

Estate Walkabout Report

April 2018

Dalkeith

In attendance:

Midlothian Council: Communities Officer Rona Duncan, Community Safety Officer Elaine Wilson, Tenant Participation Officer Lesley Connell, Councillor Margot Russell, Councillor Colin Cassidy, Councillor Stephen Curran

Police Scotland: PC Newton Jones

Residents: Ann, M and C

This walkabout took place on Wednesday 11 April 2018. The walkabout was advertised on the council's website and social networking pages and in the Midlothian Advertiser. Posters were displayed in the local area on lampposts, bus stops etc. and flyers were sent to approximately 220 local tenants.

Two residents had sent text messages identifying the areas they wanted the group to inspect, three residents had phoned and three residents came along on the day.

The group met outside Dalkeith Medical Practice and decided to walk a route which would include St Andrew Street, Wheatsheaf Lane, Gibraltar Terrace and Allan Terrace.

St Andrew Street

Issue: Dog fouling on pavement

Action: Reported to Contact Centre (service request ref. no. 1296193)

Wheatsheaf Lane



Issue: Councillor query re. under used carpark in Wheatsheaf Lane

Action: Lesley to find out whether this can be used by all to help remedy the lack of parking in Dalkeith

Update: Email from Neil Hunter, Property Development Manager on 01/05/18:

'The Council owns the car park at Wheatsheaf Lane and it is held in the Housing Account. The car park is currently used as a "public car park" but is underused and I suspect that the locals are nervous of parking there in case they get locked in with the barrier unexpectedly.

In terms of its history Social Work were to be the designated service user but that never happened so it is still an unadopted car park in the Housing Account.

I think if it was to be used by Council staff we may require planning consent or at least a planning enquiry to confirm its status.'

Email from Laura Kinsey, Planning Information Officer on 02/05/18:

'Having reviewed our records, I can find no planning history for the former garage site at Wheatsheaf Lane, Dalkeith.

I had a look at Google Images and from this it would appear that the garages were demolished around 2009. The use of this land as a car park has not operated for a continuous period of 10 or more years and therefore an application for planning permission for the change of use from nil use to car park is required. The fee is £401.'

Gibraltar Terrace



Issue: Crumbling wall at corner of Gibraltar Terrace

Action: Housing Officer has arranged an inspection by the clerk of works.

Allan Terrace



Issue: Fly tipping at the back of Allan Terrace

Action: Tam Crawford, Environmental Warden is investigating. If proof of ownership is found the culprit may be issued with a fixed penalty fine of £200.



Issue: Rubbish outside ** Allan Terrace

Action: Louise Anderson (Housing Officer) investigating

Issue: Wooden pallet, mattress etc. in garden at ** Allan Terrace

Action: Louise Anderson (Housing Officer) investigating

Issue: Tenants reported flaking paint in their stair (number **)

Action: Reported to contact centre



Issue: rubbish in garden at ** Allan Terrace

Action: Louise Anderson (Housing Officer) investigating

Issue: unkempt garden at ** Allan Terrace

Action: Louise Anderson (Housing Officer) investigating



Issue: Rubbish in back garden at * Allan Terrace

Action: Louise Anderson (Housing Officer) investigating

Issue: Overflow running at ** Allan Terrace

Action: This isn't a council tenancy so no further action will be taken.

Issue: Dumped bed and TV at front of Allan Terrace

Action: Reported to contact centre (ref.no. 75559)

Gibraltar Terrace



Issue: Dumped Lidl trolleys chained together

Action: Elaine Wilson has reported this to Lidl. They will arrange to have them picked up.

Issue: Trolley and other rubbish dumped in drying green (back of * Gibraltar Terrace)

Action: Reported to the contact centre (ref. no. 75678)

Esk Glades



Following a telephone request, Lesley visited the Cow Bridge between Esk Glades and Musselburgh Road.

Issue: Midlothian Council owned land full of litter. The owner occupier who sold the land to the council has reported this to John Blair (Director of Resources) in the past.

Action: Reported to the contact centre

The next walkabout will be in Gorebridge on 2 May 2018.