

Secretary's Report

Over the last few months I have attended Community Council Support Sessions on Planning, Communications, Social Media, Introduction to Planning, a themed planning session, and session on the workings of the City of Edinburgh Council and how to make representation to various Council Committees. I will be attending another session on planning later in February.

Maintaining the website and social media takes up quite a bit of time but helps to share information in a timely manner.

In additions to my Colinton CC secretarial duties I maintain the community council website Twitter feed and Facebook page as well as creating the regular E-Newsletter and update the library folder before and after each meeting. I am on the Planning and Environment groups.

As nominated representative to the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC) in attend their meetings. At their Annual General Meeting on 28th November 2015, I was elected to the post of Secretary. The EACC has been fairly inactive for some time due to the lack of a Secretary. They are now setting out a programme of talks by key Council personnel to further explain the transformation programme being carried out over the next few months. The EACC represents Edinburgh Community Councils on the Edinburgh Partnership. This body has representatives from many organisations in addition to the EACC. These are the Neighbourhood Partnerships, Police Scotland, NHS Lothian, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, Scottish Enterprise, Edinburgh College and universities in the city, Skills Development Scotland, Armed forces based in Edinburgh, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations' Council, South East of Scotland Transport Partnership as well as the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils

I will be working on a section on this for the website in due course. This will explain the full democratic structure from the community up to the City of Edinburgh Council.

David Bewsey
Secretary

Communications Report

Routine communications activity continues as usual, using the familiar picture/caption format. The "Tell us what you think" approach, mentioned in November, is now in place and links directly with some re-formatting of the web site.

The art project feasibility study continues, with a report anticipated by March/April. For information, CEC contractors will be undertaking structural works in the railway tunnel for at least six weeks from 8th February, though public access will be retained.

The Communications sub-group proposes to purchase banners and commission new leaflets to support plans for "pop-up" stalls in Tesco and at village venues. Funding bids will be required.

Bonaly Primary School Parent Council kindly circulated information about CCC to parents. The Chair of Colinton Primary (with agreement from the Acting HT) has been approached to do the same.

All communications activity is aimed at increasing our email contact with residents and encouraging them to use our website. Registrations for our e-newsletter continue to increase, as does website use, though the latter is also influenced directly by village issues. Twitter and Facebook activity is also developing well.

Mike Scott
Communications Convenor