

## Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting - Online

**Date/time:** Tuesday 28 March 2023, 7.00 pm

**Attendees: Councillors:** Cllr Beal, Cllr Bennett

**Community Councillors and Associated Groups:** Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Margaret Mackay (Scottish Women's Institute), Deborah McCall, Jonathan Melville, Fiona Moug (Treasurer), David Sutherland (Corstorphine Community Centre), Keith Walker, Chris Young (Low Traffic Corstorphine).

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

**Guests:** Martyn Lings, City of Edinburgh Council, Cllr Scott Arthur, City of Edinburgh Council

**Apologies:** Cllr Davidson, Cllr Hyslop, Cllr Thornley, Jane Kerr (Corstorphine Trust), Ian Kirkpatrick (Corstorphine Churches Together), Tommy McLean, Robert Stokes (Forrester Park Residents Association)

**Minutes of February Meeting:** Update to note Cllr Beal apologies. The updated minutes can be accessed here.

**Co-opting of individuals and organisations:** None. New members welcome - to discuss joining the Community Council, please contact Steve Kerr via [admin@corstorphinecc.uk](mailto:admin@corstorphinecc.uk)

**Declarations of Interest:** None

### Corstorphine Connections Update – Martyn Lings, City of Edinburgh Council

The planters on Kirk Loan and Featherhall Crescent are not completed. Sustrans held an event to celebrate active travel in conjunction with Corstorphine Primary School.

The next phase of the implementation has been further delayed and is now likely to be May 2023 but this will be confirmed in due course. Keep an eye on the Corstorphine Connections website for the latest information. <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cycling-walking-projects-1/corstorphine-connections/1>

The artistic commission is almost finalised and new gates for Corstorphine Primary and Carrick Knowe Primary will be produced by blacksmiths with installation planned over the summer.

Following correspondence from residents and discussion with Living Streets, Spokes and local Councillors, a short section of protected cycleway on Ladywell Road will be removed to improve sightlines for pedestrians crossing the road near Ladywell medical centre. Parking will be retained.

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](mailto:EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk). The Police report for March can be accessed [here](#). Continued issues with motorbikes/off-road dirt bikes – please report if you witness.

### Cllr Scott Arthur – Transport and Environment Committee Convenor

Cllr Arthur gave a presentation entitled 'Transport Transitions' which gave an overview of the opportunities, aspirations and challenges being faced to improve air quality, reduce congestion and meet net zero 2030 targets. Ultimately looking to reduce the number of vehicles being driven into the city and encourage a switch to public transport or active travel where possible. The movement of goods/freight is also being looked at to improve the situation for businesses and HGV/Commercial traffic. The Air Quality Action Plan, Public Transport Action Plan, Active Travel Action Plan and Road Safety Action Plan will all go out to consultation at the same time.

Cllr Beal noted that transport is the main issue that he is contacted about, with potholes and pavement defects consistently being raised. Cllr Arthur advised that he believed that a sum of approximately £7-8 million is required across the city to stop the decline.

Angela Benzies noted that businesses are concerned about moving around the city – delays and difficulties can result in costs to business and customers. Also keen to see integrated ticketing and shuttle buses to connect train stations to local areas. Cllr Arthur advised that many operators are also keen to see integrated ticketing but this is in the hands of the Scottish Government rather than the Council. Shuttle buses are on the agenda particularly for underserved areas such as Dumbiedykes and Ratho.

It was asked if there were any plans to extend Corstorphine Connections north of St John's Road, particularly either side of Clermiston Road as these are streets which experience a high volume of rat running. Cllr Arthur advised that residents should write to their Councillors and the Community Council – if there is appetite this will be logged and could be something that is looked at in the future.

Steve Kerr thanked Cllr Arthur for attending the meeting and being so generous with his time.

### **Councillor Reports and Q&A**

Steve Kerr congratulated Fiona Bennett on her successful election and the recent by-election.

#### Cllr Beal

- On board for Transport for Edinburgh
- Correspondence re Corstorphine Connections.
- Request for traffic lights at end of Pinkhill Road was refused.
- Flooding
- Corstorphine Retail Park – no update

### **Planning**

- The Planning Convenor role is vacant at present. Please get in touch with [admin@corstorphinecc.uk](mailto:admin@corstorphinecc.uk) if you would like to find out more about volunteering.
- A representative from Mactaggart & Mickel who are developing the site of the former Woolworths and Community Centre on St John's Road will be in attendance at the April meeting of the Community Council. Of note are the removal of affordable housing units and changes to parking allocation from original plans.

### **Corstorphine Business – Angela Benzies**

- The March Business report can be accessed [here](#).
- Continuing regular activities including Tuesday morning networking and planning meetings.
- Larger networking meeting planned for May. Date to be confirmed but keep an eye on Corstorphine Business Community Facebook page for latest information.
- Following the closure of the Post Office within RS McColls on St John's Road, the opportunity to run a Post Office on St John's Road is being advertised on the Post Office website. You can find out more and apply at <https://runapostoffice.co.uk/branch/st-johns-road-post-office-edinburgh-eh12-7xd> The closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Please spread the word to anyone who may be interested in this opportunity.
- Some commercial waste bins have disappeared from St John's Road. Trying to establish what has happened.
- Christmas 2024 – looking at what can be spread out from city centre.

### **AOB**

- Some rationalisation of Church of Scotland churches in the area will be required due to financial and resource constraints. No further details available at present.

Meeting ended at 20.54. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April.