

Leith Harbour & Newhaven Community Council

27th June, 2023

Chairman's Report

Quite a lot has happened this month. Besides the 'Sun Shining on Leith' or at least on Leith Links over the weekend of 17th and 18th June we saw the Trams to New Haven on 7th June finally running on our tracks and taking passengers. This was the Trams, may I remind you, that some locals were adamant that 'nobody wanted them and nobody would use them' well when I have used them I have had difficulty in finding a seat on most journeys while travelling at various times of the day. When returning from my regular meeting of Leith Chooses Steering Group last Wednesday afternoon I had a brief conversation with one of the on-board staff who informed me that at least one ticket machine had actually run out of paper to print tickets. While one such breakdown does not necessarily spell out the truth it does go some way to proving the critics were wrong. I am told that the stop at Newhaven is particularly busy with tourists boarding from the harbour and going into the City.

Leith Gala Day was Saturday 10th June, a beautiful sunny day and the crowds on the Links enjoying the space. We struggled with colleagues at Link Links CC to erect our gazebo but the rewards in our efforts make it all worth it as usual. Not too many nails broken and we managed to get it back into the bag that it came out of at the end of the day.

On the 20th of June saw me attending a Public Meeting in the Kirkgate hosted by Katrina Faccenda with a representative from EBUG. Members of the public were able to get some insight into matters relating to bus stops, bus routes and comments on the bell ringing of the trams which I can accept is annoying but is necessary at our Tram stops which are on islands and passengers alight and have to cross the tracks to get to the pavement. Leith Walk remains a hazard and this is not acceptable and we will work with other CCs in the months ahead to rectify this.

Thursday 22nd was the monthly meeting of the EACC our association for Community Councils. A valuable update from the Community Empowerment and Engagement team along with an update from the Sustainable Development team both at CEC as we work towards Edinburgh 2030 and Net Zero. We will get all of the slides shown when available and hopefully will post what we can on the website.

Other reporting will be in the Minute.

Stay well, still hearing of cases of Covid being about. Don't forget to have your Covid jab when invited to do so.

Douglas J Tharby

Chair