

Leith Conference

Development Housing and Planning - Day 1

- Change of power Relationships between Community & Planners 8
- Better green Space within All developments 5
- Place Plan is an opportunity + sounding board - listen, respect and engage in meaningful dialog 3
- Homes not Housing a commodity / investment
- Consider the Development of Leith as a Whole, not lots of Separate Individual Planning Applications 2
- Regulation of Short Term Lets (STL's) and Air B&B 1

Now

Lots of Groups Already active (some overlapping) - but also lots of gaps (lack of diversity) and a need to engage local people more widely

How to channel the energy already here in a forward direction (rather than 'repeated conversations going over same ground')

Use social media, blogs – go where people go (Pubs, Bingo, Surgeries)

Do we need a new umbrella org or a dynamic federation of already existing groups?
(Yes)

People may engage more if results are seen – start with small achievable objectives

Initial thoughts

- Increase in Build to Rent is a priority?
- Integrate New Plans with Conservation
- Free Community Workshops on Regulations in Building
- Connectivity of Housing with the neighborhood
- Better Green Space within all developments
- Change Reporter System
- Engage widest possible Numbers by targeting small achievable objectives for 'Quick Wins'
- Change relationship between Community and Planners (Ballance of Power + Transparency)
- Homes not Houses
- Regulation of STLs' to control numbers and Spread. Registration as a Business.
- Perhaps an Elderly Residence Place
- Leith has a multitude of sites being developed and hard to see how these fit or don't fit into the whole

If we did one thing..... tackle the democratic deficit – the missing tier of local government

If we did one thing..... Accommodate growth for housing in Sea field and Link Portobello together with well-designed housing + amenities (family oriented and affordable)

If we did one thing..... Force the City Council and its Planning department to engage more openly and directly with local communities about planning matters & applications in their area

If we did one thing..... Inspire everyone to believe that their voice counts and they can make a difference