

Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online

Date/time: Tuesday 17 May 2021, 7.00 pm

Attendees: Councillors: Cllr Beal, Cllr Davidson, Cllr Hyslop, Cllr Ross

Community Councillors and Associated Groups: Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Claire Connachan (Planning), Jane Kerr (Corstorphine Trust), Deborah McCall, Tommy McLean, Jonathan Melville, Fiona Moug (Treasurer), Robert Stokes (Forrester Park Residents Association), David Sutherland (Corstorphine Community Centre), Keith Walker, Chris Young

Public: 6 members of the public were in attendance

Guests: Samantha Roberts and Katherine Doughty

Apologies: Cllr Aldridge, Cllr Thornley, Fiona Moug (Treasurer), Margaret McKay (Scottish Women's Institute), Nathan Readie

Minutes of April Meeting: Proposed Keith Walker/Seconded Jon Melville. Amend to note apologies from Deborah McCall.

Declarations of Interest – None

Susan Murray and Pam Sked are stepping down from the Community Council. Members wish to record their sincere thanks for their contributions over the years.

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 accessed [here](#). It was noted that it was heartening to see a drop in crime in the area.

Councillor Reports and Q&A

Congratulations to Alan Beal, Euan Davidson, Frank Ross, Robert Aldridge, Euan Hyslop and Ed Thornley for their successful election. Mark Brown was unsuccessful in his bid to be re-elected and Steve Kerr will write to him to record thanks for his service and hard work during his time as Councillor.

Cllr Ross

- Kaimes Road crossing is in the process of being installed but is taking a long time. Cllr Ross is looking at how the steps to access Traquair Alley can be removed to ensure all are able to use the route.
- Looking at what can be done to address rat running on Gordon Road.

Cllr Beal

- Temporary traffic lights on St John's Road/Manse Road caused massive delays to traffic. Addressing to ensure it doesn't happen in future if similar circumstances arise.

Cllr Davidson

- Mainly been getting on top of training and induction.

Cllr Hyslop

- Been in touch with Forrester Park Residents.

Vikki Brown noted that one of the columns at the Dower House entrance to St Margaret Park looks unstable. Has been reported to @Edinhelph via Twitter but may be worth Councillors following up on it. No reference number was given on reporting it.

Jon Melville advised that there continues to be problem parking on the pavement and road on Kirk Loan. Cllr Davidson very keen to address this issue.

Planning

- [Planning report](#) circulated prior to meeting.
- Claire Connachan stated that she would be happy to meet with any Councillors to discuss current Planning items in the area.

- Pre application consultation for West Town. Very big site – 7000 residential dwellings. If anyone has anything they would like to include in the response, let Claire know. The developers have been contacted to see if they would like to attend a future meeting.
- Change of use to unit in Gyle industrial estate – changing from office to health centre.
- Noted that first application for change of use to short term let has been listed in weekly planning notices. Come in due to new CEC policy.
- Approaching time for demolition of St John’s Road block. Craig Ormond from McTaggart & Mickel has been invited to June meeting. **Action:** Steve Kerr to flag questions around demolition programme and how dust and debris will be managed to minimise impact on area. **Action:** Claire Connachan to investigate if there is an impact assessment available.
- World Heritage Site Management Plan – project manager looking to link in with Community Councils across the city. Vikki Brown has responded to advise that we would be happy to help and offered invite to future meeting.
- Farmers Market – no update available and representative was not able to attend May meeting due to holiday. Invite has been extended to attend the June meeting. Keen to hear about parking aspects along with school/community benefits.

Corstorphine Business

- Continuing to connect and support local businesses
- Visual identity work – being helped by a local graphic designer and excited to show off new branding.
- Hoping to meet with Community Centre soon to discuss opportunities for business start-ups.
- Plan to have a stall at the Corstorphine Fair and perhaps also at the Farmer’s Market if possible.

Environment

- Corstorphine Connections Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) due to start implementation in late June. Martyn Lings will be coming to June Community Council meeting and subsequent meetings throughout the trial period.
- Steve Kerr noted that it will be interesting to see how Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) and Low Emissions Zone (LEZ) develop with formation of new Transport and Environment Committee.
- Western Neighbourhood Network next meeting 1st June – all Councillors are automatically members so should receive invites.
- Edinburgh Partnership Board will meet 28th June.
- Maybury junction and Maybury/Barnton junction. Concern raised that with the rate of housebuilding, works in 2024 will not be soon enough. Claire Connachan noted that an officer has stated that they would come to the Community Council for consultation. **Action:** Cllr Ross to seek further information and clarity on plans. **Action:** Claire Connachan to follow up with officer regarding attendance at future meeting.
- St Margaret’s Park – have been told that no funding is available so looking to follow approach taken by Friends of Roseburn Park of undertaking any work as bite size projects. Previous attempts to form a Friends group have been unsuccessful so would like to create an overall masterplan which people can get behind.
- Cllr Hyslop stated that the Dower House café have been organising a litter picking hub which will allow people to borrow a litter picker for impromptu clean ups.
- Covid snake – no update on location in St Margaret’s Park. **Action:** Vikki Brown to contact Fiona Underhill for an update.
- Friends of Gyle Park – looking at development plan too. Concentrating on lighting project which was delayed due to Scottish Water works. Hoping lamp posts will be in by the end of the month. Lamp heads have a 16 week delivery date.
- If anyone would like to undertake bulb planting, CEC can support with supplies.
- Still issues with bins in Gyle park following relocation of bins to park entrances.

Community Engagement

The May Community Engagement Report can be accessed [here](#). Donations wanted for Sunflower Scotland appeal can be accessed [here](#).

- Cost of living/poverty issues – how can Community Council help with support? For consideration and discussion at future meeting.

AOB

- Guests this evening (Sam and Katherine) are researching Scottish community governance and will be visiting to look at how we do work in Edinburgh. Sam will be focussing on Finances and Katherine is looking at Placemaking.
- No update re Climate Net Zero officer liaison meeting – Steve Kerr trying to engage with EVOG.

- Community Centre won't have a stall at Corstorphine Fair due to work load of vacating current premises. On verge of signing a lease which should allow continuity of services. Preferred bidder on old building, not just about maximising sale price, needs to someone who is going to bring a development which is sympathetic to the area.

Meeting ended at 8.53pm. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 21st June 2022, 7.00 pm online via Zoom.