

## Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online

**Date/time:** Tuesday 14 December 2021, 7.00 pm

**Attendees: Councillors:** Cllr Mark Brown, Cllr Mark Brown

**Community Councillors and Associated Groups:** Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Claire Connachan (Planning), Ian Kirkpatrick (Corstorphine Churches Together), Jonathan Melville, Fiona Moug (Treasurer), Nathan Readie, Ania Sepol (Friends of Gyle Park), Robert Stokes (Forrester Park Residents Association), David Sutherland (Corstorphine Community Centre).

**Public:** 6 members of the public were in attendance

**Apologies:** Cllr Gillian Gloyer, Jane Kerr (Corstorphine Trust), Margaret Mackay (Scottish Women's Institute), Tommy McLean, Deborah McCall.

**Minutes of November Meeting:** Proposed Jon Melville/Seconded Angela Benzies.  
(One correction noted - date to be amended on Page 2)

**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 circulated in advance of the meeting and can be accessed [here](#). Sam sent apologies that he had been unable to attend any online meetings during 2021 but is hoping to be able to attend some meetings in 2022 if they resume in person.

### Review of 2021 and Look Forward to 2022

- Community Planning is a statutory function of Community Councils. Steve Kerr noted his thanks and appreciation of the work undertaken by Claire Connachan as Planning Convenor of the Corstorphine Community Council.
- Low Emission Zone proposals will be taken back to Transport and Environment Committee in January 2022 at earliest.
- Corstorphine Connections Low Traffic Neighbourhood consultation period will run concurrently with ETRO (Experimental Traffic Regulation Order). Martyn Lings will be at the January meeting of the Community Council to provide an update.
- Airport access road – Vikki Brown attended the Sub Development Committee to present deputation on behalf of the Community Council. The access road application was refused but Edinburgh Airport have appealed decision to the Scottish Government.
- West Edinburgh Link – funding has been reduced for the north section. Cllr Mark Brown advised that he would make enquiries to more fully understand the impact that this will have on plans.
- Intention is for the Community Council to undertake a placemaking exercise in 2022.
- There will be a focus on 20 minute neighbourhoods at the February 2022 Community Council meeting.
- Community Council boundary review expected to take approximately 9 months.
- Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC) reform – geographic representation on steering group. Proposed change to Board structure.

### Councillor Reports

#### Cllr Douglas

- Covid booster – for those unable to travel to vaccination clinics, get in touch as able to help arrange home visits.
- Removal of double yellow lines on Gylemuir Road. TRO has gone through so expected to be removed mid January 2022.
- Garden waste registration window – currently if deadline missed, need to wait to next opening. Hoping to have a 'register anytime' system implemented in due course.

#### Cllr Brown

- Problem parking at Gyle Park – Glasgow Road.
- Drainage issues at South Gyle – some parts of South Gyle is private land but will try to ascertain.

### Planning

- Planning report circulated prior to meeting.
- Land adjacent to nursery on Featherhall Avenue has now been sold to the nursery.
- Edinburgh Airport access road. The access road plan sits outside of all policy in place so if the City of Edinburgh Council decision is overturned by the Scottish Government, will be interested to see the reasoning.

- [City Plan 2030](#) – deadline for representations is 20<sup>th</sup> December. Claire Connachan attended useful overview meeting but huge amount of work to read through detail of plan. The information is there so we need to engage and respond. Please get in touch with any questions or comments for Community Council response. Re need for development, there are not enough brownfield sites for the amount of housing needed and the west has good transport links.

### Corstorphine Business

- Christmas Market in the outdoor space at The Torfin took place 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> December. It was the first event organised by the Corstorphine Business community. Keen to hear any feedback. Whether it will be an annual event depends on the new market at St Margaret's Park..
- Edinburgh College has been in touch about the potential for a possible apprentice position.
- Considering options to create some sort of directory and how best to communicate what businesses are in Corstorphine.
- No update regarding the proposed market at St Margaret's Park however the parking area has now been extended and surfaced. Claire Connachan queried why the space has already been paved by the City of Edinburgh Council when it has not been confirmed if the market will go ahead. Jonathan Melville highlighted that the Community Council had been told that it would be a temporary surface that would be put in place and asked if it would be laid in addition to the new tarmac area? Steve Kerr responded that it was his understanding that no further surface would be added. Angela Benzies noted that she hoped that local businesses would be prioritised as stall holders. Jonathan Melville noted disappointment that nothing had been communicated to the Community Council before the work to extend the parking area took place. Steve Kerr stated that it would be sensible to have an agreed plan for the park that can be worked to and consideration should be given to how that could be put in place. Historic experience suggests that it is difficult to create a 'Friends' group for the park but perhaps if plan was created it would give people something to coalesce around.

### Environment

EVOC/Our Future Edinburgh have been given £50k to engage with communities around net zero strategy. £29k has been used to create role reporting to EVOC. Opinion divided as £50k doesn't go far and much less so when £29k used for a post holder but important that there is a COP26 legacy.

### Voluntary Sector Update

Vikki Brown gave update as provided by Tommy McLean.

- Christmas Support Project - working with 5 Primary schools and supplying food and Christmas items to 45 families. The project is also helping an additional 22 families with non-food support such as meal vouchers and zoo tickets. The project has received tremendous support from local businesses, organisations, schools and the local community generally.
- WENN Community Grants Workshop went well and will hopefully encourage new applicants. Closing date for applying for a grant from this financial year is 19th January.
- Social Isolation Project - WENN and the VSF are forming a joint subgroup to take forward. Anyone who is interested in joining this subgroup should contact Elaine Lennon or Tommy McLean.
- Edinburgh Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund - this government fund is being administered by EVOC and is open for expressions of interest until 14th January. The operators are particularly keen to encourage applications from small organisations and have a section of the process for funds of less than £2,500. Main grants can be up to £10k. The aim of the project is to encourage additional provision to support people maintain or improve their mental Health.

### AOB

- Angela Benzies enquired if Community Council would be submitting a response to the citywide ETRO with deadline of 21<sup>st</sup> December. Steve Kerr advised that he would be happy to submit comments received without edit.
- Jonathan Melville asked if anyone was aware of a map of available defibrillators as witnessed an incident in a local café and would be useful to know locations of all in Corstorphine area. Ian Kirkpatrick advised he would investigate which churches have defibrillators available to the community. Vikki Brown suggested contacting Corstorphine Emergency Response in case they were able to help. **Action:** Jonathan will investigate and report back.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a happy, safe and healthy new year.

Meeting ended at 9.05pm. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 18th January 2022, 7.00 pm online via Zoom.