

Corstorphine Community Council Meeting (Online)



Date/time: Tuesday 12 September 2023, 7.00 pm

Attendees: Councillors: Cllr Beal

Community Councillors and Associated Groups: Steve Kerr (Chair), Vikki Brown (Minutes), Angela Benzies, Jane Kerr (Corstorphine Trust), Ian Kirkpatrick (Corstorphine Churches Together), Margaret Mackay (Scottish Women's Institute), Jonathan Melville, Frank Ross, Chris Young (Low Traffic Corstorphine).

Public: 12 members of the public were in attendance

Guests: Martyn Lings, City of Edinburgh Council

Apologies: Cllr Hyslop, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Thornley, Cllr Davidson, Deborah McCall, Tommy McLean.

Minutes of August Meeting: Angela Benzies reminded that an update to wording in June minutes was due re ACE not being a lobby group but a group of residents affected by changes. It was noted by Steve Pickavance (member of the public in attendance) that some comments/questions had not been documented in the August minutes which could be construed as the Community Council being biased in regards to the LTN. This was not intentional and the minutes will be updated accordingly. Minutes can be accessed at <http://corstorphinecc.uk/minutes/>.

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 latest Police reports can be accessed at <http://corstorphinecc.uk>.

Corstorphine Connections Update – Martyn Lings

Footway widening at various locations within the LTN area. Further details available on the project website <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cycling-walking-projects-1/corstorphine-connections/3>. The contractor is struggling to complete works to planned timescale. Intend to correct additional footway faults in the vicinity of works where possible to give improved surface. New school gates have been installed at Carrick Knowe Primary and Corstorphine Primary. These were designed by a commissioned artist in conjunction with children from the schools. Cargobike Movement and Thistle are offering residents trial use of cargo bikes and adapted cycles as part of the Corstorphine Connections project. To find out more, please get in touch with jamie@cargobikemovement.org (cargo bikes) or thistleoutdoors@thistle.org.uk (adaptive cycles).

Traffic levels are being monitored across the area at 1 month, 6 months and 12 months. It was explained that as the project is still in very early stages, traffic patterns will not yet have settled. It was stressed that conclusions can't be drawn at this point and while percentage changes might look large, the actual numbers of vehicles involved are small. The counters on Meadowplace Road were damaged which has resulted in no accurate data being available at that location. An overview of recent correspondence was given which included some positive feedback has been received about feeling like traffic levels are lower around the school. Some feel not enough consultation was done or that money could have been spend on pot holes or social services. Martyn explained that the money was awarded for the project from the Scottish Government and could not be used for other purposes. Still receiving reports that signage is confusing. Martyn Lings advised that signage has been added and there will be a refresh along with road markings being adjusted to address concerns. Daisy Narayanan met with representatives from ACE and LTC following deputations which were submitted to the Transport and Environment committee.

There have been further issues with vandalism of the bus gate camera. Footage has been shared with Police. The camera will be fixed and operating again in due course.

It was queried whether a stage 3 safety audit had been completed. Martyn Lings confirmed that it had been commissioned some time ago and the report would be shared when it is available. Concerns were voiced about safety at the Manse Road junction along with the legality and timings of when the safety audit was undertaken. Further concerns were raised regarding cyclists on pavements. Martyn advised that the safety audit covers pavements and roads.

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It was noted that it was good to see pavement widening on the High Street but how would pavement parking be prevented. Martyn Lings advised that it was hoped that bollards would not be necessary as they reduce pavement width but if needed, it can be looked at. There will be some bollards in place around the school.

Shock was expressed that £100k of fines had been issued. It was added that some people were now executing 'u turns' to get around bollards at Featherhall.

An improved maintenance programme has now been agreed with the contractor for planters. Many thanks to residents who have helped to look after the planters to date. It was queried whether there was any way to improve the hanging baskets. Martyn Lings agreed they should definitely be improved for next year and apologised that the first attempt wasn't successful.

The project is still in the trial period so please continue to feedback to Edinburgh.Consultation@projectcentre.co.uk

Business & Licensing – Angela Benzies

- Corstorphine Business have done some reorganisation and are looking at calendar for the year.
- If any businesses in the Community want to highlight services and activities they provide, [Forever Edinburgh](#) are happy to feature on their website.
- Will be helping with the Christmas Support Project again this year.
- Open invitation to engage with business champions team.

Councillors Reports

Cllr Thornley (provided by email)

- Maybury Rd/Craigs Rd junction – efforts to secure clarity for residents on this continue. So far we do not have a confirmed start date for the works. Questions to the Transport Convener on the subject were answered with 'soon'.
- Maybury Road speed signs – the Northbound carriageway sign is broken and has been reported.
- Glasgow Road traffic lights – there have been a few instances lately of the traffic lights at the pedestrian crossing outside St Thomas' breaking. This has happened a few times and I'm working to get to the bottom of why.
- Duart Crescent Post Office – has now closed, but the Post Office say they are looking into relocation options so that the area will have a service – similar to the one from St John's Road now moving to Broomhall. **Action: Vikki Brown to contact Cllr Thornley to ascertain reason for closure.**

Cllr Beal

- Noted that most correspondence received about LTN was negative and people are against it as it stands.
- Meadowplace Road has been resurfaced.
- Problems on St Ninians Road – bin lorry getting stuck due to parked vehicles. Issues with rat running.
- Weeds – following up.

Community Engagement

- It was asked if there had been any progress with replacement noticeboards or community use of McTaggart & Mickel site. Steve Kerr confirmed that there was no update but have been asking. Frank Ross added that when EDI were developing the site at Fountainbridge they donated planters for a community garden. The site could be used for multiple purposes. Chris Young noted that some of the hoarding around the site had broken away and looked dangerous. **Action: Steve Kerr to contact McTaggart & Mickel to advise and seek progress on outstanding items.**
- It was suggested that it would be useful to have more paper copies of minutes available around the area along with Twitter prompts when minutes are available. **Action: Vikki Brown to investigate suitable locations.**
- Corstorphine Christmas Support Project – all volunteers welcome. 7 out of 8 schools have signed up for this year. Any help would be gratefully received. If your street has a WhatsApp group or similar, please help to promote and consider doing a street collection. Will be looking for donations of food and household items. Tommy McLean asked if the Community Council would be available to support with finance, donations and volunteers. Steve Kerr advised that donations and volunteers would be as given. Generous donation given from the West Neighbourhood Network. May also

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be possible to be put in contact with Cala as they have been in touch regarding their 'Community Pledge' as part of their commitment when building housing in the area.

- Ian Kirkpatrick advised that St Ninians church will be giving hampers to refugee children this Christmas.

AOB

Community Council boundary review. Formal consultation will take place in October. Current boundary is too large and going to get even larger with all development to the west.

Overgrown hedges – is there any legislation which can help to address the issue? Cllr Beal advised that he believed that an overhang can be 10 inches before can take action but would check. Frank Ross advised that he believed many people have stopped reporting due to a lack of action being taken. If anyone has been experiencing issues, please contact Cllr Beal so that he has evidence and can progress the issue.

It was asked if there was still a plan to return to in person meetings? Steve Kerr advised that being online allows Council officers and other guests to attend regularly. Had been hoping for Police attendance but they had been drafted to other duties this month. Hope to have attendance at the October meeting.

Meeting ended at 20.35. The next meeting will take place Tuesday 24th October (postponed by one week due to school holidays).