

Longstone Community Council Annual General Meeting

Chairmans Report for 2016/2017

I am pleased to make a report for the part of the year that I have been chairperson. This has been a learning experience from October 2016.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped in the process of getting familiar with the business of the Community Council. This includes all who have regularly attended our meetings and all our officers. I wish to thank John Allan, who was the previous chair and now the vice chair, for his advice and support. I wish to thank Steuart, the secretary, also, for his advice and support. I wish to pay tribute to Steuart for the work he does as Secretary. This is the most onerous job of the Council which is well illustrated by his own Report.

The job of being chairman goes beyond the immediate tasks at our meeting. It includes a role of representing the Council on various bodies. So far I have attended a meeting of the Quarry Park working group. I have volunteered to represent the Council on the partnership bodies that the City Council will set up for this part of Edinburgh. It is still unclear what form this partnership will take following the recent election. However, once the a ruling coalition has been agreed it will be decided. Perhaps we will know by the time of our August meeting.

If I am re-elected as chairman I hope to work on encouraging more people to attend our meetings so that we are more representative of our community and more effective at influencing the Council regarding our community needs. I hope we can further develop our links with community groups. At our last meeting we discussed working with the PTA of the Primary School. I hope this can happen.

Through the paid work that I do I have a particular interest in Social Care issues. The provision of quality Social Care is an important issue for our community and, indeed the whole of Edinburgh. The demand for the service is increasing by 25% per year. I hope we can look at this service and effectively communicate our views to the City Council. This will be very beneficial, in my belief, to our community.

Des Loughney - 12th June 2017