

LIBERTON MATTERS

Liberton &
District
Community
Council

The Liberton & District
Community Council
Newsletter

**SUMMER 2019,
ISSUE 8**

Welcome

by Bill Krol, Chair of LDCC

Welcome to the Summer 2019 Newsletter of the Liberton & District Community Council (LDCC). **Our area comprises Liberton and the wider district.** Each edition of this newsletter is distributed to the houses in one part of the district as well as locations across the district and on our website. This time we are distributing in Gracemount.

The Community Council is non-political and has places for 18 members, 12 of whom are elected and 6 members who are representatives of local groups, for example Friends of Seven Acre Park. The **purpose of LDCC** is to 'express to the local authority the views of the community'. This requires community councils to 'engage widely with their local communities' and 'take action in the interests of the community.' LDCC is consulted on local planning applications and takes an interest in government development plans for South East Scotland and Edinburgh as they affect our local community.

This will be the last Newsletter of the current Community Council with **new members being elected in October.** The City of Edinburgh Council will provide details of this election process soon. If you are interested in nudging forward improvements to our area along with our local councillors, MSPs and MP please consider standing for election - new faces both young and old would be welcomed.

We would love to hear from you and this year we are holding **public meetings** approximately every two months on the last Monday. All residents of the community council area are very **welcome to attend.** Meetings are held at 7 pm in Liberton Kirk Halls and the next **dates** are: 26th August and 30th September 2019.

If you would like to receive more information from the LDCC you can join our **mailing list:** <http://eepurl.com/cS1AHT> and keep up to date on **twitter:** @LibertonDCC

Residents can also contact the LDCC via **email:** mail@libertondistrict.org.uk and by **post** at Liberton Kirk Halls.

Our **website** is a great source of local information: www.libertondistrict.org.uk.



Liberton Gilmerton Neighbourhood Network

by Amy Pickering, Vice-Chair of LDCC

The City of Edinburgh Council have developed four Neighbourhood Networks in the South East locality and one is for the Liberton Gilmerton area. The networks are part of the city's new Community Planning Partnership. They are an **opportunity for local people**, community groups and organisations to come together **to identify outcomes for community planning**. By working together, and with other service providers, the networks aim to make communities better places to live and improve the quality of life for those who live there.

If you are **interested in joining** or being added to the mailing list then please email Andrew Gallacher via andrew.gallacher@edinburgh.gov.uk

My Gracemount Project - not just Gracemount!

by Bill Krol, Chair of LDCC

Plans are in place for **future investment** in Gracemount and the surrounding area - including the replacement of St Katherine's Primary School and St. Crispins. During May, the University of Edinburgh, on behalf of the Council, carried out activities to learn the views of residents, and service users, on how existing buildings are used and how these services are delivered.

The council wishes to know:

Can we make our buildings work harder for you? What works well now and what could change? Are there some buildings that we no longer need?

Data gathering activities included exhibitions, drop-ins, workshops, interviews in the street and in local schools. There is also an **online survey** and a photographic competition! The Council will use the data gathered to develop proposals for further discussion. It hopes 'to find a solution that best meets Gracemount's needs – both now and in the future'

More information on the project, and the online survey, can be found at: tiny.cc/myGracemount



SESPlan2 Rejected

by Jim Henry, Member of LDCC

The Scottish Government has rejected SESPlan2. This was to replace the current strategic plan (SESPlan (1)), which sets the housing requirements for Edinburgh and **identifies the areas where new development should take place**. The Scottish Government considered SESPlan2 was **not based on a sufficiently robust transportation assessment**. The City of Edinburgh Council will now progress the City Plan 2030 to replace the current Adopted Local Development Plan (ALDP) guided by SESPlan (1) which remains valid until 2032.

City Plan 2030 will identify sites to meet housing needs beyond the ALDP. Consultation on City Plan 2030 will start later this year.

In the Planning Pipeline: Developers are expected to progress an application for housing south of Frogston Road, south of Mortonhall and the Klondyke Garden Centre soon and we know of interest in land at the western edge of Liberton (Liberton Drive).

Good's Corner has a New Face

by Peter Schwarz, first Secretary of LDCC in 2001

The drawing of Good's Corner is from *Craigmillar and its Environs*, a charming book (1892) by Tom Speedy who came here as a gamekeeper to the Gilmours at Inch House. His book has drawings of local wildlife and much more. There is a link to a facsimile on the Planning page of our website.

Good was a local joiner, as can be seen from the timbers projecting from the building. The site, now revived as student accommodation, was an eyesore for many years.

Liberton Kirk, rebuilt in 1815, can be seen in the background.



Current Concerns of the Community Council

by Graeme Forbes, Secretary & Treasurer of LDCC

Whilst much has been achieved during the past year, LDCC continues to pursue resolutions to several issues of concern to residents. These include:

- The reinstatement of the bus stop on Liberton Road beside the new flats;
- Measures to tackle anti-social bike riders in the Gracemount area;
- Safety of pedestrians outside the Margiotta's store on Lasswade Road;
- The establishment of a pedestrian crossing at the northern end of Lasswade Road;
- Improved traffic control at the Liberton Brae / Mayfield Road junction;
- The future of Gracemount Mansion;
- Planned and potential developments at Mayfield Road, Alnwickhill, and Frogston Road;
- The impact of new housing developments on local services and traffic congestion.

If you have any concerns to add to this list please contact the LDCC or attend one of our public meetings.

New Community Council Members Needed

Elections of the Community Council take place every three years. 2019 is an election year.

The nomination deadline is 30th September 2019.

Local residents of all ages are strongly encouraged to stand for election. **Nomination and election instructions can be accessed here:** tiny.cc/CCElections

Please let us know if you standing in the elections by emailing:
mail@libertondistrict.org.uk