

Chair's Report 2017/2018

Can I firstly convey my apologies to the AGM. I am sorry to miss the meeting but I have to attend a family event outside Edinburgh.

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 every Council meeting to give their reports which is always an interesting item on the agenda.

It was a good moment, last Wednesday, to be able to present, on behalf of the Community Council, the Duncan Colquhoun Memorial Shield and a book token to Sonny Reynolds in front of an assembly of Longstone Primary School children and parents. I am hoping that this will become an annual event. It is really worthwhile to reward service by school students to the community. I hope that over the next year the Community Council will be able, as well, to establish a relationship with the Special School. Building links with local organisations is obviously important.

I am pleased, on behalf of the Council, to attend the meetings, when I can, of the Quarry Park Committee. 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 would like to thank especially our Minutes Secretary and, of course, Stuart 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.

I think that over the next year the Council will have to become more vigilant about the needs of the area as austerity cuts into the Council resources. At the last Quarry Park meeting it was said that 'holiday hunger' is now an issue for some local parents and their children. We have heard that the new nursery cannot meet the local demand for full time places. We have to do our bit to ensure that roads and pavements are kept to a proper standard.

I hope the meeting this evening goes well.

Des Loughney
10th June 2018