**Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online**

**Date/time:** Tuesday 17 August 2021, 7.00 pm

**Attendees: Councillors:** Cllr Claire Bridgman, Cllr Scott Douglas, Cllr Gillian Gloyer, Cllr Frank Ross **Community Councillors and Associated Groups:** Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Claire Connachan (Planning), Jane Kerr, Ian Kirkpatrick, Margaret Mackay, Tommy McLean, Jonathan Melville, Fiona Moug, Deborah McCall, Pam Sked, Robert Stokes, David Sutherland, Keith Walker, Chris Young.

**Public:** Janis Ross Williamson, Karen Smith, Cynthia Taylor.

**Apologies:** Cllr Mark Brown, Susan Murray, Nathan Readie, Robert Stokes

**Minutes of May Meeting:** Proposed Angela Benzies/Seconded Tommy McLean

**Declarations of Interest -** None.

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

Community Police Officers can be contacted at [EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk). The official monthly report was not available at the time of meeting but can be accessed [here](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ids3q5bsxvvfa0pjy0bv9/Police-Report-Corstorphine-August.docx?dl=0&rlkey=w63yvfyqnko2et2f69no4e3lx).

**Councillor Reports**

Cllr Ross

* Flooding – intense rainfall has resulted in areas of significant flooding around the Corstorphine area. Sycamore Terrace and junction of Dovecot Road were badly affected recently. Officers have been asked for a maintenance report and to put on higher priority list. Cllr Ross will forward on the report as soon as received. CEC are in discussions with Scottish Water.
* Kaimes Road pedestrian crossing – been waiting 7 years and now told there is further delay. Cllr Ross meeting with senior officer to discuss and will feedback.

Cllr Gloyer

* Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) and Corstorphine Connections LTN both going to Transport & Environment Committee on 19th August. LTN has been tweaked – there will be no modal filter on Featherhall Avenue and instead will be changed to one way traffic (southbound) only.
* Useful information regarding responsibilities detailed in the Business Bulletin section of the Transport & Environment Committee papers.

Cllr Douglas

* Have received many complaints re flooding and drains.
* Weeds on streets/roads – can only be done twice a year (eg April and October). The most effective way is to clear them yourself if able.
* Gyle Park lighting – CEC see merit but no budget to deliver.
* Scottish Water works in Gyle Park are likely to last 6 months.
* Noise pollution from Edinburgh Festival events – 5 complaints received and being dealt with.

Cllr Bridgman

* Issue with completion certificates from Planning. Been in contact with Director of IT. If anyone has issues, let Cllr Bridgman know. Angela Benzies advised that she had been waiting for completion certificate since January and would appreciate any assistance. Aware it is an issue for businesses too.

**Questions to Councillors**

* Steve Kerr noted that drains on Ladywell Avenue are so full of earth, there are plants growing from them. Cllr Ross advised that these have been reported. Approximately 40 drains in the area have been blocked for over 6 months. Drains on north side of Ladywell and Clermiston need to be dug out. Flooding issue also at Tesco shoppers car park – was knee deep. Cllr Ross advised that he believes that it is private land but will look into it.
* Regarding weeds in streets and gullies, Cllr Ross advised that to the best of his knowledge, it is not a City of Edinburgh Council responsibility and that residents should take individual responsibility to look after the area outside their property. Angela Benzies requested confirmation/clarity on this. Weed killer is sprayed but it is a more environmentally friendly formula and not as effective. Cllr Gloyer noted that it is affected by wind and rain so there are limitations on when it can be used. **Action:** Cllr Ross to confirm whether weed control on streets is CEC responsibility.
* Margaret Mackay advised that still no further forward with dealing with the dead tree on ransom strip to rear of her property. Been in touch with CEC twice but nothing done as yet. Cllr Aldridge and Cllr Brown both been contacted. **Action:** Cllr Douglas and Cllr Gloyer to follow up.

**Planning**

* [Planning report](https://www.dropbox.com/s/wtdlhr8kkmocvza/Planning%20and%20Licensing%20report%20August%202021.pdf?dl=0) circulated prior to meeting. Been relatively quiet over the summer holiday period.
* Corstorphine Retail Park – Application to create gym on 1st floor of old PC World Unit. Closed 11th August but as no CCC meeting over the period, should be able to submit comments if needed.
* Airport Road – Council officers have recommended for refusal. Other Community Council’s have submitted objection too. Development Management Sub-Committee hearing on 18th August, Vikki Brown will attend on behalf of Corstorphine Community Council.
* Cammo Walk infrastructure – Angela Benzies stated that a formal request for participation has been submitted as it is important that Council consults with the community. Claire Connachan advised that the area is outside of Corstorphine Community Council boundary but will be supportive where possible. Scale of development in the west is enormous. Angela noted that it was important to work with the Council and community to get a better overview and understanding of planned developments.
* Pile driving for foundations of flats at Rowanbank Gardens on Gylemuir Road has generated some complaints regarding noise and duration of works. Cllr Douglas has been in touch with developers and will provide update as soon as possible.
* MacTaggart & Mickle development on St John’s Road. All accommodation will be rental, no units for sale. Car parking has been removed from original plans which will constitute material change and require to go back to Planning. Some concerns about introduction of bus gate on Manse Road as may cause issues with demolition/building works. Cllr Ross suggested that it may actually be of help with restricting traffic around the site. MacTaggart & Mickle representative has been invited to attend the September Community Council Meeting. Cllr Ross noted that Corstorphine Community Centre has not been contacted to be told when they would need to vacate the building. Steve Kerr advised his understanding was that it would be June 2022 but did not know that leaseholders had not been contacted.

**Corstorphine Business**

* Hiatus as Chair has had to step down due to business reasons and various pressures. Challenge with sustained engagement but next meeting is scheduled for September.
* Steve Kerr advised that Beth from At the Market had been in contact to let him know that Planning had recommended refusal on road safety grounds but may be that it will be overturned.
* Tommy McLean highlighted the Scotland Loves Local fund which may help fund local markets and other projects. Application deadline is 1st October.

**Environment**

Corstorphine Low Traffic Neighbourhood

Meeting held 16th August. Steve Kerr noted his thanks to those who were able to attend. Few different issues/change highlighted. Angela Benzies had asked about whether an impact assessment had been undertaken and Phil Noble’s response has been circulated. It was agreed that a deputation was not required for Transport and Environment Committee as concerns were about specific details which could be addressed in future (as scheme is experimental and will allow some changes during the period). Pam Sked flagged that the proposed change to make Featherhall Avenue one way would result in circuitous journey to access parking directly outside Rowlands Pharmacy if arriving by car from west or south.

Low Emissions Zone

Consultation deadline 20th September. Community Council position to date is that it is incongruous if Corstorphine is not included within LEZ boundary given the area is impacted by some of the highest emissions in the city. Should encompass Queensferry Road and St John’s Road but proposal is for city centre only. Claire Connachan, Jonathan Melville, Deborah McCall and Ian Kirkpatrick voiced agreement. Cllr Ross added support, stating that it should be a city boundary to improve air quality across the whole city.

St Margaret’s Park

Potential for some funding which may be available to help progress tree planting and other landscaping at St Margaret’s Park. Steve Kerr meeting with Cllr George Gordon to investigate possibilities.

**Voluntary Sector Update**

* Range of activities for young people over the summer. Looking at how can get word out more effectively for future events.
* Lack of support available for people with low level mental health.
* Anxiety workshop – looking at holding in west Edinburgh.
* Activities for young people in the area – if anyone looking to get involved, would be great to have more volunteers.
* Would like to engage with Angela Benzies regarding businesses getting involved with creating safe space for those with disabilities.

If anyone is interested in getting involved with the voluntary sector or Neighbourhood Network, please get in touch with Tommy McLean.

**AOB**

Margaret Mackay suggested a bus service which served the cottages at Ladywell Road to Tesco would be helpful – many elderly find it difficult to get their shopping home. Cllr Ross advised that the number 68 used to do this but believes Tesco stopped it. **Action:** Cllr Ross to investigate.

Community Council reform – report was scathing. Steering Group has been established from Community Council’s across the city.

Meeting ended at 9.08pm. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 21st September 2021, 7.00 pm online via Zoom.

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