

Ratho & District Community Council
Chairman's report – October 2013

So yet another busy year for the Community Council, covering potential planning applications and improvements to local infrastructure. The details can be seen in the details of the minutes of meetings published on the web (<http://www.radcc.org>). What follows are some extracts.

We appreciate the contribution by those involved in the various Neighbourhood Partnerships and associated meetings, and contributions by our elected councillors, as well as our Members of Scottish Parliament and UK Parliament.

The provision of Primary Care for Ratho residents rumbles on. It is disappointing that we do not have further progress on the proposed site at Wilkieston Road, Ratho, despite the length of time since the first Project Meeting earlier this year. It is understood that a further Board meeting is needed to agree increased costs. I would have liked this resolved before leaving the chair. On a more positive note, I have been in discussions with a Dentist who is keen to set up practice in Ratho.

We have now been consulted on the new bus stops associated with the Cala development. A site meeting was undertaken and sites identified, although we still lack a decision. The bus service is another concern, especially when the trams commence. Active discussions have been undertaken on this topic.

Infra-structure local success has seen Freelands Road repaired as well as potholes on Dalmahoy Road. We requested roadside verges to be cut back to improve safety in Pentlands and Almond areas. Further, it is proposed to extend the speed limits along Freelands Road. Another initiative we have been involved in trying to improve Dalmahoy Junction at the A71.

We have been active in helping residents with proposed changes to Main Street in Ratho.

There have been plethoras of Proposal of Application Notices (PAN) recently which threaten the Green Belt. We are actively consulting with residents.

Communication between residents and the RDCC seems to have been improving: Google group, Twitter and the Web site represent the new technology, while the Interchange represents a further useful source of further information.

It is my last year as Chair (having not stood for election, for professional reasons as I have joined the Professional Affairs Board of the Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors). I must thank all the members of the RDCC who have worked hard to represent the area covered by RDCC.

My thanks for all the personal support during the last three years. It has been a team effort and I wish the new office bearers best fortune."