

**Grange Prestonfield Community Council
Chair's Report, February 2012**

Roads and Transport

QBC: Junction at West Mains Road

This is dealt with as a separate agenda item. We have arranged a meeting of office-bearers with CEC's Cycling Officer and an up-date will be given at the meeting.

QBC: Additional signs

At the suggestion of Cllr Gordon Mackenzie and with the prompt assistance of CEC Roads Department, we applied to Cycling Scotland for additional signage from the Quality Bike Corridor to the radial east and west routes. Unfortunately we were not successful with this application.

20 mph Signs

CEC Roads Department have been successful in applying to the Scottish Government to relax the regulations on the signs required. For instance, they can use only one gateway sign for junctions which are less than or equal to 6 ms in width, i.e. those in the Blackets.

"The designers are mindful of the concerns associated with signage clutter, and will do all they can to mitigate the quantities of signs and poles, utilising existing columns where appropriate. It should be understood, however, that many signs in existence are regulatory signs, and therefore will need to remain."

Letters have recently been distributed across the pilot area telling of sign installation dates, and launch details. Details can be viewed on http://www.streetsaheadedinburgh.org.uk/news/article/9/20mph_limit_for_south_central_edinburgh

We have received a TRO dated 10/2/2012 (see circulation folder) saying that it is proposed to remove several culs-de-sac (where speeds cannot exceed 20mph) from the 20mph area in order to minimize signage. Formal consultation will be later but in the meantime we can comment on this suggestion. As we have always supported keeping signs to a minimum it is suggested that we support this suggestion.

Library Consultation

This consultation was drawn to our attention by a local resident. It contains a proposal to cut Sunday opening at Newington Library and five other libraries where this was offered. "In line with service demand, Saturday opening will be extended across the city and Sunday opening (currently 1-5 pm) will no longer be available in the six libraries which offer this. Thursday opening will also be affected." Hours at Newington will be 10.00 - 20.00 Monday - Wednesday and 10.00 - 17.00 Thursday to Saturday.

While the consultation is now officially closed it should be possible for us to take a view on this subject and inform the Libraries Department.

Pharmacy on Dalkeith Road

Mr Yousaf has written saying he intends to reapply to open a pharmacy on Dalkeith Road. Unfortunately he has lost the premises at no. 158 but is negotiating for those at 218. He has done much more research into the issues that should be addressed in an application; has gathered over 600 signatures of support; and has gained the support of Jim Eadie MSP. Letters of complaint have been submitted to NHS Lothian and Mr Yousaf has ascertained how many prescriptions were previously dispensed, showing the viability of the business.

He has asked that we reiterate our support for the reopening of a pharmacy on Dalkeith Road.

Green Space

Newington Cemetery: We have been told by a senior officer in the Parks Department that a census of all the trees in the cemetery should have been completed by the cemetery team. They would be happy to work with us on any proposals we might have for the cemetery and we should first contact Mike Shields. TH will report verbally on recent discussions about the Nature strips, including with CPA members.

Neighbourhood Partnership Matters

We currently have no representative on the NP's Housing Area Board. We are seeking nominations for this.

John Palmer
Chair