

Ratho and District Community Council
Secretary's report for the Annual General Meeting on 15 May 2017

Focussing on the role of secretary I can report that over the last year the priority has been on keeping colleagues updated on priorities, and improving communications with residents in different communities in our area. This has been streamlined by the use of a number of Google Groups as mailing lists, as well as making use of social media.

Planning lists are sent out monthly, for information for Community Councillors, and circulated information from City of Edinburgh Council colleagues forwarded as appropriate.

The Community Council website is updated when required though this is not accessed by many residents, who seem to prefer social media.

Over the last year we have sent 43 Google Group email updates to residents' inboxes. Information has included relevant traffic orders, bus diversions, major planning applications and City of Edinburgh Council consultations. These also generate feedback or requests for information.

Posts are made on the Ratho Village Community, Newbridge Village Community and Save Gogar Hermiston Greenbelt Facebook pages as appropriate. These are generally information items affecting village life, including information on how residents can report problems. In relation to the Ratho Village Community Facebook site I also get Private Messages about particular problems which are dealt with either directly with CEC colleagues or by pointing the residents to suitable information sources.

In the past year there have been 254 Tweets and Retweets on our Twitter feed usually about on-going situations, and notices including emergency road closures along with a good number of retweets of informatives which may be of interest to residents.

In relation to correspondence this is generally conducted by email and mainly centred on infrastructure issues – problems with waste services, public transport and roads.

Kate Watt
Secretary
15 May 2017