

Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online

Date/time: Tuesday 17 December 2022, 7.00 pm

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

Community Councillors and Associated Groups: Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Jane Kerr (Corstorphine Trust), Ian Kirkpatrick (Corstorphine Churches Together), Margaret Mackay (Scottish Women's Institute), Tommy McLean, Robert Stokes (Forrester Park Residents Association), David Sutherland (Corstorphine Community Centre),

Public: 11 members of the public were in attendance

Guests: Martyn Lings, City of Edinburgh Council, Jeremy Cunningham, Artist for Corstorphine Connections Project

Apologies: Cllr Thornley, Angela Benzies, Claire Connachan (Planning), John Kerr, Jonathan Melville, Fiona Moug (Treasurer), Nathan Readie, Chris Young (Low Traffic Corstorphine).

Minutes of September Meeting: Proposed Cllr Beal/Seconded Ian Kirkpatrick

Co-opting of individuals and organisations: none.

Declarations of Interest: none.

Steve Kerr provided update that Cllr Ross has resigned as a Councillor. Cllr Ross was a regular and long standing attendee at Corstorphine Community Council and an outstanding Councillor. Steve Kerr noted his sincere thanks for the effort and dedication to the community over the years. A bi-election for the vacant Councillor position will be held in due course.

Drumbrae Community Council has folded at this time. As our boundaries have shared Councillors, Corstorphine Community Council have extended an invite as an interim measure for those interested in attending a community forum.

Steve Kerr recorded his thanks to Claire Connachan who has been an outstanding Community Councillor and Planning Convenor.

Corstorphine Connections Update – Martyn Lings, City of Edinburgh Council

Work will be undertaken in two phases. Phase one 23rd January – 24th February (subject to weather impacts. First phase will include key changes to traffic movement, hanging baskets and planters. Phase two will cover footway widening and pedestrian crossing improvements. The project team will be working closely with City of Edinburgh Council coordination engineers especially with regard to the building site on Manse Road.

Recent engagement has included letters to local businesses and residents, door to door chats with businesses, emails to mailing list and stakeholders including blue light services. Lamp post wraps will be installed in January along with on street notices to raise awareness of changes. Project webpages on the Council website have been updated, further detail can be found at <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cycling-walking-projects-1/corstorphine-connections/1>

The Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) will start on 24th February and will be up to 18 months in duration. First 6 months is the statutory consultation period. Comments can be emailed to trafficorders@edinburgh.gov.uk

Jeremy Cunningham has been appointed as artist to the project. Focus will mainly be around the school entrances and Saughton Road North. Welcome any ideas around the best way to engage with adults who don't have children at the schools in the area. Get in touch with admin@corstorphinecc.uk in the first instance.

Martyn Lings will be attending Community Council meetings to provide updates throughout the Corstorphine Connections trial period.

Police Report – via email from PC Sam Davison

Community Police Officers can be contacted at EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk. The December Police report is not available at this time.

Councillor Reports and Q&A

Cllr Beal

- The LTN has been the main issue that residents have been in contact about.
- Parking issues in Orchardfield and Featherhall area.

Cllr Davidson

- LTN been the main topic of correspondence.
- Gritting – any priority routes that were untreated during recent cold spell, please get in touch.

Cllr Hyslop

- Forrester Park being assessed for double yellow lines to prevent problem parking.
- Torwood area of South Gyle – path which runs through is extremely muddy and unusable. Active travel team have confirmed it is being included as part of plans for West Edinburgh Link project.
- Fencing which had been left by contractors has now been taken away but still issues following Scottish Water works.
- Issues with resurfacing in Craigmount – hydrants had been covered but have now been dug out.
- Road safety at Clermiston Primary School.
- Litter issues have been discussed with children at Craigmount High School. Steve Kerr noted that if pupils would be interested in coming along to the Community Council they would be very welcome.

Questions/Comments to Councillors

- Are there implications to local parks being included in the Fields in Trust plans? Tommy McLean advised that Friends of Gyle Park are looking into further.
- Pedestrian crossing on Saughton Road North? Cllr Davidson confirmed that Road Safety Team have advised that it is in plan but there is a back log.
- Issues noted around safety at entrance to Corstorphine Retail Park (ramp from Gylemuir Road into the car park) as wide bell mouth, only pavement on east side of ramp and traffic travelling at inappropriate speeds. **Action: Cllr Davidson to speak with Road Safety Team. Action: Vikki Brown to contact owners of Retail Park and invite to future meeting.**

Planning – Claire Connachan

- Planning report was unavailable at the time of meeting. The report will be circulated as and when available.

Corstorphine Business – Angela Benzies

- Angela was unable to attend the meeting but provided an update which was circulated to members prior to the meeting.
- Particularly concerned about the news that the Post Office sited within RS McColl on St John's Road will be closing. All agreed that this is a big loss of amenity and the branch is well used and valued. Nearest branch is Station Road which is a much longer trip for those living to the west of Drumbrae. Station Road is already busy and may find it challenging to handle additional footfall. Post Office closures will be detrimental to plans to build 20 minute neighbourhoods across the city. Tommy McLean added that he would raise the issue at the January meeting of Corstorphine Business.

Environment

- Daisy Narayanan to be invited to meeting early 2023 to discuss and progress 20 minute neighbourhoods and placemaking. **Action: Vikki Brown to invite Daisy Narayanan to meeting early in 2023.**
- Weekend market at St Margaret's Park – no further update available. Staffing and other issues following pandemic, combined with cost of living and profitability challenges mean that focus is on existing markets at the moment.

Community Engagement – Tommy McLean

- Christmas Support Project underway. Thanks to St Thomas' Church who have provided fantastic support and accommodation. Approx 110 families being supported with 235 Christmas gift bag and 100 food packages. 8 Primary schools participating. Prana, Chinese Manor House and Edinburgh Zoo have donated gift vouchers.
- The Tofin are providing hot meals for older residents in need on Christmas day.
- Warm Centres will be publicised in the new year. Ian Kirkpatrick noted that St Ninians Church have had a relatively small uptake of the warm centre offer from those outwith the church community but been good to meet people from church and has helped to raise profile on social media. Perhaps need to explain to people that there is no commitment or

expectation to attend a church service if make use of the warm space. Tommy McLean noted that Community Centre has not seen huge numbers but does seem to be getting used. It was suggested that perhaps local health centres could help to publicise or suggest to those that they know are in need. Already good relationship with community link worker and helping to get word out.

- Waste Reduction - Tummies not Trash at Corstorphine Community Centre. Surplus food from local supermarkets being distributed from the Community Centre to reduce food waste. Well received so far.

Corstorphine Community Centre Update

- Annual lease on Westfield House at present but the Community Centre can be given 3 months notice to quit. Community Asset Transfer underway and been received by City of Edinburgh Council.
- Old site on Kirk Loan – a pre planning application will be submitted to Planning. Hopeful that development will be sympathetic to the area and certainly an improvement to the current situation.

AOB

- Concerns were raised by member of the public around the ambition and implications of 20 minute neighbourhoods. Further information on 20 minute neighbourhoods can be found on the City of Edinburgh Council website at <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/20minuteneighbourhoods> There will be further focus on Placemaking and 20 minute neighbourhoods in Corstorphine at a meeting early in 2023.

Meeting ended at 21.02. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 17 January 2023, 7.00 pm online.