**Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online**

**Date/time:** Tuesday 15 June 2021, 7.00 pm

**Attendees: Councillors:** Cllr Scott Douglas, Cllr Gillian Gloyer, Cllr Mark Brown,  **Community Councillors and Associated Groups:** Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Claire Connachan (Planning), Ian Kirkpatrick, Colin McLauchlin, Tommy McLean, Jonathan Melville, Deborah McCall, Susan Murray, Nathan Readie, Pam Sked, Robert Stokes, David Sutherland, Keith Walker, Chris Young.

 **Public:** Margaret Mackay (Secretary, Scottish Women’s Institute), Damian Currie-Mullan, Janis Ross Williamson, Karen Smith, Cynthia Taylor, Alasdair Wilson.

**Apologies:** Cllr Frank Ross, Jane Kerr, John Kerr

**Minutes of May Meeting:** Proposed Ian Kirkpatrick/Seconded Jonathan Melville

**Declarations of Interest -** None.

**Police Report – via email from PC Sam Davison**

Community Police Officers can be contacted at EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk. The official monthly report can be found [here](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/kdnx1dwwsc0gdnycrq4xe/Police-Report-June-2021.docx?dl=0&rlkey=zdvm4k5feom4dqbufz8zy8q5w). Community Police will be in touch with Corstorphine Cougars directly regarding recurring problems with needles – not aware of any reports having been made to date. Officers confirmed that they have no objection to the basketball hoop being relocated to alternative location within the park. PC Davison is keen to help support Clean Air Day on 17th June and will be looking to speak with drivers about idling whilst out on foot patrol in the area.

**20 Minute Neighbourhoods and Anchor Organisations**

Edinburgh Partnership Board will be meeting w/c 21 June to discuss 20 minute neighbourhoods. The principal of this strategy is that residents should be able to access everything they need within 20 minutes of walking, cycling and wheeling from their home. This is not a new idea and has been successfully implemented around the world (Melbourne cited as one example). Westfield House would fit as a ‘Community Hub’ for Corstorphine. Angela Benzies and Tommy McLean articulated that they could see benefits but had some concerns. Both voiced that it would be incredibly important to work with communities to ensure success. Steve Kerr noted that there would be a consultation period. Claire Connachan stated that she had asked Stuart Buchanan if the West Craigs developments were considered ‘20 minute neighbourhoods’. He felt that they were but plans do not seem to support this – Claire will be interested to know how the concept fits with Planning.

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board has budget that could be invested across service delivery organisations. Part of an empowerment agenda for third sector organisations and empowering networks. If no clear definition, Steve Kerr has concerns that will be fraught and conflict over primacy. Tommy McLean felt that it will be good opportunity for community and that it’s important to have structure but can’t have one structure for all. Could have several anchor organisations in one area dependent on need/work but needs more discussion. Steve Kerr noted concerns across the city about accountability – where does it exist? Cllr Gloyer stated that she sits on the Policy & Sustainability Committee where this was discussed and understands that it is more about co-location of services. Steve Kerr confirmed that papers would be circulated in due course.

**Westfield House**

David Sutherland advised that plans had not progressed in any great detail although meetings have taken place with Council re Library Service and the Dementia Project from Carrick Knowe.

**Councillor Reports**

Cllr Douglas

* Low Emissions Zone (LEZ) – map quite clear so not received many questions asking what it’s about – more people asking what it is rather than specific questions.
* Spaces for People (SfP) – Going to be discussed at Transport and Environment Committee on 17th June. Lots of complaints about different schemes. Community Church are struggling to exit from drive so looking at options, also cutting back hedges.

Cllr Gloyer

* Spaces for People (SfP) will be debated at Transport and Environment Committee on 17th June but referred to full Council on 24th June for vote.
* Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) not going to Transport and Environment Committee in June as agenda so full. Trying to find out date for when it will be taken.

Cllr Brown

* East Craigs Low Traffic Neighbourhood (EC LTN) – plans have been shelved following consultation. Need to wait and see what may come back with in future.
* Spaces for People (SfP) – believe that some bollards have been removed on Broomhouse Road to allow traffic to move to side to allow passage for emergency services.

**Questions to Councillors**

* West Edinburgh Link (WEL) is progressing but concern that there may be some legal implications around taking over some ground in Gyle area. **Action**: Nathan Readie to liaise with Cllr Brown.
* Claire Connachan enquired if any correspondence had been received regarding closure of path at Old Parish Church Kirkyard. Cllr Gloyer advised that previous investigation via Estates team indicated that the path wasn’t public. Resident’s garden wall is being fixed and path will reopen soon.
* Tommy McLean advised that there was still no signage on planters outside Gylemuir Primary but according to an article in The Scotsman, the road is closed to traffic from 8am – 10am and 2pm-4pm. Cllr Douglas stated that his understanding was that there is a backlog and delay with signage due to volumes needed across the country but that it would be installed as soon as possible.

**Planning**

* [Planning report](https://www.dropbox.com/s/eb84fp5d392ukzb/Planning%20and%20Licensing%20report%20June%202021.pdf?dl=0) circulated prior to meeting.
* Corstorphine Retail Park – PC World occupants – still unconfirmed but possibly gym and Lidl. No pavement has been installed on west side of entrance from Gylemuir Road which makes for a less than ideal pedestrian experience. Janis Ross Williamson voiced concern. Keith Walker enquired who owns Corstorphine Retail Park. Susan Murray advised that Morley Fund Management bought from Dixons in 2006. Morley owned by Aviva which is now owned by Hunter REIM. **Action:** Claire Connachan to revert to factors to ask for action to improve pedestrian access.
* St John’s Road Toilets – application for café withdrawn but resubmitted.
* Shell Garage on Glasgow Road – not changing footprint but bigger sales area.
* Pre-planning Application submitted for redevelopment of Gyle Shopping Centre – will consult with local community. Will invite developer to future Community Council meeting. **Action:** Claire Connachan/Vikki Brown to invite to meeting.
* West Craigs live consultation takes place on Thursday 17th June by email or phone. Ian Kirkpatrick noted that South West Craigs looks like massive development and thanked Claire Connachan for concise Planning report.
* Steve Kerr advised that Beth Berry had been in touch to say that she was confident that she could provide answers to questions submitted to Planning by the Community Council in response to the weekend market proposal. Regarding costs for infrastructure, she feels that there will be wider community benefits so CEC should be responsible for installing.

**Corstorphine Business**

Busy, challenging period with businesses reopening.

* Strong support for weekend market but concerns around traffic, parking and proposed location.
* Still hoping to participate in the Council’s Business Champions programme with prize of winning day out in Corstorphine.

**Environment**

Corstorphine Low Traffic Neighbourhood

Jonathan Melville attended the Community Reference Group (CRG) on behalf of the Community Council. Still discussions and same issues being raised such as the sharp corner of Saughton Road North/Corstorphine High Street. The project area is quite large but proposals are for measures in only a relatively small section of the project area. Traffic volumes are huge, notable that 4000 vehicles per day on Manse Road even though only a one-way street. CEC have confirmed that they will monitor impact of any changes. Ian Kirkpatrick noted that some church members are worried about Featherhall Crescent in particular. Pam Sked highlighted the potential for logistical issues with 2 large medical practices and pharmacy access that is needed. Steve Kerr advised that Martyn Lings has made himself available on Thursday 17th to meet with the Community Council. The consultation closes on 4th July and report will go to the Transport and Environment Committee on 19th August.

Deputation

Steve Kerr advised that he has submitted a written deputation regarding retention of Spaces for People measures for the Transport and Environment Committee taking place on 17th June and thanked members for their comments.

Tree Planting

Vikki Brown has contacted CEC to ask how to progress tree planting for the Queen’s Jubilee. They have advised that the Community Council should submit a proposal to the CEC Forestry team for discussion and approval. Keith Walker stated that location needs very careful consideration to ensure avoidance of problems in future. He advised that he does not feel that further trees should be planted in Gyle Park as part of this project.

Margaret Mackay asked if any of the Councillors were able to advise on how to deal with a dead ash tree on the ransom strip to the rear of her property. Cllr Brown stated that she should send him an email and he would investigate.

Net Zero Strategy

Launched to coincide with COP26 in November. Meeting scheduled for Thursday 17th June which is open to all Community Council members to attend if interested and able.

**Voluntary Sector Update**

Social Isolation project progressing, please contact Tommy McLean with any ideas and suggestions for projects inclusion. Energize leaflets have been distributed and information for youth summer programme for 13-16 year olds with be circulated to High Schools.

West Edinburgh Neighbourhood Network and Voluntary Sector Forum meetings – please come along if interested.

**AOB**

n/a

Meeting ended at 9.00pm. The Community Council will take a summer break in July, with the next meeting taking place on Tuesday 17th June 2021, 7.00 pm online via Zoom.

These minutes are also available online at http:// http://corstorphinecc.uk/minutes/.