



Morningside Winter photographs by Iain Murray

Morningside Community Council e-Newsletter

issue no 6 January 2016

Police Report

The largest item in this month's police report was anti-social behaviour. For a long time residents have been reporting troublesome youths congregating in Morningside Park and surrounding streets. Last summer our Ward Officers led a drive to get this under control by increasing patrols in the area and engaging schools and parents. Several young people were charged or received warnings. Although the problems have lessened, they haven't gone away and recently residents have reported more youth-related vandalism and abusive behaviour. It was in the course of responding to such a report that a police officer was very seriously injured following a scuffle near Churchhill. Thankfully he is now recovering after surgery and we have sent him our best wishes. This incident has brought home to us the commitment of our Community Police Team to protecting our community. The Inspector in charge has written to assure us of continuing action to get on top of anti-social behaviour. He has expressed his confidence that it will be managed. We are again reminded that effective police action is based on intelligence. So we urge all residents to play their part by reporting incidents and possible sources of alcohol for under-age drinkers and drugs.

Council Services

For the first time in some months, a City Council official came to our meeting. We made our views clear on the poor state of communal bins and the prevalence of fly-tipping. Council staff do their best with limited resources. They've been monitoring fly-tipping in our area and issuing fixed penalty notices for it and trade waste infractions. We're also promised a clamp-down on the A-boards cluttering our high street. We'll see whether it works.

David Wright Memorial

Many readers will remember David Wright, greengrocer extraordinaire of Comiston Road, who sadly died last year. We've donated to the memorial fund organised by Paul Boyd of Morningside Music School. The fund collected over £2,000 which will be used for a memorial bench and cairn in Braidburn Valley Park plus more trees and daffodils.

Planning Consultation

The City's Planning Department is consulting on guidance aimed at preserving the vibrancy of the local shopping area in Morningside and Bruntsfield. It sets rules for the proportion of retail to "non-shop" units and identifies sites where, should re-development be proposed, existing open space and building lines will be preserved. Examples are the green space by Hermitage Terrace and the open area round Marks & Spencer. We've agreed a response to the consultation and we encourage everyone who enjoys the ambience of our high street to look at the proposals and make their own submission at https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/bruntsfield-morningside-town-centre/consult_view

New School for Morningside

Following the consultation on schools in south Edinburgh, recommendations have been made to Councillors, including building a new primary school and nursery in Canaan Lane incorporating the Deanbank Annexe and new building on the site of the Oaklands care home. The full report is at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/southedinburghschools. Morningside CC has been asking for a new school for many years to relieve the overcrowding at South Morningside. We're prepared to offer strong support for the recommendation though we await the advice of the Parent Council. We will also flag up that serious attention has to be paid to road safety for children and parents in Canaan Lane and Morningside Rd.

*Next Meeting, Wednesday 17 February 2016, 7.30 pm at the Open Door. All welcome.
Confidential police surgery from 7.00 pm.*

Contact us through our website www.morningside.org.uk or through Facebook (look for Morningside Community Council) or e-mail secretary@morningside.org.uk