

QUEENSFERRY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Transport Report
for Council Meeting on Monday 27 February 2012

- 1. General Parking Issues** –As previously reported there was a meeting with CEC on 13 January to review some ideas for parking restrictions at the top of The Loan and Kirkliston Road. However a separate proposal which adds a stretch of yellow lines on Burgess Road and pre-dates this meeting is currently in the process of being approved. As a minimum it is hoped that the missing yellow lines at Station Road can be painted if and when the Burgess Road lot are done, along with loading restriction kerb indicators at the bottom of The Loan. Following reports of apparently illegally or dangerously parked vehicles around The Loan and High Street, additional vigilance from the Police and CEC, particularly outside normal working hours, has been requested.
- 2. Pedestrian Difficulties on The Loan** – The points were brought up again during the meeting with CEC on 13 January and we are hopeful that the area will receive another safety assessment. No update has been received yet
- 3. Event/Liner Visit Traffic (and Parking) Management** – Evidence documenting the disruption caused to Queensferry's bus service, possibly by the Loony Dook was passed to CEC and First. We hope to meet with CEC within the next two months to discuss improvement initiatives. Liner visit TTROs for the 2012 season are starting to appear
- 4. High Street Surface and Furniture** – Keith has asked CEC for an update on bollard replacement and prospects for repairing the High Street surface, as hopefully it will not be done during the busy summer months. More bollards have disappeared on The Loan and Lovers Lane, which have been reported too
- 5. Pedestrian and Cycle Signage** – The very familiar issue of pedestrians being unsure of how to find their way around Queensferry remains largely unaddressed but if the Queensferry BID is successful can be taken forward through that. Maintenance of existing cycle path signs is ongoing, through CEC's Cycling Team and Sustrans but I haven't devoted much time to this recently
- 6. Road from Echline Corner to Society Road and Port Edgar** – As part of the Local Development Plan review, QDCC has written to CEC requesting inclusion of an objective that a road linking Echline Corner with both Society Road and Port Edgar is created from the FRC Environmental Pond access road (west of the new bridge) and a short FRC 'haul road'. It is hoped to have a meeting between interested parties to look into the possibilities within the next two months.
- 7. Winter Weather Preparation** – Every CEC-maintained grit bin in the Queensferry area should now be filled but unfortunately their list and

interactive map remains incomplete. We requested that CEC include the car park at Dalmeny Station in gritting schedules and it is currently being assessed. It will probably be allocated a very low priority because CEC don't class the facility as being linked with Edinburgh's public transport service

- 8. Public Transport** – First confirmed that there is only one bus stop in George St for eastbound services from Queensferry, namely GC just east of Castle St. This also applies to Stagecoach routes. Lothian Buses are updating wayside publicity accordingly on behalf of CEC.

At the request of First Scotland East, Diane and I attended a meeting with them on 20 February to discuss their 43 bus service. The major item of business was timetable changes outlined below which are effective from Monday 2 April. Service reductions have been forced by a combination of low passenger numbers, increasing operating costs and lower subsidies and are being applied by most operators, particularly on 'urban' routes. The service enhancements mainly result from QDCC's feedback, so reaction from the public on these matters is always welcome. Other items of relevance were: depot move to Bo'ness has been dropped; no new buses will be bought in 2012; fares are currently under review; existing 43 vehicles will disappear temporarily for use at London's Olympic Games (being replaced by older low-floor buses) and might be route-branded again after their return. They also mentioned holding a 'surgery' event in Queensferry within the next few months. Disclosure of selected timetable changes on QDCC's Facebook page generated a few comments from the public indicating that such an event might be worthwhile. We are also due to have an update meeting with CEC on their plans for New Year's Day 2013 services and bus stop publicity but can request they additionally clarify their role in defining routes and selecting operators to run them.

Summary of Revisions to First's 43 Service

- * Retain 43/X43/X4/N43 numbers, routes and stops. Terminating at bus station when permitted by tram works
- * Retain existing running times and Peak Vehicle Requirement but reduce by 2 vehicles for: Mon-Fri mid-morning to early-afternoon; Mon-Fri late evening; Saturday full service
- * Most movements to/from Linlithgow depot will operate in service
- * Increased frequency through Tesco & Ferrymuir
- * Extra Sunday morning journey added in each direction
- * Earlier start time on Saturdays
- * Mon-Fri service start time and Mon-Sun service finish times are unchanged

Summary of frequency and approximate times from Monday 2 April 2012

From Police Station to Edinburgh

Sun: 1/hr 07:50 to 10:50; 2/hr to 18:50; 1/hr to 21:50

Mon-Fri: 06:05, then 4/hr 06:30 to 08:30; 3/hr to 13:30; 4/hr to 16:30; 2-3/hr to 19:40; 1/hr to 22:40

Sat: 3/hr 06:55 to 17:35; 2/hr to 19:40; 1/hr to 22:40

From Bus Station to Queensferry

Sun: 1/hr 08:40 to 11:40; 2/hr to 19:40; 1/hr to 22:40

Mon-Fri: 3/hr 06:55 to 14:30; 4/hr to 17:45; 2-3/hr to 20:25; 1/hr to 23:25 (N43 at 00:30 & 03:15 from Omni on Fri night)

Sat: 3/hr 07:50 to 18:30; 2/hr to 20:25; 1/hr to 23:25 (N43 at 00:30 & 03:15 from Omni on Sat night)

First will publish timetables in due course and times ought to be on Traveline too

Grant Sangster
Transport Sub-Committee Convenor

26 February 2012