

The Paddock

DUDDINGSTON CONSERVATION AREA COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 8

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The New School: DVCS Reports

Malcolm Windsor, Jim Devin, Jim Jack, and Lindsay Crofts attended a meeting with the school and education authority on 8 December.

The meeting was chaired by Ian Glen, Head of Neighbourhood Management, and was attended by Councillor Berry, Lesley Carroll (Head Teacher), Barbara Boyd (School Service Manager); Janice Stewart (school Welfare officer), Mark Thomson (Community Police) and a representative from the School Board.

Malcolm identified two issues - 1) anti social behaviour arising from truancy, and pupils using the shop; and 2) the development of the new school as part of the schools renewal project. He stressed the importance of genuine consultation on both of these issues.

Lesley Carroll, Mark Thomson and Janice Stewart reported that they had carried out a number of sweeps of the area pulling in truants and responding to reports of anti social behaviour. We confirmed that truancy seemed much reduced as a consequence, and the situation had improved.

We were all concerned about the effort that may be needed to sustain this; however Lesley Carroll undertook to ensure continued effort. In the meantime, it is important that we continue to monitor the situation so please report all incidents to your respective

Neighbourhood Watch Co- Coordinators.

WE MUST KEEP THE PRESSURE UP AND WE CAN ONLY DO THIS BY REPORTING INCIDENTS AND MAINTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE.

There remains a serious problem of litter, despite the excellent efforts of the shop management to clean the area in its immediate vicinity.

There is an issue about who is responsible for cleaning up Cavalry Park Drive - there seemed to be a dispute between the education department and public highways which officials undertook to investigate.

We then turned to the issue of the new build school, and heavily pressed our case that we should be consulted closely on the design. Lesley Carroll explained where in the process the Council were - at that time still not having determined a preferred bidder. She was enthusiastic about the plans she had seen to date-

We said that we wanted to be assured that no plans were presented to us as a fait accompli, and that we would have a genuine input and that genuine local issues are taken into account from the start. It was agreed that the next meeting of this group (to be held on 21st February) should focus on the new build proposals, but with continued anti social behaviour action updates.

Finally Jim Jack noted that the land around the war memorial was community amenity land.

He has since located plans confirming this which I have passed to the planning department for their information and have asked for their explanation of how this area will be maintained for the community within the proposed school plans.

Lindsay Crofts

NEW HOLY ROOD HIGH SCHOOL

The local community are invited to an

OPEN EVENING

to view draft plans for the new High School.

This event will take place in the school library
**TUESDAY 21ST
FEBRUARY
7-8 PM.**

The Head Teacher, Miss Carroll, and senior members of the PPP Project Board will be on hand to answer questions.

STOP PRESS! Further chance to view plans Wednesday 22nd February 4pm to 6pm
See letter circulated by Councillor Berry

