

Secretary's Report – March 2013

Correspondence - see Circulation folder (includes)

- “Roads Capital programme” – Selection meeting details
- Free Public Seminar – “What kind of Scotland do we want to live in?”
- Voluntary Action Fund’s new grant programmes
- Evening News article about possible closure of Strathearn Road Delivery Office.
- Review of Neighbourhood Partnerships

Neighbourhood Partnerships. A review of the NPs is being carried out by CEC. A survey questionnaire is available at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/MM262F5> until 2nd April. A further stakeholder session is being held on Tuesday 26th March . To register to attend – contact ST.

Environment and Town Centre Forum – Monday February 28th (attended by ST)

The two items relevant to GPCC are:

- **Rose Garden.** Douglas Dalgleish (SARA) is a member of this Forum and members of SARA have been active in maintaining the garden. Various points were raised including the comment that the bark chippings make dog dirt harder to identify. Since then, the bark has been replaced with grit and one half of the entrance gate has been padlocked open (the idea being to prevent owners allowing their dogs to run free). David Doig (CEC Environment Manager) promised to arrange a meeting with all interested parties in late March. He hasn’t been able to arrange this yet, due to leave and then dealing with the snow! He has promised to contact us again in 2-3 weeks.
- **SCNP Roads Capital Programme Selection Meeting – Thursday April 11th.** The meeting discussed the makeup of the Selection panel and felt that there should be more community reps than suggested. This was agreed (see circulation file).
- This programme allows communities to submit small projects, not included in the CEC Roads programme, for repairs etc. GPCC submitted 5 proposals. The meeting to choose which projects are selected for 2013/14 will take place on Thursday April 11th at 7pm. ST will be on the panel (as a member of the Environment and Town Centre Environment Forum) – GPCC can also have another member – to be chosen at this meeting.

AAH Reorganisation. See Planning Report.

Strathearn Road Sorting Office – possible closure. We now understand that moving the Sorting Office to 5 Bridge End is unlikely to happen and that any move would be to Slateford. There was an article about this in the Evening News recently. A suggestion (from a local resident) to help the parking problems at Strathearn Road was to ask the City Council to reserve some on street spaces for Royal Mail vehicle use. Should GPCC raise this possibility?

Food Waste Bins. The Food Waste Recycling service is being expanded with large on-street bins being delivered to areas currently without such bins. The smaller bins will also be

delivered to properties which have not yet received bins. The first weekly collections for Southside Newington are provisionally planned for the week beginning 29th April. All properties will receive a small kitchen caddy with instructions on how to use the service.

Dates of Future Meetings – which may be of interest (see Circulation file or ask ST)

Thursday 21st March 7pm – Seminar “What kind of Scotland do we want to live in”

Saturday 23rd March 8.30pm – Earth Hour

Tuesday 26th March 6-9pm – Review of Neighbourhood Partnerships.

Tuesday 2nd April 7pm – Plans for former Odeon Cinema

Thursday 11th April 7pm – “SCNP Roads Capital Programme” Selection meeting

Friday 12th April 9.30am or 1.30pm – Roadshow on Voluntary Action Fund’s grants.

Wednesday 17th April – GPCC meeting

Monday 22nd April – SCNP Meeting

Wednesday 15th May – GPCC meeting (AGM postponed until the autumn)

Wednesday 5th June – Presentation of plans for REH

Monday 10th June – Town Centre and Environment Forum

Wednesday 19th June – GPCC meeting

Tuesday 25th June – Civic Forum

Monday 2nd September – SCNP Meeting

Thursday 5th September – Meeting of CC reps with NHS Lothian

Wednesday 18th September – GPCC meeting

Sue Tritton