



Dennistoun Community Council

hello@dennistouncc.org.uk www.DennistounCC.org.uk

Minutes of the Dennistoun Community Council Ordinary Meeting

held on Tuesday 14th March 2023, from 7:00pm,
at St Andrews East Church Hall, 685 Alexandra Parade, G31 3LN.

Cllrs Present Steven Campbell (SC); Callum McLellan (CMcL); Frank Plowright (FP); Valery Tough (VT) [Chair]; Wesley Wright (WW) [Minute taker].

Others Present: Cllrs Anthony Carroll (ACar); Cllr Allan Casey (ACas). Niamh, representing Anne McLaughlin MP. 3 members of the public. 2 police officers.

	ACTION
1 Welcome / Introductions / Attendance / Apologies	
- Apologies received from Cllrs Lisa Clifford (LC); Tom Dickson (TD); Lewis Hughes (LH); Brian Johnston (BJ); Ruth Johnston (RJ); Jane Marley (JM); Ellen McVey (EMcV); Fiona Nixon (FN); Ian Sheerer (IS). - Also from Cllr George Redmond (GR); John Mason MSP. - Cllrs not present, no contact: Cllr Elaine McDougall (EMcD); Greg Hepburn (GH); Cecilia O'Lone (CO'L); Linda Pike (LP).	
2 Approval of Minutes	
- 14th February 2023 ordinary meeting minutes: proposed by VT, seconded by CMcL.	
3 Police	
Following items noted - Car break-ins and vandalism (reference made to previous spate of incidents where a culprit was noted being older than youth age). - Drug use Ark Lane and Cardross Court area closes. - Theft of bicycles. - Youth disorder (eggs/stones being thrown). - Advised to call everything in via 101. - Query heard about antisocial behaviour and disturbance caused by dog in private areas, and risk of harm. Uncertainty as to best way to report the issue.	
4 Matters Arising	
<u>Noticeboards</u> - Currently stored at Milnbank Community flat. >> In progress. Permissions in place. Public liability insurance to be investigated. Installation expected soon.	VT
<u>Road markings/studs/signage</u> - GCC: 'Programmed for completion by the end of February 2023, weather permitting.' Still not done. Follow-up mail sent to GCC. See Appendix A. >> Awaiting response.	GCC
<u>Cycle Racks</u> - GCC: 'NRS Officers to look at alternative locations for cycle stands. In short, they will be removed/relocated.' Still not done at library. Also, no update on racks outside Mary's Meals or on Alexandra Parade. Follow-up mail sent to GCC. See Appendix A. >> Awaiting response.	GCC
<u>On-street seating at cafes</u> - GCC: 'All street cafes were found to be abiding to their approved areas as per their approved Section 59 (Street Café) Permits, with sufficient clearance for pedestrians.' Not accurate, doesn't answer concerns, and unclear on detail. Follow-up mail sent to GCC. See Appendix A. >> Awaiting response.	GCC
<u>Drainage</u>	

	<p>- GCC: 'Gullies cleaned in accordance with cyclic programme [...] we will respond to ensure any immediate risk to public health and safety is mitigated.' Unsatisfactory. Cyclic programme evidently not effective. Immediate risk to H&S should not be only other criteria for action. Follow-up mail sent to GCC. See Appendix A. >> Awaiting response.</p> <p><u>Possible Fire Service attendance at DCC meeting</u></p> <p>- And/or appropriate publicity for any fire safety promotions. FN contacted the Fire Service, but there was a reluctance to attend without a specific issue. DCC will look into promoting some fire safety matters. >> LC has a contact in the Fire Service and can investigate further.</p> <p><u>Extra Police attendance in Milnbank</u></p> <p>- Clarity lacking regarding the mechanism, framework or procedure through which extra patrols have been arranged for Milnbank. >> Enquiry to be submitted to Milnbank requesting further information.</p> <p>ACas explained that this was a direct arrangement between HA and Police (with no Council involvement), which has now ended. Estimated at ~£16k pa. Paid for specific hours as part of a partnership arrangement.</p> <p><u>On-street bin emptying</u></p> <p>GCC responses to multiple enquiries thus far have been lacking. Fly tipping issues persist around the on-street bins (particular issues exist on and around food bins). Proper systems are evidently not in place to deal with these issues. >> ACar will follow-up with the Neighbourhood Liaison Co-ordinator.</p>	GCC
		LC
		CLlr ACar
5	Treasure Hunt	
	<p>- FP described the events held previously and how they were arranged.</p> <p>- Quoted some example prices for printing (a major cost), circa £520. Noted that funding under £500 can be processed under delegated powers.</p> <p>- Suggestion of sponsorship/provision of prizes, though experience suggests this might not be optimal. Possibility raised of Co-op contributing to a prize.</p> <p>- ACas noted that Bluevale Club have recently arranged a similar event at Easter time. Similarly, ACar noted a Zero Waste market event. Worth enquiring about that event before proceeding.</p> <p>- Will require further input. FP to lead.</p>	FP
6	Whitehill Spring Fair	
	- Sat 25 Mar 2023. VT keen on DCC having a presence. Will require assistance.	VT
7	Officer Updates/Reports	
	<u>a. Chair/Vice-chair</u>	
	- Another Fair at Whitehill School Sat 25 th Mar 2023. >> VT to co-ordinate DCC attendance.	VT
	<u>b. Treasurer</u>	
	- Latest RBS statement balance: £3744.93 as of 01 Mar 2023. No outstanding cheques. Invoices for Reidvale 3x venue hires awaited.	
	- Signatory update attempts. >> Requires follow-up.	LC/VT/WW
	- Expenses: Receipts submitted by WW for £204.66 for ink and web hosting, pending signatory update. LC paid £40 for St Andrews East Church Hall hire.	
	- Future meeting venues: Reidvale booked for Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec. >> Others TBC.	LC
	<u>c. Secretary</u>	
	- Correspondence shared internally via Slack, as applicable. Nothing additional.	
	<u>d. Planning and Licensing</u>	
	<u>Planning</u>	
	- Question raised about restaurant over-provision (in reference to the ex-TSB). >> BJ to contact Planning to request details.	BJ
	- Application for 15m high telecoms mast to the north of Aitken Street on Cumbernauld Road.	
	<u>Licensing</u>	
	- Flat at 34 Garthland Drive: Application for new HMO. Objection lodged by DCC.	
	- Flat at 6 Alexandra Gate: Application for new HMO. Objection lodged by DCC.	
	- Flat at 143 Bellfield Street: Application for new HMO. Objection lodged by DCC.	
	- Discussion of HMO policy. No proposals at present to change it. The question of exactly how	

many HMOs exist, and where they are in Dennistoun, was raised. It is noted that his information and more besides is available via the GCC 'Ward Dashboard' which can be accessed via <https://glasgowgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=eed5c7218ac645718e855d7644f40014>. Select 'Built Environment' tab, then turn 'HMO – Licences' layer on. See Appendix B.

e. Area Partnerships

Calton AP [\[Link\]](#)

- Next meeting date 19 Apr 2023.

Dennistoun AP [\[Link\]](#)

- Next meeting date 25 Apr 2023.

- £1m NIIF fund for projects for spending over/within 5 yrs. >> **DCC to discuss and recommend projects from previous consultations (e.g., LN, Avenues) to M Lundie and Cllrs, to inform shortlisting and prioritising. To be included on Agenda for April DCC Planning meeting.**

DCC

- Sighthill/Germistoun/Royston CCs >> **Investigate status of AP reviews and ensure minutes include updates.**

IS

8 Consultations

Glasgow City Council via glasgow.gov.uk/consultations

- Draft Local Housing Strategy 2023 to 2028. Ends 02 Apr 2023.

- District Regeneration Frameworks: Learning Quarter; Merchant City; Townhead; Cowcaddens. Ended 03 Mar 2023. DCC submitted comments. See Appendix C.

Scottish Government via consult.gov.scot

- As last month.

- Additional: Reforming the criminal law to address misogyny. Ends 02 Jun 2023.

- ACar highlighted 'Access to financial support in FE & HE' ending at end of month.

Others

- No other new consultations noted.

9 Current Local Issues

Whitehill Pool

- Bill submitted a written report read out by ACAs.

- No update from Save Whitehill Pool.

- Only pool out of six in the city to get extended opening hours as part prioritisation in the recent Council budget. This should allow a return of the swimming club to the pool.

- Minor investments in various areas of the pool have provided benefits.

- The particularly higher level of demand for this pool is acknowledged.

- A Glasgow Life report is still awaited. >> **GL liaison rep to be invited to DCC's meeting in May.**

WW

Reidvale HA

- Preferred bidder still to be identified by Reidvale HA, which will then be put to tenants.

- Rent increase passed (understood to be 6or7%).

Liveable Neighbourhood

- Stage 2 Report info published. [\[Link\]](#)

- 'Dennistoun Streets for People' engagement due to commence in April 2023.

- 'Duke Street and John Knox Street Avenues Plus' due to begin engagement in mid-June 2023.

- Hogarth Park active travel route progression to detailed and technical design (Stage 3-4) during 2023/24 pending Sustrans funding application submitted in October 2022.

- Where do we focus our energies? >> **Use next DCC Planning meeting, in April, to determine?**

VT

10 Public Input

- Onslow Drive flooding noted. See above item 4.

- Acknowledgement of mechanical street sweeper.

- Back court bins replaced with larger on-street bins. Repeated problems with them not being fully emptied.

- ACAs reviewed and updated on the bin replacement programme. Safety assessments identified various properties where wheelie bins could not be taken from back courts. A recent operative accident meant bins were temporarily stored on-street. Funding is in place in the

coming months to engage with residents regarding a pilot scheme of dedicated on-street (on carriageway) bin sheds. This will enable an increase in frequency of collections.

11 Elected Member Updates

Niamh, for Anne McLaughlin

- Energy prepayment campaign update with success noted.
- SPT roundtable meeting. One-day smartcard for buses is expected soon (end of summer).
- Anne McLaughlin voted against the Illegal Immigration Bill.

Cllr Carroll

- Walkabout in Wellpark identified parking issues related to Meat Market workforce. Impeding bin collections.
- Wellpark hall reopening repair work has delayed reopening.
- Planters at schools are being maintained.
- Amore gable end repairs actioned.
- Connie's duck/vehicle issues noted.

Cllr Casey

- Noted difficulties in dealing with on-street advertising vehicles, requiring more legislation or a more streamlined process.
- Updated on discussions ongoing with Home Group regarding provision of social housing as a next phase related to the Meat Market development in coming years.
- Update on recent Council budget developments.
- M8 J15 underpass lighting improvements update. Problems with ownership (Gov owned, Transport Scotland maintained).
- Pedestrian crossing timings raised. >> **Correspondence to GCC.**

DCC

John Mason MSP

- DCC have requested update on pavement parking implementation. Latest known update is that enforcement is expected to commence "later in 2023", but it's unclear on whether Councils are in possession of all they require from Parliament in order to proceed with any preparatory surveys and/or pre-assessments, etc.
-

12 Any Other Business

- Still no update on progress of 'LTN'/'Local Intervention' Traffic Regulation Order to make one way streets, no-entry junctions and amendments outside schools permanent. Believed to be underway, but no known status of progress or milestone dates. Concern about potential clashes or contradictions inhibiting the forthcoming 'Streets for People' project.
 - Hazardous sharp damaged pedestrian barrier outside Duke Street Post Office reported, but no action.
 - Rocking tactile paving at pedestrian crossing, north side of Duke Street, near Hillfoot Street, reported Sep 2022 but deteriorated since then.
-

13 Next Meetings

- Planning meeting on 11 Apr 2023, 7pm at venue TBC.
 - Ordinary meeting on 09 May 2023, 7pm at venue TBC.
 - Agenda will be circulated with invites in advance and published to [Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates](https://dennistouncc.org.uk/dates).
 - Apologies to be submitted via hello@dennistouncc.org.uk.
-

APPENDIX ITEMS ATTACHED

- **APPENDIX A: STREETSCAPE ISSUES FOLLOW-UP**
- **APPENDIX B: WARD DASHBOARD, INCLUDING HMO LICENCES MAP**
- **APPENDIX C: DRF LEARNING QUARTER - RESPONSE FROM DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

APPENDIX A: STREETScape ISSUES FOLLOW-UP

Sent to GCC, 14 Mar 2023

Thank you very much for the response of January 20 to the questions submitted by Dennistoun Community Council. While appreciating that the responses are not directly from you, we feel that many don't supply the clarity, detail or timetabling we'd like to see, which is frustrating given the amount of time some of these issues have been outstanding.

Road markings/studs/signs

These were "programmed for completion by the end of February 2023, weather permitting" but the work has not been completed, despite the weather permitting, Could you also please let us know the policy for programmed repairs that have to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions or other reasons. Is this a lack of the draw situation whereby anything that can't be carried out when due is bumped to the end of the list again?

This work is summarised as follows:

- Missing pedestrian crossing studs on Duke St (at crossing near Hillfoot St).
- Contradictory yellow markings/parking signage on Hillfoot St.
- Bus stop markings missing on Duke St (at Annbank St).
- Bus stop markings missing on Alexandra Parade (at primary School).
- Bus lane sign missing on Duke Street (north side, empty pole just east of Wellpark brewery entrance).
- Advance stop line 'cycle box' not reinstated; and pedestrian crossing studs reinstated with too narrow a crossing width between them; on Duke St (just west of John Knox Street).

Cycle Racks

We were told the footpath blockage caused by the placement of the Electric vehicle charging equipment near the cycle racks by the library on Craiggpark would be dealt with in August last year. Telling us that NRS officers are still looking for alternative locations and an intention they will be removed/replaced without any timescale feels like we're being fobbed off. Can you please let us know why this relatively simple task still hasn't been carried out and a definitive timescale for doing so, bearing in mind that the issue was first raised by DCC in July 2021 and a July 2022 GCC update noted an intention for corrective work to be complete by the end of August 2022.

Additionally DCC was informed by GCC in November 2021 that arrangements were in place for repair of the damaged cycle rack on Duke Street (at Bellfield St), and multiple failed/degraded (now removed) racks on Alexandra Parade (at Alexandra Park St and Marne St). Now we are told that there is no timescale in place and replacement is contingent on risk/funding. This is an unjustifiable reduction in active travel amenity.

Drainage

Regarding the drainage problems, we're in effect being told that the evidence of our own eyes is secondary to the cyclic gully cleaning programme. This programme obviously isn't working as we constantly report the same drains as being blocked, and the same areas as being flooded. This requires more than an individual report via RALF as the drainage systems are connected. Sending a drainage cleaning team out to deal with a single blocked drain time and again without considering the wider problem is hardly best value for council tax payers. We'd also object to the implication that seeing to a problem is only necessary if public health or safety is an issue. This entirely discounts the public nuisance of situations. One would be the entire width of Onslow Drive for a stretch of up to a hundred yards being flooded every time there's heavy rainfall, which has been reported on numerous occasions and has been happening for years.

We reported four specific issues, so could we please be told when they'll be dealt with.

Outdoor Seating Areas

As all street cafes were found to be abiding to their approved areas as per their approved Section 59 (Street Café) Permits, with sufficient clearance for pedestrians, can you please let us know the exact specifications applied to those areas.

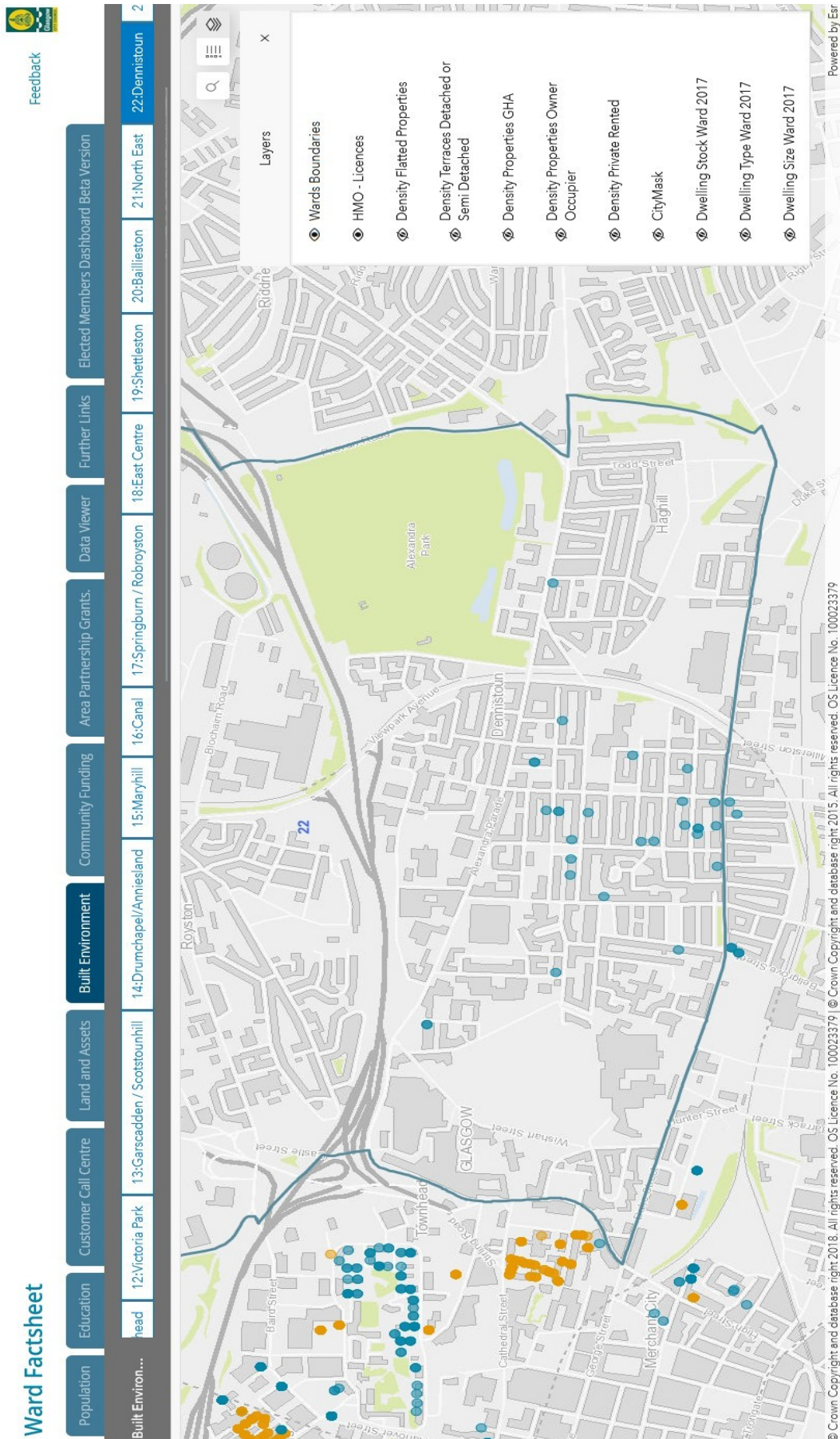
Further, the GCC reply does not properly acknowledge the concerns raised by DCC. For example, the persistent issue of vehicles encroaching into pedestrian space at the Palais, blocked access to cycle racks at Amore, and commercial refuse bags left on the pavement outside Coias. The images documented by Google Street View are not isolated instances, they are the norm, and this will be apparent if the noted 'continued monitoring' has taken place. Is it not reasonable to expect that if these problems can't be properly controlled, then the outdoor seating area permissions must take adequate consideration of those problems?

APPENDIX B: WARD DASHBOARD, INCLUDING HMO LICENCES MAP

The GCC 'Ward Dashboard' which can be accessed via

<https://glasgowgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=eed5c7218ac645718e855d7644f40014>.

Select 'Built Environment' tab, then turn 'HMO – Licences' layer on.



APPENDIX C: DRF LEARNING QUARTER - RESPONSE FROM DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Sent to Ian Elder, 14 Mar 2023

Thanks again for attending Dennistoun Community Council's (DCC) meeting last month to talk us through the DRF plans and processes. As you are aware, DCC had a number of questions, and after further discussion, we'd like to submit the following response, specifically with regards to the proposed eastern entrance to the Necropolis.

DCC welcomes the opportunity to respond to the "North East Districts: Townhead, Cowcaddens, Learning Quarter and Merchant City DRF" consultation.

The consultation is broad and features actions relevant to locations which are not within our Community Council area. We have focused our initial response on the item which is of high importance to our constituents, has high impact on them and is controversial, namely the proposed eastern entrance to the Necropolis.

There are some limitations to our response, namely that we do not have the capacity to survey as widely as Glasgow City Council (GCC). We have therefore based our response on a combination of individual Community Councillor feedback, feedback from members of the public who have attended our meetings and conversations undertaken by the community for example on social media.

Although our response focuses on initiatives on an individual basis, there are wider points we believe are important and need highlighted and taken account of. Our feedback is based on the information available to us on the GCC website.

Learning Quarter (LQ) Regeneration

As identified in "(Y)our Learning Quarter Regeneration Handbook" on the consultation website, the LQ borders and overlaps with DCC boundaries at its eastern aspect. It is important that the views of all those residing in Dennistoun are represented and that the particular concerns of those living closest to where initiatives are planned are given the opportunity to share their views.

Necropolis

A number of proposals are highlighted in the consultation. These seem to amount to the suggestion that there could be an Eastern Entrance to the Necropolis which will offer a route for pedestrians and wheelchair users into the Necropolis in addition to the route that already exists at the Drygate. We have had conflicting information as to whether cycles would be permitted to access and this is something which needs urgent clarification.

There are a number of suggested benefits including access to green space and a historical monument for those living in Dennistoun. There is also a suggestion that the Necropolis could form part of an active travel route. Some have identified the potential benefits for increased engagement with and respect for this site and all of its cultural and historical significance.

However, there have also been significant concerns from members of the community. These concerns are focused around the potential resultant increase in anti-social behaviour, vandalism, excess traffic and poor parking provision. There are also significant concerns with regards to the need to maintain respect for the site which continues to be an active cemetery.

DCC understands that a fuller consultation will take place with stakeholders in due course, and we will of course be happy to participate fully in this process, with the expectation that any future engagement noting the potential for an eastern entrance to the Necropolis includes a detailed options appraisal of that proposal in comparison to potential similar or linked projects. Namely: greenspace and active travel upgrades along the existing Firpark and/or Ark Lane routes. It is key that an options appraisal considers the context created by two confirmed and upcoming nearby projects. Specifically: the Liveable Neighbourhood 'Streets for People', with engagement due to commence in April; and the 'Duke Street and John Knox Street Avenues Plus' project, due to begin engagement in mid-June.