



CRAIGMILLAR PARK
ASSOCIATION
Registered Scottish Charity No. SCO2729
~ NEWSLETTER ~

Issue 22

Spring/Summer 2013

CAUSE OR EFFECT?

A late spring coincides with a late issue of this Newsletter so does one cause the other and if so which way round? Whilst you ponder the deeper significance of this, let me remind you that at the AGM Merrilie said she is definitely giving up so we do need help with the Newsletter and publicity to burnish our image and tell you all what we do. Don't leave it to someone else, please step forward.

The AGM seems a long time ago now, but we had a good discussion on recycling and I think we all learned something and perhaps, too, gave the CEC speaker something to think about. Ideas for topics or speakers for the 2013 AGM would now be welcome – even offers to give a talk - we must have some home grown hidden talent!

It has been fairly quiet on planning applications locally in recent months, although application numbers generally in Edinburgh stay much the same. Just outside our area at 31 Liberton Road (the old Shell Garage site), McCarthy & Stone were granted planning permission in March for 48 one and two bedroom apartments for people of retirement age. Also earlier in the New Year building work finished on converting the former St Margaret's School buildings on the north side of East Suffolk Road into a care home and this is now in use. Some of us attended Open Days at the invitation of Four Seasons Care Homes and I think we were all impressed by the high standard of the facilities on offer. These converted school buildings are now an asset to the area.

In the last issue I mentioned that the CEC planning department had been consulting on redrafted and consolidated

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non-statutory planning guidance and since then documents have been approved covering Businesses, Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas and Guidance for Householders. A further draft document “Edinburgh Design Guidance” was also issued for consultation and just before Christmas CPA committee members, representatives from our neighbouring associations and the Community Council met together to look at it and prepare comments. This was a good collaborative effort and I think we all benefited from different ideas and approaches. We hope our comments have influenced the finalised version of this Guidance which is being reported to CEC Planning Committee during May.

The draft Local Development Plan for Edinburgh has now been published, which when finalised and approved will replace the two existing Edinburgh Local Plans. The public consultation on this draft runs from 1st May until 14th June and the Committee will be looking at it to see what comments we should make. The documents can also be accessed via www.edinburgh.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan and all views from members welcome as always.

Recently CEC has been consulting on a new Local Transport Strategy for Edinburgh and the Community Council submitted comprehensive comments, which are attached to the minutes of its 20th March 2013 meeting accessed via www.grangeprestonfieldcc.org.uk.

Finally many of you will know that following consultation a Residents Priority Parking Scheme is being promoted for our area south of the railway and to the east of Mayfield Road, similar to that just to the north of the railway which is now in its second year of operation. Final arrangements are we understand being worked out to give residents south of the railway an opportunity to look at the detailed drawings of the scheme.

Whether or not CPA influences the seasons, let us hope we all have a good summer.

Tony Harris, Secretary

S O M E U S E F U L C O N T A C T S

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justask@edinburgh.gov.uk

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/contact

South Central Neighbourhood

Partnership. SFC South

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[pnn.police.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/libraries/newington/newington.html)

Local Library

[http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/libraries/newington/newington.html)

[libraries/newington/newington.html](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/libraries/newington/newington.html)

Clarence: 0800 232323

Clarence@edinburgh.gov.uk

GAS - Emergency: 0800 111 999

NHS 24 Help: 08454 24 24 24

Information: 0800 22 44 88 (8am to 10pm, 7 days)

AA: 0845 769 7555

Keep an eye on our website, which will be updated soon. It will inform you of what is going on in the area. Get in touch if there is anything that you think we should know about or if you require our help. That is what we are here for!

www.craigmillar-park.co.uk

Financial report



Funds held in the bank

at 15 March 2013 are **£4,397.02.**



Thank you for your continued support.

Mark Probert, Treasurer

FLEXIBLE BENEFITS

Wouldn't it be great if we could predict the weather? I mean, a bit more accurately - and further ahead than we can at the moment. Last year was the second wettest year on record for the UK (though only the 17th wettest in Scotland). March this year was the coldest since 1962 and March last year the warmest since 1957.

A bit of advance notice would enable us to import the right amount of salt for our roads and enable us to devote more autumn resources to clearing leaves to prevent drains clogging during a wet winter. On a recent week end out of Edinburgh I buried a couple of lambs for a shepherd who told me of flocks which had lost 30-40% of their total number this Spring. A reliable long term forecast would have helped prevent that attrition rate.

In many areas we are increasing in control of our lives and environment. Longevity steadily increases, cars become more reliable and we have reduced noxious emissions from vehicles. Yet in 2000, the unfortunate David Viner of the Climatic Research Unit in East Anglia predicted that in a few years winter snowfalls would become a 'very rare and exciting event.' Children just aren't going to know what snow is', he said.

Edinburgh Council Roads Department has had to cope with enough 'excitement' - snow - over the last four years!

It is not just seasonal weather that eludes forecasters. The climate has stubbornly proved itself beyond prediction as the promised global warming has failed to materialise now for over 15 years.

All of which underlines that in some areas of public policy - and coping with the weather is one such area - the focus should be on flexibility of response more than precision.

Gardening is a bit like that. We don't know what kind of season is ahead of us and we respond to nature.

Come to think of it, that is a bit like my caseload as a local councillor. Each day's issues have bring the delightful unpredictability that people bring. You know who you are - and you are very welcome.

We British famously talk about the weather and its unpredictability. The uncertainty is part of the nature and joy of life.

I'm not so sure I really need to be able to predict the weather. Or people. Even if I could.

Councillor Cameron Rose

MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLOR STEVE BURGESS

This is the first time I've written for the CPA Newsletter since the Council election almost exactly a year ago. At that election I was very pleased to be re-elected (and in poll position!) to represent the residents of Southside/Newington Ward which of course encompasses the CPA area. I began the new term with a resolve to get out and meet many more residents but this has been somewhat thwarted by the arrival of a daughter to add to a young son. As a result I've been having to prioritise evening meetings but I'm still pretty much full time in the City Chambers and CPA members are very welcome to contact me here at any time. I continue to have a healthy e/mail bag from the area including concerns about environmental issues such as waste and recycling and there are a number of important ongoing transport issues that affect the CPA area. One of these is the 20mph pilot which began in 2011 and is due to report back to the Transport committee in August/September this year. Right now officers are out collecting speed data that will be used to inform their report. Anecdotally my sense is that the vast majority of residents support the pilot but are concerned that quite a number of drivers don't obey the 20mph signs. I've had many residents ask what more can be done to discourage speeding. One resident was recently in touch to highlight rat-running down Hallhead Road in a bid to beat the Mayfield/West Mains traffic lights. Unfortunately the Police say they don't have the resources to carry out enforcement so it's down to what the Council can do. In this case traffic support wardens attended to record speeds and issue warning letters to offending drivers. Another ongoing transport issue is parking and the council have been consulting residents of 'Nether Liberton' about the prospect of introducing Priority Parking. This will only be introduced where the majority of residents would welcome help in protecting their streets from the blight of commuter parking. There seem to be several pockets of support lying to the east of Mayfield Road including Crawford Road, West Savile Road and East Savile Road. Along with Blackbarony Road, Hallhead Road and Ross Road. Following further formal consultation with residents the intention is to introduce some Priority Parking areas in this financial year. A third transport issue is the Quality Bike Corridor running between George Square and King's Buildings running alongside the CPA boundary. The QBC has been attracting quite a bit of comment since its completion. Outside peak hours vehicles are legally allowed to park on the QBC. The main complaint is about vehicles parking on the QBC within peak times when vehicles are prohibited. Just this week I've been contacted about this again. I'd be interested if any CPA members have any comments about the QBC. At the time of its inception members of the Transport Committee were advised that its operation could be reviewed at some point. Please contact me at steve.burgess@edinburgh.gov.uk or on 529 3274 on this or any other issue, many thanks.

Councillor Steve Burgess

Your Politicians' contacts details



Ian Murray MP 662 4520 **Twice weekly Advice Sessions:**
 Mon & Fri at 9.15am **31 Minto street**. 3rd Sat of Month **Gracemount Leisure Centre** 9am. **Liberton High School** 10 am. **Minto street Office** 11am **The Open Door**, 420 Morningside Rd. 12 Noon. **Waitrose** 1pm
ian@ianmurraymp.co.uk www.ianmurraymp.co.uk



Jim Eadie MSP 348 6283 **Constituency Office - 13-15 Morningside Drive.**
Surgeries: Every Monday & Friday 10am to 12pm at above Office. 2nd Sat each month **Fountainbridge Library** 10am-10.45.**The Mull Room** (Marchmont, St Gilles' Parish Church, 1a Kilgraston Rd. 11 - 12noon. **Inch Community Centre** (225 Gilmerton Rd) 12.15 - 1pm. 3rd Thurs each month **Cameron House Community Centre** (34 Prestonfield Rd.) from 6-7pm.
Jim.Eadie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Your Councillors' contact details



Cameron Rose Please email or telephone if you want to arrange to meet. I will be happy to come to where you are. **529 4078**
cameron.rose@edinburgh.gov.uk cameronrose.blogspot.com
Twitter: @cameronrose



Jim Orr **Surgeries: 3rd Monday each month (not July or December)**
Cameron House Community Centre 6pm. **Newington Library** 7pm. 4th Monday each month (not July or December) **Southside Community Centre** 6pm. (or by appointment)
jim.orr@edinburgh.gov.uk 529 3290
http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/councillors/90/jim_orr



Ian Perry **Surgeries: 31 Minto St.** 1st Monday 7:00pm **Southside Community Centre** 2nd Monday (not July and August) 6:00pm. **Braidwood Centre**, Dumbiedykes 3rd Monday 7:00pm. **Cameron House Community Centre** 4th Monday (during school term) 7:00pm. **The Butterflies Cafe**, Marchmont St Giles Parish Church, 4th Wednesday (during school term) 12:30pm - 1.00pm
ian.perry@edinburgh.gov.uk 529 3288



Steve Burgess **Surgeries:** If you would like to speak to me about any issue please phone, email or write to me and we can arrange a convenient time to meet at a local venue, your home or the **City Chambers. EH1 1YJ.**
steve.burgess@edinburgh.gov.uk 529 3274

Message from the Editor

Once again I have failed to get the Newsletter out on time! I think it is an occupational hazard of old age! I have been very busy and away a lot, skiing, visiting friends and my family in the south, so I hope you won't mind this being closer to Summer than Spring??

There seems to have been quite a few developments since the AGM. St. Margaret's School is now three new entities - a Mosque, a Nursery School and a Care Home. It is good to have the buildings in use again. The Mosque seems to be thriving judging by the numbers that regularly attend, especially on Fridays. I am glad that it is working out and I wish them well and look forward to their next open day. The Nursery is now open and the children have transferred from the smaller building in East Suffolk Road. I hope they will be happy there in the larger premises. The Care Home, which is in the main part of the School, had an open day to which the locals were invited. I went round and was very impressed with the layout and the cheerful bright atmosphere. The facilities were excellent and the staff very welcoming and friendly. It might come in useful when I need looking after. I can just hop over the wall!!

At the AGM I said that I was going to give up doing the Newsletter after the Autumn edition. I will still be prepared to help with the Spring edition in 2014. I have been involved with the Association since it was formed in 1997 and I started the Newsletter in 2002, so I think I have been around long enough and some new blood would be a good idea! It doesn't have to be just one person but **PLEASE COULD YOU THINK ABOUT IT?** It would be such a shame if the Newsletter had to close after all these years. It does bring important planning issues to your attention and gives useful contact details. I hope it will be able to continue. We are also always looking for new members, especially those prepared to give up a little of their time to serve on the Committee. Your subscriptions are our only source of income and although the balance looks fairly healthy we need to keep some in reserve in case we ever need to fight an application again like the Playing field. That would cost a lot! The Newsletter and website are our main costs at the moment. We live in a lovely Conservation Area and I think it is well worth looking after. Someone needs to keep an eye on the weekly planning lists so that unsuitable applications don't slip through unnoticed. If any of you feel the same way please let Tony or me know. Any help serving on the Committee, delivering Newsletters, bright ideas for articles and Speakers at the AGM would be wonderful. There must be an awful lot of hidden talent out there and it would be great if you felt that you could share a little of it with your fellow Residents!

I would just like to say a huge thank you to all my faithful deliverers. Without you I couldn't have lasted so long. I hope to see you at the AGM in the Autumn. Have a good summer and I hope the weather is kind for the Festival this year.

Merrilie (Editor)

Craigmillar Park Association

We are a local community Association, with charitable status, covering the area known as “The Craigmillar Park Conservation Area”. This Area is situated between Mayfield Gardens/Craigmillar Park/Gordon Terrace and Mayfield Rd. It is bounded at the North by West Mayfield and goes right down to the bottom of Gordon Terrace. It also includes Cameron March, Crawford, Lady, and East Suffolk Roads & East Suffolk Park.

The Association was founded in 1997 and it is run by an elected Committee. We produce two Newsletters a year and run a Website: “www.craigmillar-park.co.uk” which we hope is informative. (This is about to be changed so keep a lookout!)

You can help by joining, making your views known via the website and offering some of your valuable time to sit on the Committee helping to preserve and enhance our Conservation Area. We are always happy to hear your comments.

Annual Subscription: £6 per adult (£10 per couple) & concessions £4 each (£6 per couple). (due in October or at the AGM) We have kept the subscription the same for quite a long time now and think that it is good value. Filling in the Gift Aid form enables us to claim back tax and that is really helpful, as the money pays for things like the Newsletter and Website. If you would like to join, you will find the appropriate forms with this Newsletter or on our website and they can be sent to Mark Probert our Treasurer. (In the enclosed envelope. Please add stamp!)

Craigmillar Park Association Committee Members.

Prof. Joyce Tait	25, Granby Road	622 0279	Chair
Marilyn Higgins	4, Crawford Road	668 4168	Vice Chair
Tony Harris	21, Mentone Terrace	477 9968	Secretary
Mark Probert	9, Crawford Road	621 0140	Treasurer
Liz Philp	8, Crawford Road	667 1191	Minutes Secretary
Kate Arnott	14, West Savile Road	667 6874	Member
Peter Bloomfield	8, Granby Road	667 1295	Member
Hilary Vandore	14/2 Brights Cres	662 0242	Member
Wilma Elton	5, Wilton Road	667 4079	Member
Eileen Francis	49, Gilmour Road	667 3996	Member
Allen Simpson	10, Crawford Road	667 4288	Advisor
Charles Aspinall	3, Crawford Road	662 8658	IT Advisor
Tina Kelly	21, Crawford Road	662 0209	Web Advisor
John Flannery	39, Esslemont Road	667 3689	Advisor
Merrilie Cameron	12, Crawford Road	667 0606	Newsletter Editor

Editor Merrilie Cameron, Printed by Jonathan Tait at Horizon, 36, Mayfield Gardens.

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