TRINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DECEMBER UPDATE

TCC on 14th December. Here are the main points -

CRIME DOWN BUT.....

While there have been a few house break-ins this month, numbers are down on last year. Police believe this is because several known perpetrators are behind bars or subject to curfew arrangements.

But statistics are no comfort if your house is broken into – so take all reasonable precautions including those in Police Scotland's leaflets. If you have an alarm make sure its switched on and if you would like to be kept fully up to date with real time Police alerts sign up here.

A notable trend has been to break into houses in order to steal the owner's car rather than the house contents. This is likely done to order so take extra care about where you leave your car keys.

Just outside our area, 2 people were arrested after an altercation on Ferry Road while investigations into an attack at Steadfastgate are ongoing. If you're at all worried about being on the street in the dark evenings you might wish to purchase a personal alarm as a useful deterrent. A possible stocking filler at roughly £5!

MAKE FRIENDS WITH VICTORIA PARK

The meeting this month to set up a FoVP group was well attended with presentations on what was involved and what the potential might be. After an enthusiastic and lively Q&A, a number of people volunteered for a Steering Group to complete the formalities of forming the new Friends Group. A further public meeting, probably in February, will sign this off, whereupon all interested can then become Friends of Victoria Park. (Still time to join!) This is really encouraging - 2016 looks like being a great year for Victoria Park!

TRINITY ACADEMY STUDENTS COUNCIL

TCC had a further meeting with TASC which again proved lively with the students themselves eager to raise points. Included:

- lack of litter bins in Victoria Park and on the pathway between Newhaven Road and the school,
- existing bins not being emptied sufficiently frequently
- safety on the Walkway, especially after dark,
- occasional motor/quad bike on the Walkway, (call 999 as these have almost always been stolen)
- enthusiasm for the new tennis courts in Victoria Park
- interest in engaging with a Friends of Victoria Park group.
- agreement to run a competition for the design of a logo for TCC.

We will be pursuing many of these points with CEC and look forward to a continuing constructive relationship with TASC in 2016.

GOLDENACRE PLANTERS

Discussions continue concerning the placing of planters outside the old RBS branch at Goldenacre.



SECOND HAND CAR DEALING - 144 NEWHAVEN ROAD

Far less encouraging, two meetings of the Licensing Sub Committee heard but dismissed the arguments from objectors (incl TCC). We are deeply unhappy about how the process has been conducted which has felt very one sided including keeping (unpaid) objectors waiting for several hours and only token notice of a site visit. A licence has been granted with conditions, similar to those attached to the 6 months temporary licence in 2012/13.

We are concerned about the implications for a conservation area and that an unfortunate precedent has been set. We believe that planning permission may also be necessary in this case and will be discussing the matter with local residents before deciding whether to pursue this point.

EDINBURGH ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS

This body represents all of Edinburgh's 45 community councils and should fill important roles in encouraging best practice and projecting a common voice to CEC on shared concerns. A new Constitution is being developed and a new Chair (Eric Dobbie) and Secretary (David Bewsey) elected. We look forward to working with Eric and David to help them fulfil this crucial role.

DENHAM GREEN

After discussions with CEC officials, trees have now been trimmed and, hopefully by the time you are reading this, the damaged streetlight at the north end of Denham Green Place will be back in operation. Further work on these lights and the pavements is planned for 2016.

LOWER GRANTON ROAD

Run by <u>Sustrans</u> under the auspices of CEC, a walkabout and two workshops were held this month to discuss how LGR and its immediate surrounds might be improved and made safer. Various suggestions were floated which will hopefully enable some improvements to be designed.

While supportive of this initiative, we highlighted to the CEC officials present that there is a wider and deteriorating east-west traffic problem in North Edinburgh and reminded them of <u>previous council studies</u> which could usefully be revived. Unfortunately we still have no word of any activity to review the 2008 North Edinburgh Traffic Plan.



Much more at our next meeting on Monday 11 January at 7 pm in <u>Wardie Parish Church, Primrose Bank Road</u>. Open to all. Come along and give us your thoughts. Or contact a <u>Community Councillor</u>. We need to know your views so that we can represent them!