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Special Print Run of YOUR local news site for Wester Hailes



FEBRUARY 2016

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New Harvesters Link Declared Open!

Combined Campaign Reaps Rewards

Almost twenty years after being closed off, the pedestrian route between the Westside Plaza Shopping Centre and the new Healthy Living Centre was finally reopened after many years of campaigning by the Wester Hailes Community Council.

The official opening of this new route, to be known as 'Harvesters Link', took place on Tuesday 22 December 2015. The tinsel cutting was performed by Anne Denholm Vice-chair of the Community Council with many other members and local politicians who had supported the campaign in attendance.

Immediately afterwards the group headed off to the Healthy Living Centre for a plate of warm soup and a presentation. Details were provided on how the Community Council had been assisted by other community organisations and individuals in the estate.



Photo courtesy of the Edinburgh Reporter

This included several articles in the Wester Hailes From There To Here social history blog. The blog made use of extracts and photographs from the Sentinel newspaper archives arguing for the route to be reopened from as far back as 1996.

A campaign song and video entitled 'Lets Meet at the Underpass' which

was produced in 2014 by local residents was also shown to those present and can be accessed on YouTube.

The Community Council would like to thank all local people, organisations and politicians who have helped them in this campaign.

**An update on the Harvesters Way Development Page 3
Information on the new Community Trust Page 7**

Wester Hailes Needs You!

Wester Hailes Community Council are a team of ordinary people. Residents of Murrayburn, Clovenstone, Westburn, Dumbryden, Calder, Hailesland and all other areas in Wester Hailes, just like you.

Wester Hailes Community Council (WHCC) was established in 2009. It is run by dedicated community volunteers. The general purpose of the community council is acting as a voice for the area and sharing our views and concerns with the City of Edinburgh Council. WHCC works with South West and Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnerships and holds positions on both boards. WHCC is involved in community issues from environmental, health & wellbeing and planning.

Ways you can you help

One of the priorities brought up by local people at the Open Space event and at Community Council meetings is the state of the environment and how we can make Wester Hailes look beautiful.



If you would like to get involved in our Community Council, or have any local issues which you would like to raise or would like to find out what is happening in our area, you are welcome to attend our meetings. **The dates for future meetings are: 3rd Feb, 2nd Mar, 6th Apr and 4th May 2016.**

If you would like to get our updates 'Like' our Facebook page.

Contact email:
westerhailesc@gmail.com

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world, indeed it's the only thing that ever does"

There are many ways we can help improve it!

Together we can clean up litter! Make sure you know where your nearest bin is when you are out and about. We are currently organising litter picks in different neighbourhoods. If you and your neighbours would like to organise a litter pick in your area, please do get in touch and we can help.

Did you know that if you have a piece of furniture you are trying to dispose of you can contact Edinburgh Council services and they will pick up bulky items for a fee.

Waste services - bulky uplifts Email:
special.uplifts@edinburgh.gov.uk
Tel: 0131 529 3030

WHCC meetings are open to the public and are held every first Wednesday of the month in the Wester Hailes Library, 6.00pm-7.45pm.



If the furniture is in usable condition you can take it to the recycling centre yourself or donate it to charity. The closest place you can try is Four Square in Sighthill- they will come and collect furniture or white goods for free. Their contact number is 0131 557 7900.

Do you have an interest in Wildlife?

Are you interested in wildlife and would love to get involved in local organisations to help organise walks etc? Have you heard about **Wester Hailes Wildlife**? For more information contact Rik on r.morleywhcc@gmail.com or check the Facebook page: Wester-HailesWildlife

Building the success of Harvesters Way



The story so far

In 2010 Places for People completed their original development of 168 mixed tenure properties at Harvesters Way. This resulted in more people moving to Wester Hailes and many have settled in those properties. Overall this has supported the wider long term economic sustainability of the area and created a new addition to the local community.

Following continued local campaigning and the success of the initial development, Places for People and Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association had the confidence to progress plans, along with the support of the City of Edinburgh Council, to complete the entire regeneration of this once derelict site. A total of £21.8 million is being invested into the development, with £6.95 million from grant funding.

The final phase of the development at Harvesters Way will see a further 183 new affordable homes created. The site will include 1, 2 and 3 bedroom flats and 2 and 3 bedroom townhouses for affordable rent, mid market rent and sale options. Part of the development has already been completed and people began to move in to their new homes before Christmas.

How can you move into one of the new homes?

As part of their approach to create successful places, Places for People offer a range of affordable options to enable people to access a new home. Harvesters Way is no different. Homes are available for social rent, mid market rent and for sale.

Social Rent

Homes for social rent will be let and managed by Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association, part of the Places for People Group. You will need to be registered with the Edinburgh Choice Based letting system Key to Choice, also known as Edin-dex, to be able to bid for any available properties.

Some properties have already been let but further homes will be available in February, June and July.

Rents will start from £325 per month for a one bedroom flat. You can download an application form from this website, <http://keyto-choice.scotsman.com/>,

call 0131 529 5080 or visit the local City of Edinburgh Council Area South West Neighbourhood Office, 10 Westside Plaza, Edinburgh, EH14 2ST.





Mid Rent

Some new homes have already been let for mid rent and people have moved in from the end of

December. There was a strong demand for this first phase of the properties. Further new homes will be released for mid rent in March. To be eligible for mid rent you will

need to be able to demonstrate that you have income of at least £12,000 per annum up to a maximum of £39,000 per annum per household.

One and two bedroom flats for mid rent will be let and managed by Places for People Scotland. They will be advertised through www.citylets.co.uk or you can call 0131 657 5139.

Housing For Sale

Places for People are selling 1 and 2 bedroom apartments, 2 and 3 bedroom duplexes and 3 bedroom townhouses at Harvesters Way. For further information, availability and prices visit <http://www.harvester-sway.co.uk/> or call 0845 266 6585.

Working together to create a successful place

Castle Rock Edinvar and Places for People have been involved in wider community activities in the area. They have provided £40,000 as a contribution to the redevelopment of the local underpass.

Working with WHALE they provided £7000 of funding to support a Street Art project based around the site for local children.

As part of the contract with housing specialist Lovell, three pre-apprentice opportunities have been provided. So far this has resulted in two young people securing full apprenticeships in electrical works and brickwork.

Once building work has been

completed staff will continue to work in the area and support close

working relationships with other local agencies.



Buy now move in March 2016

Last few properties available on this phase of our exciting new development, **Harvesters Way**. Come and look around, and find out how you can purchase your dream home.



With our shared equity loan scheme, you fund 60–80% of the full price of the property, made up of your deposit and a mortgage. This keeps your deposit and monthly payments to a minimum. We've got a fantastic choice of 2 & 3 bedroom properties, ready to move in to now. Prices start at just £81,000.*

For more information on shared equity or about our development please call

0845 266 6585

or visit www.harvestersway.co.uk

Harvesters Way, Harvester Way, Wester Hailes, EH14 3JJ

*Shared equity loan scheme available subject to criteria.
£81,000 quoted price based on a 60% share of a home with a full market price of £135,000.

An update from YOUR Local News Website



We hope you have enjoyed this special print edition of your local news website www.digitalsentinel.net!

We are looking for community reporters to cover local news stories and submit articles. Perhaps you would like to send us something you've written like a story or poem, or maybe review a film?

You could even tell us about a family recipe or have your say on local changes and consultations - please contact us on digitalsentinel@whalearts.co.uk or 0131 4583267. You can also submit a story directly on our website.

If you are interested in getting involved with us then come along to one of our weekly I.T. drop-in sessions and learn more about the site as well as basic online skills. Make sure you like our Facebook Page, follow us on Twitter and sign up to our email list to receive a daily update on the news in Wester Hailes.

ADVERTISE WITH THE SENTINEL

We can help your business reach **1000's of local people** -

online and in print.

Get in touch to discuss our great advertising rates.

Learn online skills with The Digital Sentinel

We offer free and informal training for anyone interested in being a community reporter or if you wish to learn basic I.T. skills. These sessions will take place in a relaxed and supportive environment.

The sessions will be held weekly alternating between Clovenstone Community Centre and the WHALE Arts Centre, with the first session in March taking place at WHALE on Thursday 3rd from 10.30 am- 12.30pm.

There is no need to book and people are free to stay for as long as they are able. Come along and find out how you could become one of our community reporters!

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The community news site for Wester Hailes .net

IT drop-in session Dates:

Clovenstone Community Centre	WHALE Arts Centre
Thursday 14th January 10.30-12.30	Thursday 21st January 10.30-12.30
Thursday 28th January 10.30-12.30	Thursday 4th February 10.30-12.30
Thursday 11th February 10.30-12.30	Thursday 18th February 10.30-12.30
Thursday 25th February 10.30-12.30	Thursday 3rd March 10.30-12.30
Thursday 10th March 10.30-12.30	Thursday 17th March 10.30-12.30
Thursday 24th March 10.30-12.30	Thursday 31st March 10.30-12.30

Come along learn basic online skills and find out about your local news website!

Contact: digitalsentinel@whalearts.co.uk
Tel: 0131 458 3267

NEW Wester Hailes Community Trust launched



£65,000 presented to the Community Trust by the STV Children's Appeal

A new community trust has been launched to support local people and help them make real community decisions that shape the future of Wester Hailes.

What is the Community Trust?

Planning for the Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT) began in earnest after the success of the Open Space event in April 2015. The Open Space brought local people together to discuss what mattered most to them about Wester Hailes and what they could do to address these issues. WHCT will build on successful community collaboration in recent years, including through Our Place in Time.

Many ideas were shared at the Open Space event and a list of actions was agreed and then added to at a

follow-up event. These were broken into three key points, Making Wester Hailes safer for the community, making the community better together and tackling legal highs.

After the success of the event several local people, community organisations, Council and NHS staff working together through Living Well Wester Hailes gained funding to help address these actions and give the people of Wester Hailes power to shape the future of the area. The work was successful and the WHCT was granted £65,000 a year for three years from the STV Children's Appeal. The first cheque was presented at a Carol singing concert at the Healthy Living Centre on 18th December 2015.

WHCT will channel the funding

provided by STV Children's Appeal into projects that will support community led activity and increase community capacity. The hope being that this will not only deliver a lasting impact in Wester Hailes but to provide inspiration and learning for other communities in Scotland.

WHCT will help to put local people at the heart of decision making and delivering action to improve outcomes for Wester Hailes.



Community discussion in action

What sort of ideas will it support?

WHCT are asking people to say what matters most to them and will give people real power in following through with the suggestions made at community discussions like the Open Space event!

This means that they will not only



support small street, or neighbourhood, based activities but area wide ones.

Are you interested in improving your area by making it cleaner and safer?

Do you have any ideas for community activities to bring people together?

Do you have ideas for activities for young people?

Maybe a new way to get people healthy and active?

Have we missed anything? Let us know!

It is intended that giving people more say in the future and addressing what matters most to Wester Hailes will increase community participation and local democracy and give local people real power to shape the future of Wester Hailes. In turn this will help to build community spirit and the health and well being of the people of Wester Hailes.

WHCT is also looking for local residents to be part of the panel that will assess and award funding to local community projects. Full training will be provided so why not get in touch and get involved?

Call: 0131 458 3267

Email: info@westerhailesct.org.uk

How can you get involved?

The Trust is asking anyone who is interested to get in touch!

Anyone over sixteen who lives in Wester Hailes can become a member and play a part in shaping the future of the trust, having their say on how it runs and shaping its activities.

SAVE THE DATE

WHCT will be holding a lunchtime information session where people can find out more about the Trust, enjoy some lunch together, sign up to become a member and have their say in the future of Wester Hailes.

Saturday 5 March 2016,

Time: 11.00am - 1.00pm

**Venue: Wester Hailes library
(upstairs in the Connect Room)**



The team hard at work finalising the Trust's constitution

You can make a real difference in your community!