**Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting Minutes - Online**

**Date/time:** Tuesday 15 September 2020, 7.00 pm

**Apologies:** John Kerr, Cllr Scott Douglas, Fiona Moug, Cllr Mark Brown

**Attendees:** Steve Kerr, PC David Campbell, Angela Benzies (seconded minutes), Claire Connachan, Ian Kirkpatrick, Pam Sked, Tommy McLean, Cllr Frank Ross, Deborah McCall (proposed minutes), Jon Melville, Graeme Hart, Vikki Brown, Henry Whaley, Laura Kearney – HcL, Susan Murray, Damian Mullen, Pamela Cairns, Cllr Claire Bridgman,

Robert Stokes, Nathan Readie, Myra Bell, Becky Lloyd, Jane Kerr

**Co-option:** Susan Murray Proposed: Steve Kerr Seconded: Deborah McCall

**Police Report – PC David Campbell**

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|  | Aug 19 | Aug 20 |
| Housebreakings | 7 | 10 |
| Theft | 17 | 13 |
| Vandalism | 8 | 6 |
| Violence | 6 | 13 |
| Road traffic | 11 | 8 |
| Hate | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous including drugs | 9 | 11 |
| Calls for service | 271 | 224 |
| Crimes reported | 75 | 60 |

Notes

* Re-imposition of Covid restrictions legislation now in place to allow for better enforcement where necessary. However, the police will continue to engage and explain in the first instance and will only enforce as a last resort.
* Traffic issues. A close pass operation took place on Saughton Road North. Joint initiative between traffic and community speed enforcement and cycle safety. The following results were obtained:
  + Five drivers were stopped for close passing cyclists.
  + One person reported to the PF for careless driving, three for lighting offences, one for registration offence.
  + Speeding – two reports and 8 warnings.
  + MOT – one FPN (ticket) and one warning.
  + Yellow box junction (Meadowplace Road/Ladywell Road) – two warnings.
    - * A copy of the Community Policing Update email circulated to the CCC on 5 August can be found [here](https://www.dropbox.com/s/uowecw4kvbvifmf/Community%20Policing%20Update%20Email.pdf?dl=0). CP Team are now fully back in commission.
      * Community Policing (North West) Team email is [edinburghcptnorthwest@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:edinburghcptnorthwest@scotland.pnn.police.uk).
      * If you see someone acting suspiciously can you take their photograph? Advice would be to telephone and report to the police.

**Laura Kearney – HcL Transport**

Laura gave the meeting an interesting and comprehensive overview of the work and processes of the organisation. Posters supplied by Laura can be found [here](https://www.dropbox.com/s/zni4kia5jbk1lso/HCL%20posters.zip?dl=0). Please feel free to pass on to anyone who may benefit from their services.

**Councillor’s Reports and Questions**

Cllr Ross

* Further to accident on 15/9, he has contacted both Lesley Macinnes and Paul Lawrence at CEC. Positive responses received. Paper to be brought to CEC asap. This will be shared with CCC as soon as it’s received. Traffic must be slowed down and roads around the area made safe.
* Reporting gulleys and overgrown hedges to CEC. If you spot any problems please contact CEC directly via their website.
* Six libraries are opening at the beginning of October. Corstorphine is not on the list. Have asked for a plan to reopen as many as possible.
* Planning application for 24 flats has been submitted for the shopper’s car park at Tesco. Date for comments on the application has, after intervention, been extended to 1st October. Seventeen car park spaces have been allocated. This needs to be debated in public. This will also add to the pollution on this road.
* East Craigs LTN – as a result of opposition received from residents, parts of this will be reconsidered and new proposals will be sent out. These TROs are being put in place under Covid-19 legislation from the advice from the Scottish Government.

Cllr Bridgman

* Drumbrae Hub is out of action until start of year as it’s being used by first year pupils from Royal High School for classroom based activities.
* Community groups have been in touch iro the current situation with community grant funds – waiting to hear back from Council officers. Will pass on any information once received.
* East Craigs LTN – this will be discussed at the full council meeting on 17 September. Councillors will be raising questions around this whole issue.
* Community Policing – see police report above.
* First parent council meetings for Royal High and Craigmount have been held. Emphasis has been on the Covid-19 challenges and the great work that the staff have been doing around this.

Planning

Note sent around CC councillors asking if anyone would be willing to take on the role of Planning Officer. No responses received yet. This is a statutory responsibility of the community council (along with licensing). Advert to be put out on social media asking for applications.

Business

Angela’s report iro Corstorphine Business Association distributed 14/9/20. Several meetings have been held with local businesses. Facebook page is generating interest. Angela reiterated that CCC is not going to run the association. It is the sponsor to get initiative started. Eligibility is geographical – a business needs to fall into CCC’s boundary. Discussion with Edinburgh representative from Federation of Small Businesses - joining fee to be waived for business with CBA membership. Business Gateway have been very helpful and a useful resource (they’re not just for startups). Angela to attend meeting of CEC initiative called Edinburgh Council Shop Local. Once Association is up and running incentives could be considered to get people to shop local eg, high street vouchers. Any ideas/comments please contact Angela. Please raise awareness of the FB page.

Environment

*East Craigs LTN* – public meeting held in Gyle Park. Consultation sent to community councils not residents with only one week given for distribution and to receive comments. It was suggested that CCC should take on board the scale of the opposition and what lies beneath that. (CCC’s boundary is to Craigmount High School along to Caroline Terrace beyond that is Drumbrae.) Residents are angry and confused because of CEC’s definition of a quiet street – they are already quiet so don’t need to be changed. Relationship with CEC has deteriorated further due to suspicions that traffic monitoring was done while roadworks/diversions were in place therefore traffic count was inaccurate. Residents feel that it’s gone beyond TROs and is actually a breakdown of democracy, loss of transparency, is extreme and will affect local business.

CEC’s communication is bad. Five days’ notice is not enough. East Craigs is probably the wrong place to start and is a symptom of wider traffic problems in the area however we need to start somewhere. People need to be discouraged from making short journeys/school runs by car. Now many more delivery vehicles on the roads due to people shopping online. CEC needs to work with the local community to find solutions to the issues. As a community we need to be supportive of CEC interventions to help reduce traffic in the area. This has been talked about for years! CEC are now saying that this can be done quickly under current legislation. Changes can be made if the first iteration of the plans don’t work. The roads and pavements are not safe so something has to change. This could be a really good chance to help stop the volume of traffic, rat running, pollution and short unnecessary journeys undertaken in the area and encourage people to walk or cycle.

When was East Craigs LTN project initiated? Was it pre or post Covid? Not part of the Policy and Sustainability meeting on the 14th of May. Councillors at public meeting in Gyle Park unable to say when this was agreed.

*MacDonald’s Drive Thru* - Is there any way to mitigate the amount of traffic from here? On day of reopening traffic snaked around the entire car park and back onto the street. Does a business have free rein? In terms of pollution people drive to get food from here. The other side effect is littering at Forrester. People drive down to Forrester, park, eat their food then leave their litter. Littering is already a problem from Forrester and St Augustine High Schools.

*High Street/Corstorphine South LTN (including Featherhall)* – accident on 15/9 is just the latest of many. Thankfully no pedestrians hurt. School Travel Action Group put together a comprehensive note for CEC. What can we do to affect change on this? Again, we’ve talked around these issues for a long time! Meeting arranged between SfP and CC councillors (30 September) to discuss plans and way forward. Not all of £50,000 ring fenced for original changes will be required therefore remaining monies could be used for changes to the High Street. Will this be done under emergency powers? Unable to confirm at this time.

Can brand “LTN” be changed to something else? This now evokes strong feelings.

**AOB**

* Ian Kirkpatrick will attend EACC meeting on 24 September in place of Steve. There will be a presentation from the University of Edinburgh about their work with community engagement. Angela may attend.
* North West Locality Partnership – chaired by Steve. Meeting with Cllr Gordon and CEC officials on 29 September to discuss taking the work forward and having the first meeting post lockdown on 9 October.
* Freedom of information from CEC iro funding for newly self employed Covid grants. CEC received £m2.74 from Scottish Government and awarded £k984 in grants to 492 applicants. Surplus returned to Scottish Government. CEC did not award discretionary grants to people excluded from government financial assistance. Alex Cole-Hamilton will take this forward. Questions will be asked in both Scottish and UK parliament as to why people/sole traders were not sought out to benefit from this grant.

Meeting ended at 9.00 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 20 October, 7.00 pm online via Zoom. These minutes are also available online at http:// http://corstorphinecc.uk/minutes/.