

TRINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DECEMBER NEWS BULLETIN



TCC met on 8 December. Here are the highlights:

CRIME

Housebreakings are up again - 12 thefts from houses and 10 from sheds/garages. Worst affected are the Bangholms, Craighall Rd and the Dudleys. Police urge residents to be vigilant about their own and other people's security and are pleased that many are reporting suspicious activity. If a housebreaking looks imminent, you should call 999 rather than 101. Thieves look for tell-tale signs that a house contains what they are looking for e.g. a car with bike rack suggests bikes in the house. Increased police patrols will continue until after Christmas when the problem is expected to subside.

EDINBURGH CITY BUDGET PROPOSALS 2015-18

Cllr Cammy Day of the ruling coalition outlined how savings of 2.1% are sought for 2015/16 rising to 6% by 2017/18. Because Children & Families and Health & Social Care are partly protected, the biggest savings are proposed from Services for Communities where a 7% saving is sought in 2015/16. CEC is consulting on their proposals and have received 1,500 responses – mostly about plans to raise allotment fees.

We have broad concerns that:

- 1 The nature of the consultation provides insufficient financial or statistical information to provide the context needed for people to make an informed response.
- 2 There should be more focus on delivering the same services more efficiently rather than (as the proposals often suggest) reducing service in order to lower costs. Achieving 2% efficiency improvements year-on-year should be achievable without cutting delivery.

Some points concerning detail:

- Reducing City Car Club use seems like a backward step especially for North Edinburgh where we believe every possible tool to contain traffic growth will be needed.
- If painting white lines on playing fields, cutting grass in parks etc needs reduced then voluntary/user groups may be prepared to help but that will require greater flexibility from CEC.
- Closure of public toilets outside the city centre is disappointing when various residents have argued that there is a growing need for new/refurbished toilets in Starbank and Victoria Parks.

TCC intends to submit a formal response on this subject. Do you have any views you'd like us to take account of?

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD...

CEC intend undertaking a BOLD (Better Outcomes through Leaner Delivery) exercise. This will take a more radical look at council structures (incl at the Neighbourhood Partnership level) to deliver services. We will be engaging with this.

20MPH CONSULTATION

Following discussion with residents (whose research was very informative) we welcome the proposal to introduce a 20mph limit on Lower Granton Rd from Granton Square to Craighall Rd. Ferry Rd from Newhaven Rd to Great Junction St will also become 20mph. It is understood that Granton Rd, Craighall Rd and Newhaven Rd will remain at 30mph with the rest of Trinity at 20mph. As ever, the key will be proper enforcement!

EAST TRINITY ROAD

CEC officials have undertaken a further traffic survey of traffic in East Trinity Road. We are seeking a meeting to discuss the results. The next step is likely to be further public consultation.

PARKING

Problems with parking in Wardie Rd has raised the possibility of introducing Priority Parking for the area from Ferry Rd to East Trinity Rd and from Granton Rd to the Goldenacre Footpath. As there will be a cost to residents not everyone will be enthusiastic. We will undertake a survey of your views in 2015.

TRAFFIC GENERALLY

We remain concerned that disconnected proposals are popping up without a coherent framework and that local problems will simply be displaced. The issue of traffic and transport across North Edinburgh needs considered as a whole through a proper review of the now outdated North Edinburgh Transport Plan. North Edinburgh is the only part of the city where no transport review was undertaken for the Local Development Plan despite hosting a high proportion of planned housing development.

CONTACT IN THE CAPITAL

The next issue of North Edinburgh News is hitting the streets now. Distribution will include Ferryfield and Rose Park with some copies being stocked at Leith Library, St Serf's, Wardie Church and Lomond Park Bowling Club. If you get a copy, please let us know what you think.

PROPOSED SAINSBURY'S LOCAL IN CRAIGHALL RD

We are advised that this application will be heard again by CEC Planning Committee on 17 December.

PARKS

CEC are considering restoration work on the statue of Edward VII in Victoria Park.

Feedback from the drop-in session on proposals to turn the third bowling green in Victoria Park into allotments was favourable and allotments will now likely be allocated 50:50 to people on the waiting list and local residents.

Current work on the tennis and basketball courts is near complete. A permanent surface will be laid in the Spring.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12 January at 7pm in St Serfs Church Hall, Clark Road.

Did you find this useful or informative? If so, why not show it to a neighbour? Anyone in Trinity can subscribe to the bulletin simply by emailing tcc-comms@outlook.com Or drop us a line and tell us what you think could be better.