

## Cllr Jim Orr's report, Southside Community Council, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015

### **SCNP**

SCNP met on Monday 7th. The SCC rep may wish to report some matters but I would add:

- Tens of thousands of pounds of community grant monies were agreed. SCC members may wish to consider whether they know of any small "projects" which meet the four SCNP priority objectives and where a funding application could be made.
- SCNP are going to hold Participatory Budgeting events in April 2016. This can be thought of as an extension of the community grants system but with more funds. "South Centra£ Decides" is the moniker. More information will be circulated in due course.
- 4m wide shared cycle/walking path from Boroughloch south to Victor Hugo to be created.
- Tenement area cycle storage bins have been trialled around the Southside and were successful.

Afterwards I spoke to local police Inspector Graeme Nesbit about community relations. The synagogue and central mosque are both in this area. He indicated (and I paraphrase) that there had been reports of some "anti-muslim" behaviour (verbal abuse) but, in the circumstances, very little. And little or no reported "anti-jewish" behaviour.

### **Buccleuch Street**

I received a promise a couple of months ago that the massive new bus stop on Buccleuch Street would be removed. Still waiting on this but it will happen.

Causey Development Trust held a Capital Campaign meeting on 28th November. Campaigning for further funds.

Gifford Park - unsightly, unauthorised commercial bins now removed by Council so the mural won't get damaged and everyone can pass through pleasantly. The whole area should be a focus for unauthorised commercial bin removal in the next few months as part of a phased approach by the Council.

Sandstone bollard at Gifford Park also now re-erected.

### **St Patrick's Square**

I was the M.C. at the turning on of the lights at St Patrick's Square on 1st December. Really good turn out and atmosphere. Nice party afterwards at Southside Community Centre. Lord Provost kindly turned up to do the switch on. All organised by the excellent Southside Association.

Odeon renovation work appears to continue apace. A guided tour by SCC members and councillors might be possible.

**Dumbiedykes** Quality of Life Action Group meets on 11th February at 9.30 till 11.30. I chair this and for example am investigating amending the subsidised bus number 60 as it is unlikely to continue with passenger numbers as low as at present. Spirit of Dumbiedykes group ongoing. Lots of interesting things going on down there.