

**Grange/Prestonfield Community Council
Planning Report – March 2011**

55 Mayfield Road (former BoS Branch) - application 11/00021/FUL – change of use

This application to change the use of the premises to a shop with a flat at the rear was approved on 1 March.

15 Mayfield Gardens – application 11/00035/FUL – rear extension

This proposal for a substantial extension at the rear of this property was approved on 4 March after revised drawings were submitted which to some extent reduced the visual impact of the scheme, which lies within the Waverley Park Conservation Area.

18 St. Alban's Road – application 11/00491/FUL – car parking space in front garden

This proposal would involve the demolition of the low front boundary wall and loss of planting and soft landscaping in a small front garden to create a parking space for one car. The property is within the Grange Conservation Area, there is no nearby preponderance of front garden car parking areas and the parking space appears to exceed the Guideline stipulation as a proportion of the front garden area. Therefore it is suggested that an objection be submitted to this scheme, the closing date being 25 March.

3 Craigmillar Park (Ben Craig Guesthouse) – application 11/00714/FUL - extensions

Building on an earlier approval for extensions (09/00709/FUL), which has not been implemented, this application is for additional bedroom accommodation to the rear and in two wings on either side of the existing villa. Some previous applications for this property have been controversial and these new proposals will need to be carefully examined to see how they conform to the Local Plan and Planning Guidance. The closing date for comments is 8 April.

The former St. Margaret's School Buildings

The funding appeal by the organisers of the Iqra Academy to purchase Buchanan House has been further extended to the end of March. Recently “under offer” signs were placed on all the East Suffolk Road former school buildings, from which it may be assumed that there may have been some pre- application activity by potential developers, but no planning applications have yet been submitted. Nothing further is known about what is happening to the former nursery school St. Hilary's House in Craigmillar Park.

Edinburgh University – King's Buildings Public Realm & Landscape Strategy

The outcome of a consultation with students & staff at the end of 2010 and an exhibition at the campus was reported to the CEC Planning Committee on 24 February. A key proposal is a new campus gateway for cyclists & pedestrians at the Mayfield Road/West Mains Road junction facilitating access to the Quality Bike Corridor. (We have already asked to be kept informed by CEC Transport of proposals affecting cyclists and pedestrians at this junction.) The Strategy might have benefited from consultation with the wider community, but Andreas commented as both staff and GPCC member.

Edinburgh Local Development Plan (LDP)

A progress report on this was submitted also to the February CEC Planning Committee. The LDP will replace the two Edinburgh Local Plans, the Edinburgh City Local Plan and the Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan, with a Main Issues Report being published and consulted on from October to December 2011.

Tony Harris