

**Midlothian Traffic Roads and Paths Meeting Monday, 12
May 2025, 6.00 to 7.30pm Zoom.**

PRESENT

Dougie West (DW)	Bonnyrigg and District
Suzanne Ross (SR)	Bonnyrigg and District
Ann Stewart-Kmicha (ASK)	Dalkeith and District
Constance Newbould (CN)	Damhead and District
Brian Farrell (BF)	Eskbank and Newbattle
Jacqueline Frankitti (JF)	Gorebridge and District
Karen Richardson (KR)	Howgate
Robert Hogg (RH)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Judy Thomson (JT)	Mayfield and Easthouses
Anna Smaill (AS)	Moorfoot

APOLOGIES

Shona Hamilton (SH)	Moorfoot
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

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

- a) Brian Farrell (ENCC) chaired the meeting, as Robert Hogg was late. He welcomed members and noted apologies. Joe Gordon had been expected to attend this meeting in place to Wayne Clark.

2. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (3 MARCH 2025)

Proposed: Constance Newbould

Seconded: Anna Smaill

3. MATTERS ARISING

- a) **Amendment to March minutes.**

ASK noted no response was received from Dean Anderson about the Access Office and eventually James Kinch was approached instead.

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

- a) AH (Midlothian Council) had circulated his monthly Capital Works Programme update. It contains close off for the last financial year and proposals for this financial year. This should include some of the suggestion made by this group.
- b) Pentland Road drainage footways should be carried over from previous plan, but it does not feature in the new plan. Also, Burnside does not feature in the plans so it would be useful to follow up with AH about that. CN to email AH.
- c) Scottish Gas Networks pipe replacement works taking place in Eskbank and Dalkeith.
- d) KR asked about B6372 to Loanstone but was advised to email AH/WC.
- e) Feedback requested from AH as to which requests for inclusion were successful, or otherwise.

5. 20 MPH LIMIT OBJECTIONS

- a) There had been seven objections and going to Cabinet on 20th May. Plus, comments about whether money have been spent wisely. Not enough is known that there was a separate grant for this work and not coming from normal budgets.
- b) Some areas made use of bin stickers that said "Street lights means 30mph" so these will have to be removed (if and when it is all agreed at Cabinet). Apparently, warm water helps them to peel off – top tip!
- c) Concerns about policing, there have been some prosecutions in Edinburgh but still seems unlikely. Some areas would just be happy if it brought speeds down to 30mph rather than 40mph! There has been a good adherence rate in Wales, so says Cllr McKenzie.
- d) Abbey Road showing as still 30mph under the new regime.

6. ACTIVE TRAVEL

- a) PJ has issued an invite to Midlothian's Active Travel Team for a future meeting of MTRaP.
- b) There is an event on 22nd May at Lasswade Library to hear views on proposed changes to the A7 to Loanhead via Lasswade route.
- c) Anna Herriman would like to attend an MTRaP meeting at some point. PJ to ask her when she would be available (before or after summer break?).
- d) Active travel holding a competition to name a new mascot.

7. CORE PATHS

- a) Dean Anderson has a legal background and can focus on access issues.

b) Dalkeith

ASK advised of frustration of not being about to gain access to Ironmills Park from Cemetery Road. Core path at Bowling Club is signposted but not well kept. Traffic and parking are also issues accessing Ironmills Park.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Council Officers at MTRaP Meetings

- Lack of Council Officers was noticed as disappointing, Wayne and Alan had lodged apologies, but Joe Gordon had been expected.

b) Tree Preservation Orders

- RH suggestions CCs check if there are preservation orders on their local trees and if any should be applied for (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200167/planning_applications/273/tree_conservation_and_tree_works/2).
- In one example of trees being cut down, even though they did have preservation orders, the landowners have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

c) A701 Relief Road and A702 Link Road

- Drop-in session on Thursday 16th May at Bilston Primary School.
- It is also possible to comment online: https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/directory_record/98563671/a701_relief_road_and_a702_link_road_2025
- Currently chaos around Hillend.

d) Roadworks in Bonnyrigg

SR noted that roadworks have begun at Dalhousie Chesters in Bonnyrigg. Route to Rosewell is affected. Due to last 55 days.

e) Pothole Pro

BF noticed a plan to use the Pothole Pro on a road that desperately needs to be resurfaced completely, plus works are expected for SGN. Once notified, the job was removed from the plan.

f) Roadworks signs placed on pavements.

BF reported temporary signs being placed on the pavement blocking access. BF to speak to WC about contractors.

g) Safe routes to school and new path in Easthouses

ASK mentioned a paper about safe routes to school going to Cabinet and JT regaled a tale about the new path (half a path) in Easthouses for residents of Wester Kippielaw (but not the original Kippielaw estate).

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 16 JUNE, 6.00 - 7.30, ZOOM.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87607171364?pwd=mCCqVCoeqUtClb701vwwl8Qb2wMJas.1>

Meeting ID: 876 0717 1364, Passcode: 149684