

## Queensferry & District Community Council

### Chairman's report for the July 2017 Business Meeting

I attended the following meetings in the last month representing QDCC;

- I was asked by Colin Butcher Sea Cadets Commander to attend a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July with the National Sea Cadets. The purpose of the meeting was to find common ground between the two organisations around the buildings proposal for both organisations. The likely outcome will be that the National Sea Cadets will lead the discussions with CEC about the terms of the lease for the land.
- On the 5<sup>th</sup> July I attended a Queensferry Crossing Celebration meeting The Cube Rosyth. You have been provided with information about the bridge-walk. There is little to report as TS were still in discussions with the Royal Household and their consultants about arrangements for the opening of the bridge.
- On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July I attended a Forth Bridges Tourism Group meeting. A presentation was given by the consultants commissioned to carry out a tourism study. At the moment I cannot provide you with any information as we were asked to return the papers as the report has to be presented to the Forth Bridges Forum members before the study can be released into the public domain. What I can say is that there is little new, nothing that hasn't been spoken about before and the big challenge is how to raise funds to deliver improvements for the tourist experience.
- On 10<sup>th</sup> July I met with Sunil Varu QA Manager to discuss the BID ballot, Forth Bridges Forum Tourism Group business, The Opening of Queensferry Crossing, local events and local issues such as the High Street Improvements.
- On morning of the 18<sup>th</sup> July I met up with Gavin Pope Land Director Cala and walked the Dalmeny Park development. The topic of discussions were the bus turning circle and when it might be brought into service. The road layout at its point with Sandercombe Drive and Hewlett Way as safety concerns had been raised with QDCC by a resident. This matter will be discussed with Barret Homes.

#### Other Business:

- Walker Drive Action Plan. I'm pleased to report that North West Localities Team following on from holding local consultations with residents has produced an improvement plan which will form part of the North West Localities Improvement Plan. It's my intention to meet with Mrs Jean Meldrum and Wilma McPhillips, who helped with the consultation and discuss the report with them. You will remember both ladies made representations to QDCC about deterioration of housing stock and the landscaping. Copy of report attached.
- QDCC Exec Meetings; I facilitated two meetings with the QDCC Executive members to pull together plans for the issue of the Bridge-walk tickets.
- Springfield/Clufflats Path; QDCC issued a bulletin about the extending of the path built by TS through the Springfield site. See attached copy of bulletin. The Bulletin was placed on QDCC Facebook and Web accounts and The Only Way is the Ferry

Way. A number of postings were received and answered. Using planning guidelines as a base line then none of the points raised would form the basis of a planning objection. Attached is the bulletin, the map and Facebook comments summary for information. I'm grateful to Terry, Grant and Graeme for their help and contribution.

- Corus Motel Site: I have been in contact with Corus to re-instate the grounds maintenance. A resident living in Stewart Terrace contacted me to complain about the overgrown vegetation coming into their garden. The contact that QDCC had Corus business and it's been difficult establishing a new contact. A search in Companies House enabled a point of contact. A quote is being sent to Corus for the work to be done.
- Ferrymuir Community Facility: David Flint and I have been working on a paper about the community facility describing a structure to lead and develop discussions about how QDCC might go about building and managing such a facility. I'm grateful to David for his contribution. This is an agenda item for the meeting.
- Placemaking: I have been in correspondence with Will Garrett CEC about organising a meeting with QDCC to discuss Placemaking outcomes.
- Leslie Deans Estate Agents Shop: I was asked to write to Leslie Deans about the condition of the shop front after the fire. I received a reply from Beck McDonald which reads: "I note we are also keen to get the office back up and running but unfortunately we are still in ongoing correspondence with the insurance company and cannot proceed at this time with the renovations" I have tried to contact her on several occasions to discuss this to no avail.
- Future Almond Partnership meetings: At the June Business meeting I raised the topic of the future for Almond Partnership meetings. Item 6 of minute.

A meeting of the ANP has been called for 23 Aug 17 in the Rosebery Hall.

I sought information from Peter Strong North West Localities Manager about the meeting and the likely agenda. Please see the extract below from the email reply.

"The report on Political Management Arrangements agreed by Council on 22 June stated "There is still a need to provide a vehicle for elected members and the community to engage in the Locality Improvement Plans which are currently being developed. It is suggested that the neighbourhood partnerships are re-appointed for one meeting to allow all elected members and the community representation on the partnerships to feed into that process."

In addition to this I envisage that there will also be normal NP business such as Community Grant Fund and Neighbourhood Environment Programme, and also feedback from the cross-party working groups to be set up to "provide member/officer engagement on locality improvement plans; lead on the development and creation of locality committees; and lead the Council's engagement and alignment with communities and partners".

My concerns remain.

Keith Giblett Chairman 23 July 2017.