

# GRAHAM HUTCHISON

## Scottish Conservative & Unionist Councillor for Almond

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## Queensferry & District Community Council

### Councillors Report—October 2017

#### Full Council

The full council has not met since the last meeting of QDCC, council will be meeting on Thursday 26th October.

#### Local Issues

**Dog Waste Complaint Upturn** — Having been alerted to an upturn in dog waste complaints by Graeme McKinley following the last meeting of QDCC I agreed to take this forward with the council officers and seek answers to the questions Graeme had posed. Margaret Laing who is responsible for the environmental wardens in this area advised that the wardens visit Queensferry 3-4 times each week, not only for dog fouling but for all other environmental issues reported. Residents and the Community Council are encouraged to report all issues to CEC giving as much detail as possible.

Within the last 12 months in the Queensferry area there has been 1 report for non-payment of a fixed penalty notice for dog fouling referred to the Procurator Fiscal, there were no other prosecutions in the past 12 months.

Margaret also added that dog fouling offences are very difficult to witness, and they are reliant on a lot of intelligence from members of the public and being there at the right time when the offence is committed.

**Queensferry Primary School** – I attended the drop in event at Queensferry Primary School to view the plans for expansion and in the process made the Head Teacher Mrs Macgregor feel old when she realised that she had taught me a Wardie Primary some 23 years ago. I was impressed by the imaginative plans for the new classrooms and the outdoor teaching space. I'm pleased to see capacity being added to a popular and successful local school to accommodate the growing population and demand and I will be happy to support these plans.

**Neighbourhood Partnership Sub-groups**— There is no further update on Neighbourhood Partnerships and their sub groups to date, I will continue to follow this up.

**Honey Pot/Ferry Brewery**— There was some confusion caused by the submission of two separate planning applications for the former office building on Longcraig Road under the Forth Rail Bridge. Both companies had been in discussion with Rosebery Estates with regard to the lease, however only Honey Pot were in a position to go ahead immediately so a lease was signed with them, thus rendering the Ferry Brewery application redundant.

**I have also been dealing with;** Missed waste collections, placement in schools appeals, lights out at the doctors surgery, concerns about provision of disability services, homelessness issues, complaints about the road surface in the High Street.

#### Hawes & Longcraig Pier Users Committee

I attended my first meeting as one of the council's two representatives on the Hawes & Longcraig User Committee and was appointed as Vice Convenor with Councillor Work as Convenor. The committee meets once every 6 months to discuss operations and maintenance of the pier.

#### Events

I am very grateful to Diane Job for coordinating the visit to Barnbogle Castle last Thursday evening, which was most interesting. The opening of the building as a world class events venue will add to the ever growing prestige of Queensferry as a destination.

#### Surgeries

A reminder that I am holding monthly surgeries at Queensferry Library at 6pm on the second Monday of the month, with the exception of December, March and July. Please spread the word.