

**Queensferry & District Community Council
Cllr Norman Work's report for January 2016 meeting.**

Since the last QDCC meeting was in November last year I have listed a few events and meetings I attended in November and December.

I took part in the Christmas in Queensferry Light Switch on Event on Thursday 26th November which was a great success and another fine example of a local event run by local volunteers for the community.

I attended the Queensferry Infrastructure Improvement Group meeting on 4th December in the Burgh Chambers where we discussed the latest project scope & outline design for resurfacing of the High Street

I attended a coffee morning in support of the Queensferry Food Bank at Queensferry Parish Church on Saturday 5th December.

I held my last Queensferry advice surgery of the year at Echline Primary School on 7th December.

On 9th December I chaired the Joint Almond & Western Edinburgh Health & Community Care Sub Group where we had an update on Dementia Friendly South Queensferry initiative and in the evening attended a meeting organised by QDCC with Crawford McGhie on education provision in Queensferry.

Parking at Dalmeny Station, FRB closure, Free Shuttle Bus

I was delighted that a free temporary bus service was introduced on Monday 14th December by the Council following discussions with local elected members, business community and residents as a result of the parking issues due to the closure of the Forth Road Bridge. This service was well used, welcomed by the businesses & residents in Queensferry. 30 passengers used the bus on the first day, 100 on Tuesday 15th and 77 on Wednesday 16th. Posters were displayed around the town and the service was promoted through social media.

I was in constant touch with the council regarding the parking restrictions around Dalmeny Station and was being briefed every day on how the council was reacting to the issues regarding the FRB closure. All three Almond ward councillors also raised various issues surrounding the closure at Leaders Questions at the Full Council meeting on Thursday 10th December.

I was asked to check a van parked in Dalmeny Station which had a sign on the windscreen saying 'Vehicle abandoned September 2015 - Scotrail not interested - Police Scotland not interested'
I received communication back saying that the vehicle is taxed, insured and registered to an address in England. Therefore the Police are will not take any action. The sign has been removed and I have now asked the council to take this matter on.

Queensferry Marketing Support

The Queensferry Business Improvement District requested help in communicating South Queensferry being 'open for business' in the run up to Christmas. Marketing Edinburgh, with support from the Council's communications team and other partners lead on communicating this message. Queensferry business also promoted a campaign with the logo 'I love SQ' and produced mugs for sale at Maisies with a voucher for a free coffee at The Little Parlour. I was delighted to be asked to pose with an 'I love SQ' mug I bought and then got my free coffee.

Missed collection of Recycling bins

I was contacted by residents in Echline & South Scotstoun who had already complained to the council about missed uplifts to their recycling waste. The explanation from waste services was that they had experienced delays in collections of Kerbside Dry Mixed Recycling (Green bins) and a small number of Kerbside Glass collections. This was due to the exceptionally high participation levels they had experienced over the festive period in comparison to previous years. They were not able to recover the delays due to legal requirements for drivers to have appropriate rest days as a result of the additional hours that were worked over the festive period.

I raised an issue of a large container in Walker Drive to the West Team also picked up by Keith Giblett. I was informed that the person responsible for the container was asked to have it moved by Friday 22nd January.

The ANP Business meeting planned for Wednesday 27th January has been canceled and members are encouraged to attend an event on the Transformation Programme on the four localities on Tuesday 26th from 9.30-12.30 at Craigroyston.

Ministerial visit

Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning visited Queensferry High School (today) to coincide with the announcement that QHS will be one of the replacement schools built.

As already noted the council budget was passed at the full council meeting on Thursday 21st January and I will send a copy of the Capital Coalition motion with the details listed if requested.

Regards,
Cllr Norman Work