

## **PLANNING QUEENSFERRY'S DEVELOPMENT**

One of the major roles of QDCC is to exercise its statutory right to be consulted by the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) on planning matters and QDCC does this through a Planning sub-committee of four of its members with the support of the three Almond Ward councillors. At the same time we seek the views of partner groups such as BIDs and a representative from the Queensferry Businesses. The sub-committee consists of Keith Giblett (Convenor), Diane Job, Terry Airlie and William Fleming.

Every week the City's planning bulletin is monitored by the sub-committee, which has 21 days to comment on an application. When there is a need to consult with the community or if the plan is controversial, the community council can register as a consultee and request additional time before making comment to the Planning Department.

Over the past twelve months there have been 57 applications. 48 were granted, and the others withdrawn or refused.

### **The work of the Planning sub-committee in 2010/2011**

In July 2010 QDCC hosted a visit by Mr Dave Anderson, Director of City Development and key CEC officials supported by the Lord Provost and Councillor Norman Work. Mr Anderson was shown a number of development sites, including Agilent, Ferrymuir, the old Corus Motel site and the location of the new South Queensferry Junction for the Forth Replacement Crossing. Mr Anderson then visited Port Edgar where he met the Yacht Club Commodore and business owners to discuss the issues affecting Port Edgar and its users. QDCC also discussed High Street congestion, the problems of parking and how the sites might be better developed so that officials had a better understanding of the issues that affect South Queensferry. Now a year on, it is disappointing and extremely frustrating that little has changed and QDCC is still petitioning Council officials for action on the same issues. This is an active piece of work and it is disappointing for QDCC to have to report that progress can only be described as very slow.

### **Planning news**

Agilent Technologies appointed Muir Smith Evans in autumn 2010 to bring forward an outline plan for developing the site that was vacated at the year end. QDCC met with Agilent representatives on three occasions and sought a mixed use development. The consultants held two local consultations. The plans were lodged in June/July 2011 and have only just been approved. QDCC were satisfied to back the development but were disappointed that there was not more commercial floorspace and additional parking over and above the additional 60 spaces noted in the plans. QDCC will be monitoring the development as the next challenge will be the demolition of the buildings and the site clearance.

### **Planning Legislation – South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan**

QDCC was consulted on Local Development Plan Main Issues Report and made comment on the development opportunities at the Corus Hotel Site seeking to have a mixed use development as well as making comment on road access to Port Edgar. The outcome will be a City wide plan and there will no longer be a Rural West Edinburgh Plan.  
QDCC

### ***QDCC Planning Sub Committee***