

# Newbattle Terrace Consultation 2020

## Response from Spokes South Edinburgh - the Lothian Cycle Campaign, August 2020

*This response considers the revised proposals shared by Alan Parkinson on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020*

### General comments

We welcome the recognition by City of Edinburgh Council that measures are needed to enhance Newbattle Terrace, due to the current state of the road surface and outdated design not meeting the current speed limit and travel hierarchy. However this scheme appears to be a tweaking of the status quo with minimal interventions that address our and others concerns in regards to rat running traffic and the dominance of motorised vehicles over active travellers in this area.

Although many of the new features such as signalised crossing, continuous-footways, raised-tables, footway build-outs, some widened footway & new street trees are welcome. We are unconvinced it will enable more cycling along this street. These are expensive road infrastructure techniques that clutter pavements and don't fundamentally reduce or discourage unnecessary motorised vehicle trips.

Enabling more people to walk / wheel / cycle may require filtering of streets like Newbattle Terrace to prevent rat running by through traffic. The neighbourhood streets adjacent would benefit if a modal filter was implemented at the proposed pedestrian crossing point.

We would encourage City of Edinburgh Council therefore to provide a wider Low Traffic Neighbourhood strategy alongside the road resurfacing works.

**We therefore object to the proposals put forward, and we urge the council to review our detailed comments carefully and trial a Low Traffic Neighbourhood strategy**

## Detailed comments:

*The following notes are for the sheets as provided from west to east.*

### **TCD-637052-2-11A (I 2020-08-12)-Consultation:**

- *Parking*
- *Bicycle racks*
- *Footway build-outs*
- *Raised table*

On this section there are;

- 8 Pay & Display,
- 6 Shared Use (incl, 2 for future EV chargers)
- 3 Disabled parking bays
- 6 Sheffield stands (12 bikes)

Spokes welcome the increase in bicycle parking stands from 3 to 6, these should be well used by cinema and other nearby business customers. Spokes would assume these are 'Sheffield' type.

However Spokes SE query whether the footway build-outs actually reduce the exit at the raised table onto Morningside Rd when compared to existing. A google maps measure puts the current width at ±7.5m. The proposed carriageway width (8.0m) at the junction will enable vehicles to turn into Newbattle Terrace at high speed. In turn this creates longer crossing distances for pedestrians. The build-outs here should be further extended and the carriageway reduced to say 6.0m.

Also the plans do not indicate a continuous surface treatment to the raised table. Will this be red chipped or painted as per the other raised tables nearby?

If through route / rat running vehicles were eliminated from Newbattle Terrace, a continuous footway could also be provided across Newbattle Terrace at Morningside Road. This crossing carries a very high number of pedestrians. Thus improving the attractiveness of walking along Morningside Rd.

### **TCD-637052-2-12A (I 2020-08-12)-Consultation:**

- *Generally retained status quo*
- *New street trees*

On this section there are;

- 18 Shared Use parking bays
- 6 Residents parking bays
- 0 Bicycle lockers or stands

Spokes SE has no specific comments on this section.

### **TDD-637052-2-13-I-2020-08-10-Consultation:**

- *Continuous footway (pedestrian priority) to Falcon Gardens*
- *New street trees*

On this section there are;

- 13 residents parking bays
- Single yellow & double yellow lines

Spokes SE is positive to see the ambition shown in adding a continuous footway and narrowing of the carriageway to provide a safer crossing for both cyclists and pedestrians. However this will only be successful if overall vehicle movements are reduced.

Falcon Gardens could be one-way at the junction with Newbattle Tce (with a cycling contraflow like Canaan Lane nearby) to Falcon Avenue. This could reduce traffic movements to a minimum,

shortening the crossing distance, so that pedestrians don't have to look in three directions at once when crossing.

**TDD-637052-2-14-I-2020-08-10-Consultation:**

- *Signalised pedestrian crossing:*
- *Footway build outs at Eden Terrace / Eden Lane corner*
- *Narrowing of Pitsligo Road junction*
- *Raised table at Pitsligo Road junction*

On this section there are;  
2 residents parking bays to Eden Terrace

Spokes SE believes the signalised crossing would not be necessary in a Low Traffic Neighbourhood with a modal filter in this location. Spokes would encourage the Council to trial this measure as soon as possible, as is being trialled at East Craigs as part of the post-COVID green recovery strategy.

Spokes SE welcomes the overall reduction in parking in this section with the large footway buildout to the Falcon Gardens corner. However it is disappointing to see parking is retained outside Eden Terrace which causes a conflict when headed west forcing cyclists into oncoming traffic to avoid the 'dooring' zone ( $\pm 1.5\text{m}$  from the vehicle).

Again this risk will only be reduced if overall vehicle movements are reduced with a modal filter & Low Traffic Neighbourhood strategy.

## Additional comments

**CycleHoop Cycle Lockers:**

Spokes would welcome integration of an on street cycle locker at either end of Newbattle Terrace to encourage those who live nearby to be able to store bikes securely. It may also be used by those who work in Morningside to store their bikes securely. There are currently being installed on Falcon Rd and Avenue so could provide overspill if these become over subscribed.

**Enterprise Car Club:**

Spokes is disappointed none of the parking bays are to be used by the car sharing scheme.

**Accessible Parking Bays:**

Spokes welcomes accessible parking bays however Spokes would suggest the design of bays be varied to provide for a variety of accessibility needs. If through traffic was removed from this area it could become a good point for those needing access to the shops along nearby Morningside Rd.

**Future Electric Vehicle Charging Points:**

Spokes SE welcome the future-proofing of the street works to allow for EV chargers. However Spokes SE query whether the design will be in the carriageway and as such won't cause any hazards to those walking, wheeling and cycling.

**Pavement Parking at 'The Dominion':**

Around the cinema there is often pavement parking. Spokes SE would welcome measures to prevent this.