

QUEENSFERRY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Transport Report for October 2015

Highlights from the QDCC Transport Sub-Committee over the past month are listed below

- 1. Forth Replacement Crossing** – There has been very extensive publicity regarding demolition of the disused B800 over-bridge at Dundas Home Farm and associated temporary closures of the A90 which are scheduled over the next few weeks. In line with the wishes of QDCC, Transport Scotland and CEC have played down the fact that alternative routes for traffic are available through Queensferry while accepting that there is a risk of congestion on these roads. Although it has contributed to some uncertainty in the community over journey planning, most people appear to understand why this balanced approach is necessary.
- 2. Forth Road Bridge** – A Forth Bridges Forum public meeting was held on 29 September, at which Amey outlined their responsibilities and plans for the Forth Road Bridge and associated trunk roads. While the information was interesting at a strategic level, the meeting constraints were such that discussion of detailed matters which affect our community was not practical. Answers to sets of questions submitted by various community groups were circulated a few weeks after the meeting took place. It seems unlikely that either the Forth Bridges Forum or Transport Scotland will be a helpful conduit to Amey. Future dialogue may be better directed to Amey themselves.
- 3. Public Transport – Planes:** An email was received from Edinburgh Airport stating that they will be carrying out overnight maintenance on the main runway. For the next three weekends the secondary runway will be used between 11pm and 5am. The notable aspect of this is more the communication itself rather than the content. **Buses (service 7):** West Lothian Council replied to our query on the 7 bus service, saying that the contract with Horsburgh had been extended from October 2015 to the end of March 2016 while alternative provision is evaluated. **Buses (Bustracker):** Despite assurances in early September that Bustracker progress was imminent, there has been no visible improvement in Stagecoach service display format nor in the functionality of the Station Road screen. This has been raised recently through the ANP (as it affects neighbouring communities too) and I have tried pursuing it separately. However we still don't know when these two problems will be resolved. **Buses (Christmas & New Year):** With Loony Dook event times now confirmed, Edinburgh Council have started dialogue with Stagecoach over what provision is likely to be offered commercially over the festive period. Offering a subsidy for operating services on a social need basis will then be considered in the light of CEC's intended 15% budget cut. **Buses (Meeting with Lothian):** I have contacted Lothian's Acting Commercial Manager asking for possible dates to meet their team within the next few weeks. She agreed in principle to an evening meeting in Queensferry.
- 4. High Street Resurfacing** – Following September's QIG and the departure of CEC's previous West Roads Manager, I contacted CEC's Environment Manager for an update on the plans and schedule. No reply has been received yet.
- 5. Pedal for Scotland** – An EPOG debrief is to be held next week followed by an ANP Transport Sub-Group meeting on either 5th or 6th of November. The meeting is intended to cover consultation, planning and traffic management of this cross-boundary event.

Grant Sangster
Transport Sub-Committee Convenor
25 September 2015