

Midlothian Traffic Roads and Paths Meeting

Monday 13 March, 2023, 6.00 to 7.30pm

Zoom

Present:

Diane Easton (DE)	Bonnyrigg and District
Ann Stewart-Kmicha (ASK)	Dalkeith and District
Constance Newbould (CN)	Damhead and District
Judy Thomson (JT)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Robert Hogg (RH)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Gordon Brown	Tynewater

In Attendance

Wayne Clark (WC)	Midlothian Council - Operations & Asset Manager Roads
Paul Johnson (PJ)	Midlothian Council - Communities and Lifelong Learning
Madeleine Bell (MB)	Midlothian Council - Sustainable Transport Officer
Steven Psihramis (SP)	Midlothian Council - Sustrans Senior Project Officer

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Brian Farrell (BF)	Eskbank and Newbattle
Alan Heatley (AH)	Midlothian Council - Network & Structures Manager

1. INPUT FROM MADELEINE BELL (SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT OFFICER – MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL) AND STEVEN PSIHRAMIS (SUSTRANS SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER)

The Active Travel Team have moved from being an element of the Roads Team to now being part of the Planning Team

Current initiatives:

- i** Have made a successful bid to Sustrans to develop A7 Active Travel Projects and 'Shawfair Connections'
- ii** Developing a feasibility study to develop separate pathways along the A7.
- iii** These are in the early stages. The team will move on to developing plans to move design and construction.
- iv** Looking at developing Active Travel Links at Shawfair that will improve links to paths developed by neighbouring Local Authorities, (City of Edinburgh and East Lothian).
- v** Developing projects for funding ideas – A703 (Hillend to Easter Bush), Lasswade viaduct to Broomielaw tunnel and extending route 61 to the Bush Campus.
- vi** Work will also be undertaken to develop projects in Dalkeith and along the Crawlees Roads between Gorebridge and Mayfield.

- vii Steven highlighted that work is currently underway to look into the feasibility and potential to improve the surface on National Cycle Network Route 196 between Rosewell and Auchendinny.
- viii Team members working in partnership with Living Streets, are engaging with developers of new housing sites. The team would be keen to consult with MTRaP, Community Councils and other community-based groups.
- ix ASK (Dalkeith) enquired about the progress of engagement around the Active Travel Strategy, highlighting that although local communities has participated in consultation there had been very little feedback from Midlothian Council. ASK also asked about access to paths now that a new housing development in Dalkeith (Normandy Court) has been completed. Steven agreed that he would investigate.
- x CN (Damhead) Active Travel Routes – Did not receive a revised plan after the consultation.
- xi Noted that new housing developments often have a perimeter fence with solely one exit point. This prohibits free movement out of the development where being able to move in more than one direction out of the development. MB (Midlothian Council) noted that, now Active Travel Team members are part of the Planning Team, they should be able to have more effective input into planning decisions where active travel is concerned.
- xii MB noted that colleagues are aware that issues such as dropped kerbs, widening of pavements and barriers along National Cycling Routes need to be addressed. SP indicated that issues such as these are being discussed in preparation for developing the revised the Active Travel Strategy.
- xiii Responses from previous consultations will be influence the new Active Travel Strategy.
- xiv RH welcomed the integration of the Active Travel Team within the Planning Team and the potential for coordination of initiatives of active travel and planning development.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved by Constance Newbould, Seconded by Diane Easton

3. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME – JOINT PRIORITY SCHEME

- i. Information contained in Alan Heatley’s report circulated on 13 March. The Team have tried to include as many of the Joint Priority schemes that were submitted by the MTRaP group at the last meeting. A number of the streets put forward in the list can be classed as ‘residential’, and therefore these may be more appropriate to be considered under the Residential Streets Programme that Wayne Clark and his Operations team manage.

ii. Short Summary below

Proposed Programme – 2023/24 Carriageway resurfacing: - 18 schemes are proposed to be undertaken, including 8 carry over schemes from last year, and a total of 6 Joint Priority schemes.

The budget is our normal annual allowance for carriageway resurfacing with no carry over from previous unspent monies.

Footway resurfacing: - 18 schemes are proposed to be undertaken, including 15 'carry over' schemes from last year, and a total of 6 Joint Priority schemes.

iii. Further details are available in the report.

iv. The proposed programme is being submitted to Councillors this week, and is based on available budgets known at this time.

RESIDENTIAL STREETS PROGRAMME (RSP)

i. WC noted that his team has its programme for 2023-2024.

ii. The programme may be able to take account of suggestions (not eligible for inclusion in the Joint Priorities programme) forwarded by Community Councils in their submissions.

iii. The programme also has to take account of submissions made by Elected Members.

iv. WC informed the group that Capital Roads programme expenditure included work undertaken on classified roads (A, B & C). Other road surfacing work (including housing estates) was undertaken within the Residential Streets Programme.

5. ACTIVE TRAVEL (STRATEGY)

i. This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting (MB & SP input)

ii. CN observed that with MB & SP in post, further development on the Active Travel Strategy will be accelerated.

iii. DE observed that once in place the A7 urbanisation project will support an improvement in Active Travel in the area.

6. CORE PATHS

i GB (Tynewater) highlighted his concerns about the condition of the county's paths and footways, particularly in rural areas where poor surfaces and overgrown vegetation pose a serious problem for pedestrians and walkers to be able to move around with ease and safety.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. Pothole Pro

- WC advised the group that the machinery has been received. Operational Staff members are undertaking operational training, testing procedures and have commenced repair work in the Tynewater area (Tynehead Station) using the machinery.
- Work undertaken has indicated that it will be possible improve work undertaken by up to a factor of up 7 times. Work undertaken with the machinery will be provide reinstatement and permanent repairs of road surfaces.

ii. Work in the Bonnyrigg Area

- WC informed group members that there is a proposal for work to be undertaken in the Waverly estate to resurface areas where motorists have been using grass verges for parking.
- DE highlighted that there is a large Pothole on the surface of the A6094. WC is going to investigate.
- DE requested information on the progress of proposal for yellow line marking in Lothian Street. WC noted that discussions are ongoing, and no final decision has been able to be made.

iii. Community Map Scotland Project

GB (Tynewater), highlighted an initiative for local Community Councils to access a mapping tool.

Parish Online is fully funding the Community Map Scotland Project for the first 12 months.

See details here:

[Parish Online - Community Map Scotland project \(parish-online.co.uk\)](https://parish-online.co.uk)

Presentation: [presentation on the software](#)

Video: <https://youtu.be/GQzZbMiaQ7s>

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 24 April 2023, 6.00 – 7.30

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82413639998?pwd=UGxHRTg0bDBhckJyRjRmN09ZN1Z1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 824 1363 9998

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