

Midlothian Traffic Roads and Paths Meeting

Monday, 14 October, 2024, 6.00 to 7.30pm

Zoom

PRESENT

Dougie West (DW)	Bonnyrigg and District
Ann Stewart-Kmicha (ASK)	Dalkeith and District
Constance Newbould (CN)	Damhead
Brian Farrell (BF)	Eskbank and Newbattle
Shona Hamilton (SH)	Moorfoot
Anna Smaill (AS)	Moorfoot
Alastair Rae (AR)	Tynewater

IN ATTENDANCE

Wayne Clark (WC)	Midlothian Council - Service Manager, Road Networks and Transport
Alan Heatley (AH)	Midlothian Council - Network & Structures Manager
Paul Johnson (PJ)	Midlothian Council - Communities, Lifelong Learning and Employability

APOLOGIES

Diane Easton (DE)	Bonnyrigg and District
Judy Thomson (JT)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Robert Hogg (RH)	Mayfield and Easthouses

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

- i Brian Farrell (ENCC) chaired the meeting and welcomed those present.
- ii **Notes of Previous Meetings**
Proposed: Dougie West
Seconded: Constance Newbould

2. MATTERS ARISING

- i. **Disabled Parking in Dalkeith**
 - ASK highlighted that further to the discussion at the September meeting, installation of revised signage and road markings has been completed.

ii. **Capital Works Programme update.**

- AH (Midlothian Council) had previously circulated his monthly Capital Works Programme update.

At the meeting AH provided a brief overview of the progress of the programme and noted that if MTRaP members required any further information about the content of the report they could contact him (alan.heatley@midlothian.gov.uk).

- DW (BDCC) advised that he had not received the report. PJ noted that although the BDCC email was included in the MTRaP googlegroup, he will check to see whether DW's email address is also included. If not, the case PJ will add to the MTRaP googlegroup email.

Action. PJ to check MTRaP list of recipients and update as appropriate.

iii **Residential Streets Programme**

- An underspend in the Residential Streets budget supported extra work to be undertaken in the Capital Works programme.
- Work has been completed in Newtongrange (Mansfield Road and Main Street) and Penicuik (Bellwood Road).

Team 1

- Is currently working in Bonnyrigg (Waverly estate) Mayfield (Mayfield Road) and Loanhead (Burghlee Terrace)
- Will be moving to work in Gorebridge in the new year.

Team 2

- Is currently working in the Woodburn area (anticipated to continue until March 2025)
- ASK highlighted that, although residents welcomed the work being undertaken, the 139 bus had had to be diverted, and this had caused difficulty for some residents who used the service to get to shops. WC noted this and indicated that such issues will be addressed in the future.

Pot-Hole-Pro

- The team has been working in the Penicuik area (in the estates)
- Will be working in Loanhead (Mayburn) in the new year and then Newtongrange (First to Sixth Street and Lingerwood) and Cousland from mid-February until the end of March.

- Will also be undertaking further ‘surface dressing’ work in the Cousland area. DW (Bonnyrigg) noted that the work completed so far had made a big difference and had been done well.
- WC highlighted the prospect for using a new recycling process for resurfacing roads. The process is expensive but is quick and carbon neutral. WC will circulate further information.

4. ATTENDANCE OF COUNCIL OFFICERS AT MTRaP MEETINGS

- i There had been a suggestion that MTRaP meetings would only be held when Midlothian Council officers are in attendance.
- ii Those present, while recognising the value and appreciating the support of MC operational officers (especially Alan and Wayne), suggested that it wouldn’t be advisable for MTRaP meetings to be held dependent on the attendance of Operational Council officers.
- iii MTRaP had been formed to look at a wide range of Traffic and roads related issues and not just those involving Midlothian Council.
- iv There was agreement that if Council officers were unable to attend a meeting it would be helpful if they could provide a short, written report.

5. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME, JOINT PRIORITY SCHEMES (2025–2026)

- i. There was agreement that this initiative would be repeated for the 2025-2026 financial year.
- ii. MTRaP and MFCC members will discuss at their Community Council meetings.
- iii. Residents for each Community Council area will be encouraged to submit suggestions for 2 footway schemes and 1 carriageway scheme.
- iv. Highlighted that this will be for *Capital* expenditure – that is ‘planned’ and goes towards resurfacing roads and footways.
- v. PJ (Midlothian Council) will circulate a proposal to MTRaP and MFCC members.

6. A7 SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT STUDY - UPDATE

WC advised that he had anticipated that a colleague would attend the meeting to update MTRaP members. He will attend the next meeting on 25 November.

WC was able to provide the following information:

- i. A large pot on money has been available from Developer Contributions
- ii. Intend to have ‘spades in the ground’ by April 2025.

- iii. Path alongside the A7 will be 4 meters wide with a curb, separated from the carriageway.
- iv. The road will be resurfaced if possible.
- v. There will be a Zebra crossing on the Lasswade road.
- vi. The junction of A7 and Cockpen will be signalised.
- vii. A pedestrian crossing will be installed (anticipated April \ May 2025) near the Sun Inn with the traffic speed limit reduced to 30mph in that area.
- viii. A review of speed limits across the county will be undertaken.
- ix. It is anticipated that other developments on the project will commence at the beginning of the summer holidays.
- x. ASK (Dalkeith) highlighted that it is still difficult for cyclists and pedestrians to cross the A7. WC indicated that that the Council is aware of this and will make provision where possible. However, it is necessary to recognise that the A7 is a major transport link.
- xi. There will be 4 bus stops, with laybys, as part of the development.
- xii. There will be extensive public consultation and engagement. Suitable venues, days, times are being scoped at the moment.
- xiii. WC also highlighted that an East - West cross-county bus route is going to be trialled. It is anticipated that that the service will run between Pathhead and Penicuik. The exact route is still to be finalised.

7. ACTIVE TRAVEL STRATEGY

- i. PJ had contacted Midlothian Council colleagues re. an update about Active Travel (AT). In response he been asked to ascertain what AT topics MTRaP members would be interested in.
- ii. MTRaP members noted that they would be interested in getting an update about potential schemes in the short term and whether any schemes have been completed.
- iii. WC (Midlothian Council) highlighted the A702 realignment.
- iv. Work is being undertaken to support Active Travel for users of Easthouse Primary School (Active Travel Infrastructure Fund).

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. Dalkeith

- ASK highlighted concerns about access being restricted as a result a potential development of holiday accommodation on the Duke of Buccleuch estate. Some access may be within the East Lothian Boundary

Action: CN will raise at the East Lothian Access Forum

ii. Damhead

Speed Limit

- CN noted that the 40mph speed limit is not being adhered to on the A703. WC noted that speed limits across the county will be reviewed and will include the A703.

Action: CN will email WC re grass on the footways alongside the A703

iii. Eskbank

Sunken Ironworks

- BF (ENCC) highlighted that there were several sunken ironworks in Eskbank.

Action: BF to report locations to WC

iv. Moorfoot

- SH (Moorfoot) expressed appreciation and thanks for the flooding issues in Carrington being addressed.
- Requested that the 20-mph speed limit be extended to be further away from the centre of the village.
- WC noted that he will contact colleagues, and the views of residents will be taken into account.
- Concern expressed about a blocked drain leading to flooding in Carrington Village Hall.

Action: SH to send an email to WC with further information re village Hall flooding.

v. **Tynewater**

20 mph Speed Limit

- AR enquired as to the timetable for the 20-mph speed limit being introduced in the area.

WC advised that as soon as the timeframe has been confirmed, information will be provided.

Kiln Brae

- AR noted that a hole had been covered by steel plates and had been reported on several occasions.

It is not clear who had been responsible for the work.

Action: WC will investigate the Kiln Brae issue.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 6.00 – 7.30**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83236054515?pwd=qf5s6yHjV7EVozCgfeCLBmfO7zRCAC.1>

Meeting ID: 832 3605 4515

Passcode: 787394

Approved 25 November 2024