

Partnership Update July 2010

PENTLANDS

NEIGHBOURHOOD
PARTNERSHIP



BALERNO Main Street – Looking Good

The picture below shows the main street before the work commenced



Perseverance paid off for the Balerno community. The local Community Council campaigned for well over ten years, to have the Main Street upgraded to a standard worthy of being within a conservation area. With assistance and support from the Pentlands Partnership the funding was eventually secured for the project to go

At a recent Annual Review of the Pentland Partnership work over 2009/10, Partnership member and Chair of Balerno Community Council Ken Shade delivered a detailed summary of the project. The improvements which the local community members were consulted on look superb and give the main street a clean image without taking anything away from the village character.



The works are near completion and an official opening day has been scheduled for the 14th August to coincide with the Farmers Market which recently received a grant from the Pentland Funding Panel to purchase the stalls for said market.

The picture on the left shows the improvements in the Main Street

OXGANG SAYS Exam leave Sssssh!

It's not always easy to get a quiet place to study at home or in the main hub of the library. So Oxgangs turned their community room into a Study Zone when the room was free.

So it's not all about singing and dancing in the library there's always a place for learning.

Watch this space for next month's info from the Oxgangs team. Just in case you think they've gone all library retro the big Space Hop event including the Inflatable Planetarium from the Royal Observatory - will be noisy and fun!!

Great work on their Community Connections - Display for Carers Week 14-20 June. We can also catch up on their display, advice session and social event during Breastfeeding Awareness Week 21-28



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For more information about the activities of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership, go to

www.edinburghnp.org.uk

or contact the Partnership & Information team on 527 3884 or 527 3816.

Pentland Neighbourhood Partnership going from strength to strength

At the Annual Review of the PNP members of the community were presented with an update of the partnerships development over 2009-10. The information was presented by partners, members and community reps covering Partnership Arrangements, Development, Governance & Monitoring, Communication and Community Engagement.

At the end of the presentation all present were asked to participate in a vote on the information presented. Unsurprisingly the Partnership scored highly in all categories the exception being communication and Community Engagement.

We have a number of ideas to address the perceived 'communication gap' and we would welcome your input into the developing strategies. For further information or suggestions contact scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk or graham.budd@edinburgh.gov.uk

Reconstruction/ Resurfacing - B7030 Wilkieston to Newbridge Road

Major reconstruction/ resurfacing work has now finished on the above stretch of road between Claylands and Bonnington. Most of the works were carried out under temporary traffic lights with convoy working to ensure vehicle speeds were kept low.

The closure of the road was necessary for the application of the final wearing coat surfacing. This was carried out in sections with as much work as possible being carried out on Sundays to minimize disruption.

The works was undertaken by Edinburgh Roads Services. ERS carried out a letter dropped to nearby residents and businesses that were affected by the works. Advance warning signage was put in place to alert drivers to the works and the likelihood of delay.

This is a major project and represents an investment of over £400k in the local road network. For further information contact South West Roads Services Manager Gordon.drysdale@edinburgh.gov.uk

MY Shop is Your Shop...Winning Shop!

A CONVENIENCE store in Oxfords has been named the best shop in Scotland thanks to its owners' work in the local community.

Husband and wife team Dennis and Linda Williams beat competition from hundreds of shops across the nation to win Scottish Local Retailer of the Year as their store was described as the "beating heart" of Oxfords. Along with the main award of the night, they were also named Community Involvement Retailer and Confectionery Retailer of the Year for their selection of sweets.

It's in the areas of community involvement that the store really stands apart from the competition. The judges were blown away by how much time, effort and funding that Dennis and Linda, and all of their staff, put into making their store the real beating heart of the area."

Councillor Jason Rust, Convenor of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership, added: "It is well deserved recognition for the great work undertaken."

Dennis and Linda's philosophy is straight forward 'Often people in the community don't know who to go to for help, so we've worked hard with the local councillors to make services more accessible. For the My Shop is Your Shop week we invited community safety officers and council officials and a lot of people got things sorted'.

The Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership is all about communities working together see more details on our web link – **How can we work better together?** southwestteam@edinburgh.gov.uk

AREA BOARD UPDATE

Neighbourhood Environmental Programme (NEP)

To date the Area Board have approved 8 NEP projects in the Pentlands Partnership area. Board members were delighted to hear that the budget for this years projects has increased. This extra money will be used to promote projects currently sitting in the project bank.

It is envisaged that all the projects selected will not be hampered by delays and fact that the Board chosen projects prior to the start of the financial year has provided the extra time required to ensure long term success over the full year.

The new arrangements ensure that any potential projects identified through community walkabouts, RTO groups or raised by the public will still be scored, weighted and banked for future attention.

If you wish further information contact either Tommy Walker Property Team Leader on tommy.walker@edinburgh.gov.uk or Gordon Drysdale Area Roads Manager Gordon.drysdale@edinburgh.gov.uk for further information on the South West Area Board go to web link http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk/page/South_West_Area_Board.aspx

Calling All RTO Groups!

The South West Area Board want to hear from you. At the last meeting prior to the summer recess Board members agreed that a small group of members would visit RTO groups during their scheduled monthly meetings to deliver a short presentation and answer and questions.

Officers from the SWNO will be contacting all RTO groups in the SW area to agree a date and time to visit. The visiting party will be lead by the Chair of the Board, Maud Wylie. If you would like to book the Area Board Roadshow then contact Scott Neill on 0131 527-3816 or scott.neill@edinburgh.gov.uk

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP DATES AND VENUES
2010/ 11 meeting schedule due out soon!**

Community Grants Fund

Switch on in the Pentlands

Johanna Carrie from Transition Edinburgh Pentlands reported on the Energy Fair in Fairmilehead Church. The group received funding from the Pentland Funding panel. There were twelve stalls in the main hall. Some of these were to provide advice or show case services, for example The Energy Saving Trust and installers of 'green' heating systems. Other stalls showed what community groups are doing, for example Transition Edinburgh South have a project called Switched On to Switching Off which motivates householders to be more aware of their energy consumption and how they can reduce it. Scottish Water, on their stall, included information about electricity generation in the pipe as water flows down hill from Flotterstone to Fairmilehead. Teas and home baking were provided by Swanston, who use eggs from their own



Invited speakers gave talks which followed a 'story', starting with 'where does our energy come from?' (Mainly oil), through Scotland's renewable resources, to the experience of a householder making his house as self sufficient as possible. They finished with a sharing of our ideas of what our homes will be like in 2030, when oil and gas are likely to be too expensive to burn.

Following this with discussion of how to get from now to that future will be the topic of our August meeting.

It was a great day, celebrating the skills and interests of a strong local community. Including stall holders, speakers, 'children's fun providers and people the Buckstone Youth Group, who played and sang for us, there were probably about a hundred people present at some stage in the afternoon. There was a really good friendly atmosphere. The costs of this event were met from a grant provided by the Pentland Neighbourhood Partnership.

Want to know more about the Community Grants Fund? Go to www.edinburghnp.org.uk to download guidance notes and an application form.

Talk to Your Community!

The Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership Update comes out quarterly. It goes to Community Councils, elected members, service partners, schools, community groups and local libraries.

The Update tells you about the work of the Neighbourhood Partnership and other groups towards achieving the outcomes of the Local Community Plan, developed with local communities to reflect the priorities that matter to you.

If you would like to know more about Neighbourhood Partnerships, the Pentlands Local Community Plan, or the Partnership Update, please contact the South West Partnership & Information Team on 527 3884, southwestteam@edinburgh.gov.uk, or www.edinburghnp.org.uk.