

## Midlothian Traffic Roads and Paths Meeting

Monday 9 October 2023, 6.00 to 7.30pm

Zoom

### PRESENT:

Douglas West (DW)	Bonnyrigg and District
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
Moira Cuthbert (MC)	Penicuik and District
Mark Whitham (MW)	Tynewater

### IN ATTENDANCE

Alan Heatley (AH)	Midlothian Council - Network & Structures Manager
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### APOLOGIES

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

### 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

RH (Mayfield) chaired the meeting and welcomed those present.  
Apologies received were noted.

### 2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

**Proposed:** Dougie West  
**Seconded:** Ann Stewart Kmicha

### MATTERS ARISING

#### i Capital Works Programme update.

- AH has circulated a written update to PJ who will circulate to MTRaP members.
- AH also gave a brief update to those present at the meeting.
- completed 6 schemes to date, includes 2 joint priority schemes. One to commence later this month. Footway schemes - completed three schemes to date, another due to commence shortly.
- Some of the Pothole Pro budget has come from Capital Works programme so some schemes have been deferred to next year.
- 3 footway schemes have been completed.

**ii Residential Street Programme (RSP) update**

- WC unable to be present at meeting.
- AH noted that team is working in the Waverley estate (Bonnyrigg), Rosewell Road, and Easthouses.

**iii Pothole Pro (demonstration)**

- The team is working through a schedule where potholes are badly needing to be repaired.
- The schedule is still being developed. AH will ask WC to distribute the schedule when it is ready.

**Action: WC to forward suitable dates**

**3. Update on introduction of 20 mph speed limit**

- i AH (Midlothian Council) noted that the Project Leader has been off for an extended period and MC looking for a temporary replacement. Midlothian Council is liaising with Transport Scotland to see how much funding will be available for the works. The policy is still being drafted and this will determine which areas will be subject to the new speed limit. Unlike in East Lothian with blanket coverage, it is anticipated that the rollout of areas that will benefit from the speed restriction will be more selective.
- ii MW (Tynewater) highlighted that local residents are enthusiastic about the proposal to introduce local 20 mph zones and asked whether TCC could contact someone in DM's absence? AH suggests they contact the Council officer they have been dealing with previously.

**4. ACTIVE TRAVEL STRATEGY**

- i AH noted informed those present that the Active Travel team are now part of the Planning service. The team has produced a draft of the 10-year active travel strategy which should be finalised in the next few months and presented to full Council.
- ii AH will find out whether there are any plans to hold a consultation about the draft strategy.

**5. CORE PATHS**

- i Every Community Council is advised to monitor their core paths. Midlothian Council has a core path plan, and every Community Council should have a copy.
- ii Prestonhall Estate is in the process of introducing new core paths around Pathhead.

## 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### i **Responsibility for damage to property caused by Utilities companies.**

- RH (Mayfield and Easthouses) asked about who is responsible when utility companies damage property when out doing work?
- AH noted that:
  - The Council's responsibility is to *coordinate* utility works on the public road, but not to *programme* utility works.
  - Coordination of all road works is essential to ensure that there are no conflicting works being undertaken at the same location, or within a reasonable distance on the same road, and that disruption to road users is mitigated wherever possible.
  - The Council's utility inspector endeavours to ensure that the utility works contractor has appropriate signing, lighting, and guarding in place to ensure the safety of road users and pedestrians, and that the excavated road or footway is reinstated to the required quality and specification.
  - The utility works inspector does not have any responsibility with respect to the utility works themselves.

### ii **30 mph sign in Dewarton.**

- MW (Tynewater) noted that a 30mph sign at Dewarton was knocked over following a road traffic incident and asked if it could be replaced.
- AH will make enquiries.

### iii **Bus Stops**

- Noted that WC's (Midlothian Council) department oversees issues related to Bus Stops

### iv **Road Safety in the areas surrounding schools.**

- RH noted that the Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council has concerns about road safety around the schools in Mayfield and Easthouses. AH suggested that RH contact the Schools team. Possibly run this by WC as there is an overlap with public transport.
- JT (Mayfield and Easthouses) indicated that the Community Councils believe that it is being 'fobbed off' when it raises concerns about traffic management around schools.

### v **Crawlees Road (Mayfield – Gorebridge).**

- RH highlighted local concerns about plans for a distributor road.
- AH noted that there is a plan for a replacement for Crawlees Road as part of new housing development.

**vi Bonnyrigg - Yellow Line Markings**

- BDCC is still waiting to hear about the yellow line consultation for Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg.

**vii Tynewater - Repairs to wall**

- MW (Tynewater) who is responsible for repairs to wall next to A68? AH noted that this is private property therefore responsibility lies with the resident.

**viii Dalkeith to Penicuik Path**

- Noted that Cyclist were moving at excessive speeds. Escalate to local sergeant and ask for a police officer to be posted on the railway walk. MW noted that this is a role for the Access Officer, but MC does not have one. Midlothian Councils is the only Local Authority that lacks an Access Officer. Part of Access Code that each LA employs an Access Officer. Access Officer checks that planning applications do not interfere with core paths etc,

**ix Outdoor Walking Festival**

- ASK (Dalkeith and District) recommends MC's outdoor walking festival.

**x Penicuik – Parking on Pavement**

MC (Penicuik and District) raised concerns about dangerous parking by delivery drivers. Also parking on verges and causing damage to the grass.

**xi Damhead – Pentland Road, Closure**

CN (Damhead) highlighted that road closures for new Aldi opposite Ikea will have a detrimental impact on residents around the county.

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 20 November 2023, 6.00 – 7.30**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81614595706?pwd=N3ZXbjMxVkw4c2ZzZE9DRm5YMWI5Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 816 1459 5706**

**Passcode: 806117**