Spokes circular to members in West Lothian [plus QF & Bo'ness]

5.3.14

A. March 6 & 8 - Queensferry Public Design Workshops

Open to all – design workshops to gather and discuss ideas for the future of the West end of Queensferry – including traffic, parking and public spaces. No mention of cycling in the advert, but obviously you can help ensure it gets included!

Thurs 6 March, 7-9.30pm

Sat 8 March, 10am-2pm

at Queensferry Parish Church Hall, The Loan

More info at...

https://twitter.com/WTArchitecture/status/436818285925904385

and

https://twitter.com/search?q=%23shapefutureQueensferry&src=hash

B. Linlithgow Canal towpath

The towpath east of the Canal Basin is a real mudbath/lake at the moment. Transition Linlithgow has reported it to Scottish Canals, who have promised a temporary fix soon.

If you'd like to be on the TL email list, to get local sustainability news items, see... http://transitionlinlithgow.org.uk/?page_id=1907

Scottish Canals [with letters of support from Spokes and others] have also applied to Sustrans for match-funding to surface the above towpath section properly, from the Basin to the Edinburgh Rd bridge. We should know in April whether their application has succeeded.

C. Broxburn mixed-use development - March 21/22 consultation

A major development is planned (residential, retail, business and community facilities) is proposed in Broxburn, between East Main St and the A89, and adjacent to Newhouses Road. The proposals are at the 'PAN' stage, where the developer has to consult the public before submitting a full planning application.

There will be a staffed exhibition at Strathbrock Comm'y Centre, W Mains St, 21 March 2-7pm and 22 March 10-2pm. Please consider attending and leave written comments (or email them in after the exhibition).

Cycling issues could include...

bike parking for customers and staff; secure bike storage for residents; access to/from the A89 cycle path and to/from East Mains Rd.

An outline plan and details of the consultation should be available by searching for reference number 0103/PAC/14 at

http://planning.westlothian.gov.uk/WAM133/searchsubmit/performOption.do?action=search [However this evening it just came up with 'page not found'].

D. Bo'ness - Grangemouth

The Spring Spokes Bulletin is now out – you should receive yours shortly if not already. It includes an article about the problems with getting between Bo'ness and Grangemouth by bike. If this affects your trips by bike, please email the council at transportplanning@falkirk.gov.uk.

The Bulletin is now also online... http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/pall6.pdf

E. If you have time, check the council website every so often for anything where comments may be useful...

Planning applications – see the latest list here...

http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/1210/161/PlanningApplications/

You can also search for individual applications here...

http://planning.westlothian.gov.uk/WAM133/searchsubmit/performOption.do?action=search

Points to look for... Do plans for new developments, shops, businesses, etc include bike parking and/or storage? Do new residential developments provide adequate and secure bike storage? What about access or connections to nearby networks, etc, etc?

There's a Spokes factsheet about commenting on Planning applications... http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/documents/advice/lobbying-councils/

Other council consultations [if any] ...

www.westlothian.gov.uk/Council and government/consultations/

Dave du Feu 5.3.14