

Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online

Date/time: Tuesday 15 December 2020, 7.00 pm

Attendees: Steve Kerr, Ian Kirkpatrick, Susan Murray, Fiona Moug, Keith Walker, Jonathan Melville, Claire Connachan, Vikki Brown, Chris Young, Deborah McCall, Nathan Readie, Angela Benzies, Karen Smith, Tommy McLean, Cllr Mark Brown, Jane Kerr

Apologies: Cllr Scott Douglas, John Kerr, Cllr Gillian Gloyer, Robert and Kristina Meager, Cllr Frank Ross, Pam Sked, Robert Stokes

Minutes: **November:** Proposed Tommy McLean/Seconded Keith Walker – no matters arising

Declarations of Interest

None.

Police Report – received via email from PC Sam Davison

Community POs can be contacted at EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk. The official monthly report can be found [here](#).

Presentations and Reports

Cllr Brown

- Request received from Keith Walker re lighting from north east entrance to the car park at Gyle park. Liaising with CEC Parks Department and Cllr Gloyer. Tommy McLean met with CEC. Awaiting estimate for costs. Meeting to be held with Friends of Gyle Park.
- CityFibre – continuing to receive many complaints from local residents. Thanks to Nathan Readie for time and liaison work with Gyle residents and CF. Onsite meeting held. Acknowledgement received from CF that there are have been major issues across the board. Hopeful that going forward things will improve.
- Anti social behaviour at Forrester and Broomhouse. Arrest has been made.
- Issue raised by Steve Kerr re requests for community grant funding. One such request received from Craigmount HS PTA for the provision of five iPads (although they need 15) for disadvantaged pupils to allow them to learn from home – this is not what the community grant is for. Steve asked (and post meeting has written to) Cllr Brown to contact the necessary CEC officials to procure funding for proper and appropriate equipment. Comment from Tommy McLean that Corstorphine is seen by the authorities as an affluent area however there are families who are struggling during the current crisis and this issue needs to be raised.
- Currently a complete lack of youth work happening in the area. Tommy to liaise with Cllr Brown to push for organisations to get post-Covid ready.

Planning – Claire Connachan

- Planning [report](#) circulated pre-meeting.
- Two development applications made for Turnhouse which is a total of 300 out of approximately 1700 houses. Application was approved on 9 December.
- Response from CCC iro West Craigs development sent to CEC at end November. This will be coming forward for approval in the next few months.
- Steve spoke to Gareth Barwell, Head of Place Management, at CEC. Overview to be given to CCC from council officials of the current status of the West Craigs development and how it fits into the LDP. Date to be confirmed at the start of 2021.
- Claire reached out to the planning officer from Cramond and Barnton CC to discuss the West Craigs development. Meeting proved worthwhile.

Business – Angela Benzies

- Corstorphine Business meetings continue and interim office bearers are now in place along with a social media team. This will allow formal elections to be held.
- Small business Saturday (5th of December) was not as well supported as had been hoped for but Cllr Lezley Cameron, CEC's small business champion, will continue with her efforts to push this forward in the future. Awaiting response from CEC to funding request.
- Craig Ormond, Director, Mactaggart & Mickel, has confirmed that St John's Road development will be starting towards the end of 2021 (after current leases expire). Iceland plot has been sold to another developer. MacMik have a community grant fund which Craig has encouraged Corstorphine Business to apply for. MacMik may consider being an associate member of Corstorphine Business as they will hold leases for four properties on St John's Road.
- CEC Business and Inclusion Development Team have been working on the #ShopHereThisYear campaign. They have created readymade Tweets, graphics, etc that can be used off the shelf for local businesses to promote themselves.

- CEC BIDT are promoting “spotlight” weeks. Corstorphine have been pencilled in for May but also want to align with local events. Corstorphine Fair will be held on 5 June 2021 so they have been made aware of that.
- Creative packs from CEC BIDT are being sent out to local businesses for use.
- The Gift Tree has a stall at the Zoo’s Christmas Nights event. The feeling is that they have benefitted from having a presence at it.
- Angela passed on her thanks to all who have been involved in getting Corstorphine Business up and running and encouraging people to join.

Environment – Steve Kerr

East Craigs LTN

- Kenny Wright (DBCC) participation request (Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015) to CEC was accepted. Inclusive meeting to be held at the start of 2021. Steve will keep CCC updated with progress.

Corstorphine South LTN

- CEC set up online meeting (9 December) and all CC councillors and affiliates were invited to attend to discuss High Street layout changes. The High Street work can be considered and made more quickly than Featherhall. Three options were tabled (at this moment in time, at the request of CEC, they will not be published outwith CC councillors and affiliates) and discussed in much more detail at tonight’s meeting. Steve asked CC councillors and affiliates to pass thoughts and comments to him by end of Sunday 20 December. He will then collate these and pass them onto CEC to help inform and shape a solution.
- Featherhall changes will be made under ETRO and taken separately from road layout changes at the High Street. Featherhall will be considered at the February meeting of the TEC.
- CEC officer will put together an information programme to be circulated around the community.
- Money will be made available from Sustran to help with the aesthetics in the Featherhall area.

Public Space Management Plan (PSMP)

Closing date for the PSMP consultation has been extended to 20 January 2021. The PSMP will set out how CEC manages public open spaces (parks, greenspace, roads, plazas, squares under CEC control) for events, filming and festivals. CEC want to engage with the public to help develop and refine a draft plan. The new PSMP will combine public spaces and parks into one document and will set out a strategy for how each of the city’s public spaces can be used. It also covers the impact on the environment of using these city spaces. Steve will respond on behalf of CCC but encouraged all to take part in the [consultation](#).

Voluntary Sector Update – Tommy McLean

- Almond and Western Voluntary Sector Forum (VSF) are still meeting regularly. Meetings are mainly attended by organisations that support elderly members of the community.
- Funding is not available from CEC for the community centre rebuild. There is a shortage of public venues for groups (particularly younger people) to meet. This is a longer term issue for the VSF to look at.
- VSF trying to encourage more voluntary organisations to get involved. This should be used as a networking opportunity to build relations with statutory sector.
- Corstorphine does not appear high up the Poverty commission list. Pressure needs to be put on authorities to get proper recognition, particularly at this time.
- Youth engagement partnership. CCC was one of the founding groups of this but it has suffered due to the pandemic. Work needs to be done to get this back up and running. Please ask any organisations you know that have facilities for older children to get in touch with me (Tommy McLean) or Stephen Kipanda, CEC Community Learning Development Worker.
- Neighbourhood Network have money available for organisations in the area that have projects where funding is needed.
- Comment from Angela – is it possible for a list to be set up to let people know what organisations are open for business?
- Comment from Nathan – multifaceted approach required to engage with youths in the area. That structure is not currently there and many organisations in this area concentrate on prevention.

AOB

- Best (and sadly the only) Christmas jumper prize goes to Steve and best Christmas hat/novelty headwear goes to Fiona with Jane a close second. Prizes are in the post.
- Thanks extended to all from Steve for the continued participation in and support of the meetings throughout the year. It’s not been easy and it’s a testament to the enthusiastic self starters we are fortunate to have on the council, that we have managed to maintain our meetings and move issues forward even during lockdown.
- Christmas wishes to all and here’s to a happy and healthy New Year.

Meeting ended at 8.47 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 19 January 2021, 7.00 pm online via Zoom. These minutes are also available online at <http://corstorphinecc.uk/minutes/>.