

Chair's Report 2018/2019

Can I firstly convey my apologies to the AGM. I am sorry I may have to miss the meeting but I am returning on that day from a holiday in the USA.

Secondly, I wish to thank everyone who has helped in the work of the Community Council over the past year. This includes all the officers of the Council and all who have attended Council meetings. It includes the police people who have attended Council meetings to give their reports which is always an interesting item on the agenda.

I have been pleased that over the past year we have continued our relationship with Longstone Primary School. We have been able to complete the refurbishment of the outdoor classroom and renew the plaque to Duncan Colquhoun. We will be involved in the presentation of a prize (we will pay for a book token) to the school student who has done most to serve the community. We had intended during the past year to establish links with the Redhall Special School. This has yet to be done but I hope that it can be done in the next year.

I am pleased, on behalf of the Council, to attend the meetings, when I can, of the Hailes Quarry Park Steering Group. The Park is an important resource for all residents of the area. It is becoming a more important resource for school children, those developing their fitness and for residential/nursing homes who wish to have stimulating activities for those in the various stages of dementia. I think that the Community Council should encourage all those activities. I have been able to personally make a small contribution to these activities. I plan to continue that over the next year. I would like to thank Lily for her work on the Quarry Park working group.

I would like to thank especially our Minutes Secretary and, of course, Steuart for his attention to the detail of Council business, particularly in regard to planning issues, and for waging an almost one person campaign to remove graffiti from our area.

It seems that there will be changes to the system of Community Councils in Edinburgh over the next year. We will have to be vigilant to ensure that our interests are protected and that we will be able to work better for the people of Longstone.

I hope the meeting on the 10th June goes well.

Des Loughney
19th May 2019