**Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online**

**Date/time:** Tuesday October 2021, 7.00 pm

**Attendees: Councillors:** Cllr Mark Brown, Cllr Scott Douglas, Cllr Frank Ross **Community Councillors and Associated Groups:** Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Claire Connachan (Planning), Jane Kerr (Corstorphine Trust), Ian Kirkpatrick (Corstorphine Churches Together), Margaret Mackay (Scottish Women’s Institute), Deborah McCall, Tommy McLean, Jonathan Melville, Fiona Moug (Treasurer), Pam Sked, Robert Stokes (Forrester Park Residents Association), David Sutherland (Corstorphine Community Centre), Gordon Swann (Friends of Corstorphine Hill), Keith Walker, Chris Young (Low Traffic Corstorphine)

 **Public:** 30 members of the public were in attendance

 **Guest Speakers:** Martyn Lings (City of Edinburgh Council), Paul Matthews (Aecom)

**Apologies:** Cllr Gillian Gloyer, Cllr Claire Bridgeman, John Kerr, Susan Murray, Nathan Readie (South Gyle Proprietors Association)

**Minutes of May Meeting:** Proposed Jon Melville/Seconded Margaret Mackay (requested amendment to wording re begging).

 **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 was not available at the time of meeting but will be circulated when received. Steve Kerr recorded his thanks for Sam adjusting the format for the September report and his continued support.

**Martyn Lings & Paul Matthews, City of Edinburgh Council re Placemaking Designs for Corstorphine Connections LTN**

Martyn Lings gave an overview of the project to date and presented the proposed placemaking ideas to prompt discussion. There was mixed feedback from attendees. Some respondents were very positive about the project and felt that measures should go further to prioritise walking, cycling and wheeling. Others felt the changes were not required and that the money should be spent on getting ‘the basics’ right such as fixing potholes. Some attendees felt that consultation results were not being listened to which would lead to lack of trust in the Council. Martyn Lings explained that the Council is listening, that the trial nature of the project means that there is the opportunity to see how it works and that there is a monitoring plan in place. He also advised that Low Traffic Neighbourhoods sit in a wider plan and form part of the City Mobility Strategy.

Key points discussed include:

* The [Placemaking engagement](https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/low-traffic-neighbourhoods/) will give people an opportunity to share their views about the design ideas to improve the look and feel of the streets within the Corstorphine LTN area. This includes things like seating, greening and artwork in the streets. Closes 14th November.
* Online consultation, paper copy by request. Lamp post wraps to raise awareness and encourage participation.
* An in-person event is scheduled for 5th November, 11:30 - 16:30 at St Margaret's Park, Corstorphine High Street entrance.
* Two potential options for a proposed ‘pocket park’ on Featherhall Crescent. Concern was raised that the designs may cause issues for those with mobility impairments and that provision of seating could encourage anti-social behaviour.
* It was queried whether there would be adequate maintenance of hanging baskets and planters. Martyn Lings confirmed that maintenance was budgeted for.
* Pam Sked asked for confirmation regarding car access to the pharmacy at north end of Featherhall Avenue. Martyn Lings stated that only the top of the street would be one-way and access to the pharmacy would be maintained.
* Katy Nolin asked if ‘School Streets’ would be closed 24/7 or just during school hours. Martyn Lings confirmed they would operate in line with other School Streets across the city with warning lights when restrictions in operation.

**Councillor Reports**

Cllr Ross

* Update on Kaimes Road pedestrian crossing will be circulated to Community Councillors. There was a delay to preparation of tender documents. Concern around costs which may impact on other proposed crossings e.g. Drum Brae.

Cllr Douglas

* Still receiving complaints of drains being full. Backlog of 5-8 weeks but important to keep reporting if issues noted.
* Proposed mast on Ladywell Avenue – looks likely it will be approved as permitted development but get in touch with comments/objections.

**Questions to Councillors**

* Tommy McLean enquired if Councillors were aware of an issue with rats in the vicinity of Tesco/McDonald’s. Cllr Brown advised worth speaking to Environmental Health officers regarding concerns.
* Tommy McLean asked if Councillors had any knowledge of rumoured changes to Lothian Buses number 12 route. **Action: Cllr Ross to write to Lothian Buses to ask for confirmation of situation and report back to Community Council.**
* Caroline Welsh advised that she believed multiple items had not taken place as part of approval for installation of telecoms mast. Cllr Douglas asked for email to be forwarded to him for further investigation.

**Planning**

* [Planning report](https://www.dropbox.com/s/hffbc83c5x10lr6/Planning%20and%20Licensing%20report%20October%202021.pdf?dl=0) circulated prior to meeting.
* Erection of telecoms apparatus 40 metres north west of 41 Ladywell Avenue (21/04467/PA). May go to committee but unless objections are grounded in material considerations, it won’t make a difference. Strongest grounds likely to be that proposed site is in a conservation area but not optimistic.
* Decking outside The Centurion at top of Featherhall Avenue. A few residents have been in contact and an objection has been submitted.
* [City Plan](https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cityplan2030) 2030 - huge repercussions for west Edinburgh. Significant additional housing plans over and above that proposed in Local Development Plan. Cllr Neil Gardiner has made clear he would like to be part of City Planning presentations. Hoping to organise date in November.
* [Consultation on short term let](https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/short-term-let-consultation/) – open until 5th November. Encourage all to submit response via consultation hub.

**Corstorphine Business**

* Christmas initiative taking place 4th/5th December.
* The Torfin will be holding a Christmas market in their outdoor space.
* Continuing engagement with small business champions – another campaign planned for early 2022.
* LTN business impact meeting to be held.

**Environment**

Low Emissions Zone

Steve Kerr noted that the LEZ was on the agenda at Transport and Environment Committee which took place on 26th October but not seen outcome as yet. Will update at next meeting.

Placemaking

Placemaking exercise undertaken approximately 6 years ago. Steve Kerr has spoken to officers and they have confirmed that it would be considered a reasonable duration of time passed to consider undertaking a refresh. An invite will be extended Daisy Narayanan, City of Edinburgh Council to attend November meeting.

**Voluntary Sector Update**

Tommy McLean gave an overview of recent voluntary sector work:

* Most services are back up and running so increased opportunity for volunteering. If anyone is aware of organisations looking for volunteers or for volunteering opportunities, get in touch.
* Neighbourhood Network is continuing to undertake mapping exercise. Will be distributed in due course.
* Voluntary Sector Forum/Neighbourhood Network session taking place on 23rd November – **Action:** Tommy to send form to Vikki Brown for distribution.
* Keep Me Safe initiative. Can be of particular help in aiding those with dementia or anxiety and help to address social isolation. When people see the notice, they can be reassured to know that there is someone who understands and is able to help if needed.

**AOB**

Parkgrove Medical Practice change of catchment – looks like reducing catchment on west side but not removing patients already registered so may not be big impact on Corstorphine residents.

Farmers Market update – Steve Kerr attended meeting with Parks officer following approval of application. Budget for removal of fenced area at Pitch and Putt. Parking area will be expanded by one car length to accommodate stalls. Corstorphine Primary School had been mentioned in the planning application for the market as intending to use the playgroup for traders vehicles however the Headteacher had not been made aware of this plan. The market owner has been encouraged to get in touch with them.

Meeting ended at 9.03pm. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 16th November 2021, 7.00 pm online via Zoom.