TRINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER UPDATE

20 folk attended TCC on 9th November. Here's an update.....

GO FOR GOLD! (OR MAYBE GREEN?)

Congratulations to Starbank Park which has won bronze position in Keep Scotland Beautiful's 2015 "Favourite Park" public vote! To go from the tired place it was just a couple of years ago to this accolade is in no small measure due to the volunteers of the Friends of Starbank Park who have piled in to bring it back to life. Well done to all the volunteers!

VICTORIA PARK WANTS YOU AS A FRIEND!

Our biggest park too has improved over the years - establishing allotments and upgrading the sports area have both made a big difference recently. It would now seem a good time to build on this progress by establishing a Friends of Victoria Park. A meeting to bring together everyone interested in setting up this group has been arranged for 7.30pm on Tuesday 8 December at Trinity Academy.

Please do come along. Mince pies and coffee are also planned!

A GREENER GENERATION

Green-fingered eco-warriors at <u>Bonnington House Nursery</u> in Trinity have been awarded the <u>Eco-School</u> 'Green Flag'. The Award, managed by Keep Scotland Beautiful, is an international initiative to encourage whole-school action on sustainability.

A requirement is for the children themselves to be fully involved through the Eco committee which drives the work of the Eco Group – obviously a harder task for nurseries than for school-age children.

Youngsters and staff worked green fingers to the bone over the past 3 years to meet tough criteria needed to take them from bronze to the full award. Efforts paid off earlier this year through projects like –

- organising litter picks around the nursery and Victoria Park
- educating through Changeworks about recycling and re-use
- undertaking a significant change to the nursery recycling
- building a forest nursery to learn about woodland
- making allotments for fruit trees/vegetables to cook in the nursery
- creating habitats for birds, insects and wildlife in the garden
- creating a 'natural play space' with willow tunnels, shelters, and wooden decking for climbing and balancing, and quiet areas
- creating a "natural" river bank for the nursery's water play area
- making a 'Bottle Greenhouse' from recycled bottles

Bonnington House children and staff should be rightly proud of their achievements. Another Well Done!

GOLDENACRE PLANTERS

Looks like RBS might sponsor planter(s) to brighten up the junction after all! But we still need local volunteers to help with day to day maintenance. Would you be interested? Do get in touch.

DENHAM GREEN PAVEMENTS & LIGHTING

A positive site meeting was held with a CEC Lighting Department official when a route forward was agreed to tackle dark patches in conjunction with pavement improvements. Watch this space!



Eco-warriors from Bonnington House Nursery show off their new Green Flag.



'TIS THE SEASON - TO STAY SAFE AND SECURE!

Bonfire night passed off relatively trouble-free. Police offer the following reminders to keep it that way over Christmas -

- 1. Thieves know that over Christmas there will be high value presents and more cash in homes than normal. Keep your house secure lock all windows and doors. Don't leave gifts in view from windows and keep cash at home to a minimum.
- 2. If you're going away for Christmas, remember to lock all windows and doors, set your alarm, use timers on lights, cancel any deliveries and ask a trusted neighbour or friend to keep an eye out while you're away.
- 3. Stone chips on paths make a better crime prevention device than paving slabs. So do vibration sensors on conservatories.
- 4. Protect gifts you've bought for friends/family by having them register mobiles, tablets, laptops and cameras at www.immobilise.com Don't give a good quality bike without a good quality lock and register bikes at www.BikeRegister.com
- 5. If shopping online, ensure your browser and Internet security are up to date. Before entering card details, check the website payment page is secure ("https" or padlock in address line).
- 6. Be careful what you/your children say on social networking sites don't let thieves know when your home will be empty.

Contact PC Hall <u>Sarah.hall@scotland.pnn.police.uk</u> or PC Lawrence <u>Anthony.lawrence@scotland.pnn.police.uk</u> for further advice.

CITY OF EDINBURGH BUDGET

We will be discussing the City's proposals at a future meeting.

Drop us an email or express your thoughts directly at <a href="http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20254/our future council/1356/providing feedback on the council/1356/providing feedback on

<u>the 2016-20 proposals</u>
Also still time to attend the Question Time event on 23 November

but you'll need to register by 19 November at http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20254/our-future-council/1382/budget-que

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144 NEWHAVEN ROAD SECOND HAND CAR DEALING

Based on an argument that trading will be minimal and create no nuisance to local residents (indeed is supported by some) and despite our repeated objections to granting a licence, the Licensing Subcommittee has agreed to a site visit before reaching a decision. We are not sure what this will achieve given that nothing has changed since the last application was rejected by the Committee in 2013. Do you live nearby? Send us your view.

TRAM EXTENSION TO LEITH & NEWHAVEN

Last week's CEC report estimating £144m to extend the tram to Newhaven will be discussed by councillors this week. Looks like it might be a tight decision but Labour are speaking of compromise rather than risking the coalition with SNP. We don't know what that means but remain keen that transport in North Edinburgh be reviewed in an integrated way.

Much more at our next meeting on Monday 14 December - 7 pm in <u>Wardie Parish Church, Primrose Bank Road</u>. Open to all. Come along and speak up, or just listen. Or contact your local community councillor. We need to know your thoughts so that we can represent them!