

## Queensferry & District Community Council

### Cllr Norman Work's report for August 2016 meeting

Another successful weeklong event at the Ferry Fair. The weather could have been better but didn't spoil the fun. Attended all the evening activities and helped out in the races on the Thursday. At least the weather on the Saturday was good and I took the chance of visiting the QDCC stall at the Boathouse Steps and the Almond Neighbourhood stall attended by Jim Connor. I also took the opportunity to speak to 'Reducer' who attended the parade. Well done to all involved. Two members have announced this will be their last Ferry Fair as members of the Committee so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Diane Job & David Steel for all their efforts over the years.

The 20mph roll out has instigated a lot of correspondence on social media. The main complaints are the reduction of speed limit on main roads. However I believe most residents understand and support the roll out.

The SNP Group held a meeting with Paul Lawrence of waste services regarding bin uplift problems. One of the main changes by management is to give Drivers more responsibility which has resulted in fewer complaints.

I was delighted to be present with the Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council to receive from Carers Scotland a plaque to recognise the Edinburgh Council as a Carer Positive Employer.

I was contacted by a resident regarding the overgrown area at the Hopetoun Road cross roads. I received the following response from Gary Hook, Area Manager SFC; *"I checked this job today and basically the shrub bed was installed by a private company and they brought with them not only plants but weeds attached to them as well so the bed is a total mess with Equisetum commonly known as Mares Tail, The bed is such a mess that I have decided to cut and spray the bed down and rotovate the area and sow grass seed we will maybe retain a small section of shrubs along the back fence but the rest need removed as Equisetum is a total pain to remove, time scale for this will be 1 to 4 weeks as we are extremely busy hope this helps"*

The SNP group leader Cllr Frank Ross has written to the newly appointed Managing Director of Lothian buses regarding the lack of bus provision in rural West Edinburgh. I have attached the letter and when I get a response I will make sure QDCC members are copied in.

I have contacted Stuart Lowrie on two occasions regarding updating the bus stop flags and timetables at bus stops. I am also trying to establish what control the council actually making sure the information is updated on time.

I contacted Stagecoach to inform them of the complaints I had received from residents in Queensferry regarding the change to the service 40. I also was asked to suggest that the later 55 bus is diverted through Dalmeny instead of going right up to the tolls. I have attached the response I received from Douglas Robertson, Commercial Director Stagecoach East Scotland

However, in most if not all of the correspondence with Queensferry & Dalmeny residents I find it very difficult for them to understand the control the council and elected members have on bus operations, not to mention the rules & regulations as there are still many who believe local authorities run bus services and that local authorities and even the Scottish Government can intervene in the commercial operations of bus companies. I would be most grateful if QDCC members support me in helping explain what elected members can do and have done regarding bus provision.

Regards,

Cllr Norman Work