

# Midlothian Traffic Roads and Paths Meeting

Monday 24 April, 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
Brian Farrell (BF)	Eskbank and Newbattle
Judy Thomson (JT)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Robert Hogg (RH)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Moira Cuthbert (MC)	Penicuik and District

### In Attendance

Wayne Clark (WC)	Midlothian Council - Operations & Asset Manager Roads
Alan Heatley (AH)	Midlothian Council - Network & Structures Manager
Paul Johnson (PJ)	Midlothian Council - Communities, Lifelong Learning

## 2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Proposed: Constance Newbould

Seconded: Ann Stewart Kmicha

Amendment to note ix in section one. Should read: *ASK also asked about access to paths now that a new housing development in Dalkeith (Normandy Court) has been completed*

## 3. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME

- i AH reported that the 2023 – 2024 programme has been confirmed and has been passed to Elected Members for their information
- ii The budget is as agreed. A carry-over of funds from 2022-2023 has not been available

## 4. RESIDENTIAL STREETS PROGRAMME

- i The 2023 – 2024 programme has been agreed
- ii One team will be working in the Bilston, Easthouses, Dalkeith, and Birken side areas. The other team will be working in Newtongrange, Bonnyrigg, Roslin, and Penicuik
- iii **Pot Hole Pro**
  - Has been demonstrated to elected members who were impressed by the machine's capabilities. In addition to the PHP machine, other machinery and operators are required to support the work undertaken using the equipment.
  - See here for information on the Midlothian Council website: ['New machine fixes potholes permanently in 30 mins | Midlothian Council'](#)

- A promotional video is being developed that will highlight the work carried out using the PHP
- An offer to attend a demonstration will be extended to MTRaP members

## 5. ACTIVE TRAVEL (STRATEGY)

- i ASK noted that Midlothian Council has been slow to respond to supporting Active Travel initiatives
- ii Council Officers continue to work on the Active Travel Strategy. It is anticipated that the documents will be published in summer 2023
- iii WC (Midlothian Council) informed the group that a Strategic Transport Planning Manager (Anna Herriman) has been appointed
- iv Group members requested that Ms Herriman be invited to the next meeting in June. (**Update:** Anna Herriman will be unavailable to join the June MTRaP Meeting)

## 6. CORE PATHS

- i RH (Mayfield and Easthouses) noted that that there had not been any developments re the appointment of an Access Officer. There was recognition that due to the recent cuts to council budgets, a new appointment looked increasingly less likely to happen
- ii **Safe Travel to Schools** RH raised concerns as to whether 'safe travel to school' routes are considered when planning the construction of new schools. WC highlighted that Gillian Bathgate fulfils the role of School Travel Plan Co-ordinator and will have an input at the planning stage. Members of the Midlothian Council Roads team will also be instrumental in engaging with project design when new school developments are planned
- iii DE (Bonnyrigg and District) highlighted issues of concern for the safety of children because of parking around St Mary's Primary School in Bonnyrigg
- iv WC noted that it is anticipated that a review of pedestrian and vehicular access around all Primary Schools in across the county will be undertaken

**Action: PJ will contact David Miller (Senior Consultant Engineer) to seek further information**

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **i Waste Bins**

- If additional waste bins are required, residents can contact Willie Reid (Operations Officer - Waste Services): 0131 561 5334 or email [willie.reid@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:willie.reid@midlothian.gov.uk)
- Elected Members may fund additional waste bins from their environmental funds. This could be discussed when elected members attend community council meetings
- Additional bins would need to be added to the 'empty' schedule

### **ii Grit Bins**

- ASK enquired about the availability of additional community based grit bins. WC advised that Community Councils could submit a request on behalf of their communities, for additional Grit Bins in appropriate locations.

### **iii 20 MPH zone 'Gateways'**

- WC advised group members that he and his colleagues would work with Community Councils when discussing the locations of signage relating to the beginning and ending of 20 mph zones

### **iv Bus Timetable displays / Damaged Bus Stops**

- There was a discussion about the poor condition of a number of bus stops in the county. There was recognition that bus stops in poor condition can act as a barrier to the use of public transport.
- Mayfield - WC will get in touch with the contractor in order to get a damaged bus stop repaired
- WC advised that 44 bus timetable displays would be replaced

### **v Close Circuit TV (CCTV) Cameras**

- It is anticipated that the contract for operating CCTV cameras will be awarded by the middle of May
- WC advised that some cameras access power supplied by street lighting columns. This is the reason that a small number of streetlights are operational during daytime hours. Colleagues are seeking an alternative solution to street lighting providing power for CCTV cameras

**vi Orbital Bus Consultation**

The project team would like input on how best to prioritise buses along four corridors in Midlothian:

- A6094 Whitecraig to A6094 Eskbank
- B6392 Eskbank to A772 Gilmerton Junction
- A7 Gorebridge to A7 Danderhall
- A6094 Eskbank to A701 Straiton
  
- Information about the initiative can be found here:  
[Consultations - Midlothian Orbital Bus STAG follow up: prioritising buses | Midlothian Council](#)
- Information about the outcomes will be shared as soon as possible after the consultation closes
- The closing date is **15 May**

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Monday, 5 June 2023, 6.00 - 7.30**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83694029950?pwd=Rm00RGxON0R3QzdXVXd2dzVGVVVSdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 836 9402 9950

**Passcode:** 185801