. and met with the site manger John Turnbull and was invited to tour the site and view the grounds works.
- On the evening of 23rd June I attended QHS Senior show. The school, teacher's pupils and staff are to be commended for all the hard work that they put in. As I have reported before the performance that is presented is of the highest quality.
- On the afternoon of 24th June I was invited and attended a meeting with Henry Coyle the newly appointed Almond Partnership manager. I asked that Dave Sinclair be present as was Ewen McCormack and I discussed with them the many issues affecting South Queensferry. A follow up meeting will be held after the holidays with QDCC Councillors. Matters raised were; fabric of council properties, closure of the museum. Condition of the High St, Forth Bridge World Heritage and the management plan, traffic congestion, events, parking, Kirkliston Rd yellow lines or lack off – just to note a few!!
- On the evening of the 25th June I attended the ANP business meeting at Kirkliston Community Centre. The Community Plan (not to be confused with the LDP) was the main agenda item.

I have over the five week period been pursuing the following;

- Communicating with Council Officers seeking to have the works at the museum completed in a timely fashion.
- Scottish Power regarding ongoing power surging problems on the High St.
- Events planning and parking issues.
- Evans of Leeds about the Ferrymuir site, the planned meeting with the developers has been put on hold.
- I have spent considerable time on the LDP and planning matters
- Overhanging trees in Morrison Gardens

Keith Giblett

Chairman, QDCC, 29th June 2014