

## WHAT'S IN STORE FOR STOBWFEST 2017?

Stobfest in May 2016 was a bit of an experiment. In response to local residents and traders it was agreed to hold an event focussed on Albert Street.

Hard work, bunting and a pipe band meant that 2016 was a positive first step to establishing an annual festival for Stobswell, one that complements

August's Celebration in the Park.

So building on last year's events and drawing on the goodwill generated from Christmas activities we are asking local organisations to start thinking about May 2017. You can book your space in the Gala Day parade. This will take place on Saturday 13th May.

In addition, ideas for events around this date are welcome.

Last year we had a play, a talk, and activities at Morgan, Arthurstone Library, Boomerang, Baxter Park and elsewhere. We want to make this year bigger and better. So get in touch and let's build for Stobfest in May.

## FAMILY ACTIVITY CENTRE UPDATE

The conversion of the former Dens Road Market building to a Family Activity Centre is on track

to open from late 2017 to early 2018. Chris Airlie, local business man and developer of the project,

told Stobswell Forum that the centre will offer trampolines, putting, bowling and soft-play to name but a few activities available. There will also be a café where visitors can re-fuel during their visit.

## BAXTER PARK ROLLER DERBY TRACK

Congratulations to Dundee Roller Derby Girls! Dundee City Council has just passed their application to create a

roller derby track in Baxter Park near the existing multi-use games-area pitch. The flat track will be a smooth surface

area available for all who want to improve their skating prowess. Funding still has to be raised but at least it's now on track.



## STOBWSWELL GETS INTO THE FESTIVE SPIRIT

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec - 12pm-3pm**

**Christmas Wreath Making**  
Baxter Park

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec - 7pm**

**Christmas Concert**  
Morgan Academy (pay at the door)

**Tuesday 20 Dec - 7pm**

**Carol Concert**  
Stobswell Church (free entry)

## THE STOBWSWELL FORUM ARE...

• **Duncan McCabe**  
Chairperson

• **Robbie Fotheringham**  
Treasurer

• **David MacDougall**  
Vice-Chairperson

• **Connor Beaton**  
Secretary

• **Lorraine Clement**  
Minutes Secretary

• **Chris Airlie**

• **Colin Clement**

• **Jacob Ellis**

• **Jim Ferrie**

• **Nichola Fraser**

• **Roma Ritchie**

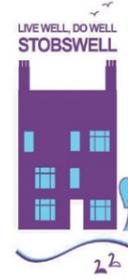
**You can contact Stobswell Forum in the following ways:**

**Email:** [info@stobswell.org.uk](mailto:info@stobswell.org.uk) **Telephone:** 01382 438858

**Web:** [www.stobswell.org.uk](http://www.stobswell.org.uk)

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# STOBWSWELL'S VOICE

Baxter Park • Clepington • Maryfield • Stobswell • Woodside

Winter 2016

## EXPLORE DUNDEE!

The Local Development Plan (LDP) provides the pattern for the various land uses such as housing, schools, open space etc. in our area and the development guidance for the next 5-10 years. It is the subject of extensive consultation within the community. The local Community Plan (LCP) identifies a range of priorities and actions identified by local communities following a range of consultation initiatives.

The LDP has a mandatory consultation process and an opportunity for the public to make formal representation and ultimately present their case to a hearing. It seems odd that the prime facility for moving people between various destinations i.e. bus services, when routes and timetables are being modified or withdrawn, has no formal consultation procedure and apparently no opportunity for objection.

Such consultation, as has been experienced as part of the recent August review, has been variously described as superficial, haphazard, and pointless. As a result at least one community, following consultation, having identified their essential destinations e.g. shops, schools, health centres, workplaces has been provided with a service that takes them to none of these but instead crosses the city passing two other shopping centres, a number of health facilities and other schools, none of which serve that community. Individuals have to leave earlier for work and return home later because they need to walk



far further to use different routes due to early cessation of certain services. There is evidence that folk cannot go out of an evening because there is no public transport to get home. To how many local communities does this apply?

Meantime, the Director of Tayside Public Transport seem to delight in reporting that it "achieves high levels of operational performance," and that "scheduling and timetabling are held under constant review to ensure that service provision continues to match demand and punctuality and reliability is [sic] improved. (*Courier*, 26 October) The Managing Director explains that successful/profitable routes cannot help non profitable routes because "there are rules preventing cross subsidy between services, "what we aren't allowed to do is take money from a (profitable) service to pay for another, that is to subsidise [sic] a route

such as (an unprofitable one)." (*Courier*, 3 November) Presumably this is due to either contractual or legislative restrictions. Meantime, a number of routes have historically served more than one community and cross the city to do so, e.g. Douglas to Charleston. Why then can a profitable route not be "twinned" with a non-profitable route? The flexibility of the city centre "on-street bus station" should facilitate this. Or would this interfere with profits?

Increasingly the rebranding of the city bus service to "X-plore Dundee" seems like a sick joke as many routes, rather than take you to your preferred or even essential destinations, take you on a voyage of exploration. Perhaps local buses should not be named after the likes of Brian Cox and Charlie Kean but rather "Scott, Shackleton and Amundsen"!

# STOBBSWELL FORUM: FIGHTING FOR YOU

## Ellengowan Drive Concern

Residents at Ellengowan Drive enjoy the area they live in. There are many long-term residents and there is a good community spirit.

It was an unpleasant surprise to hear however that there were plans to redevelop the site with the possible demolition of all the houses.

A well attended meeting was held at Boomerang between residents and Northern Housing.

As a result local councillor Ken Lynn and a representative of the residents attended the next Northern Housing board meeting to present their case.

Cllr Lynn said; "As a result of this action from the community, Northern have postponed their final decision and offered to meet with residents on a one to one basis."

Although this pressure from the residents has seen the "threat" of demolition removed for the time being, questions remain about significant renovation and timescales. Stobswell Forum offers the residents at Ellengowan Drive its support and asks that Northern Housing/Hillcrest provides full and complete information and involves the residents collectively in the decision-making process.



## Stobswell Community Planning

During 2016 discussion took place about what people would like their community to be like. Stobswell Forum hosted meetings and individuals were asked for their views. In a process led by the Regeneration Team a plan is now being drawn up for the Maryfield ward, which includes Stobswell. Council departments, Police, Fire, and Health, alongside community and voluntary groups, are all being asked to work together to make this plan happen.

Some of the things people said they would like to see are:

- A bus service for Woodside
- Upgraded paths for Baxter Park
- Activities for children
- Safe roads and improved pavements
- Less graffiti
- Improvement to Swannie Ponds
- Tackle issues to do with parking
- Tackle issues to do with tenements

- Look after open space and green areas
- Keep services on our 'doorstep'
- Ensure Albert Street is safe for all

The forum will be working with the Council departments and others, throughout 2017 to make sure as much of the plan as possible is completed.

For a copy of the plan summary contact Stuart Fairweather on 01382 438858 or [stuart.fairweather@dundecity.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.fairweather@dundecity.gov.uk)

## Robertson Street Garden

It's coming. Following the piece in the last newsletter, progress has been made on plans for Robertson Street. Dundee City Council's November meeting agreed the finances for this project to go ahead. Over the winter there will be major activity on site. This time will also

be used to bring together the group and plan for the growing season.

If you are interested in what is planned, or any other aspect of food growing in the area, please get in touch. Stuart Fairweather 01382 438858.



# STOBBSWELL FORUM: FIGHTING FOR YOU

## Baffin Street Residents

Over the last few months residents at the tenements have been coming together to take back managing their communal garden area. With the help of the Regeneration Team and a student, Jenna Reilly, contact was made with all those living in the thirty-plus flats. Owners were contacted

and asked to assist but the residents agreed to make a move and clean-up the garden. Tools were borrowed and a leaflet invited people to take part. After a bit of work on a handful of occasions the gardens now look useable and neighbours are discussing what to do next.

Stobswell Forum would like to encourage residents across the area to collectively clean up and look after their shared space. If this is something you and your neighbours are interested in doing, a start might be contacting Stuart at the Regeneration Team on 01382 438858.

## Stop The Bus

The second half of 2017 has seen bus users across the city respond to changes to the bus route run by Xplore Dundee. Residents from the Woodside area - Mains Drive, Granton Terrace, Woodside Terrace etc. were amongst those questioning a bus service that does not meet the needs of their area.

Frequency, an unhelpful route, and the absence of a service in evenings and

weekends are all issues. The make-up of those living in this part of the ward is also changing. People getting to work and school is a concern along with the older people who feel isolated.

Hopefully our council can persuade the bus company to provide a service for people's needs. As campaigners have said, putting profit before people does not work.



## East Craigie Football Club Update

By the end of the year East Craigie Juniors aim to become a charitable trust known as East Craigie Community Sports Trust (ECCST).

The club have been at Craigie Park since 1932 and would like to include more of the community in the activities at the

ground and, as football isn't everyone's game, increase the options.

In the coming months you will receive a questionnaire from the Trust seeking your views on what you would like them to do in the wider community, whether providing meeting rooms,

social activities, computer facilities, men's sheds, or whatever you feel would be of benefit.

Then hopefully, next year we may see new facilities and a new lease of life given to one of Scotland's oldest clubs.

## Stobswell Advice Café and Credit Union

Stobswell Advice Café takes place at the Parish Church Hall at the top of Albert Street every Tuesday. You can come along for a chat and a cup of

tea or get some advice on benefits, health, housing or any other matter. A Credit Union collection takes place between 11.30 and 12.30 at the Café.

This offers an easy way to save and find out about getting loans.