“Just to share the joy, Fountainbridge, has been shortlisted for the Best Achievement in Masterplanning for the forthcoming Scottish Property Awards in March 2015. A real group effort so I wanted to thank everyone who has been involved” Lynn Smith EDI

FCI Activities

FCI and Re-Union Canal Boats are now discussing whether to set up a Community Development Trust as a means to build or influence a proper Community Hub on the site. Have a look on this website to see what CDT's can do  http://www.dtascot.org.uk

Meantime developments

Led by the example of Grove 2 community garden, the opportunity for temporary activities on the site have attracted a lot of exciting and creative people and projects to come forward:

The Forge workshop has started in three blue shipping containers. They will offer metalwork, woodwork and general workshop facilities. The aim is to provide an opportunity for people to try new things, improve their skills and take part in large scale creative projects.  https://www.facebook.com/theforgefountainbridge

Children’s Play Area The activities will be play with loose materials and building with timber. We plan to have supporting activities such as music workshops, shared meals and art/craft activities as well. Contact: akiko@kobayashi-studio.com

A Passive Energy Grow House /aquaponics - an exciting fish and vegetable growing area enabling them to be grown all year round) Contact: Ruby at wildroses.alba@gmail.com or thomas@ecowin.co.uk

Community Pavilion.  FCI are currently planning a community ‘barn raising’ event in early April "Raising the Roof! " which will see teams of local people erect a moveable ‘Community Pavilion‘ using Wikiehouse plans that enable everybody to take part. The pavilion will provide a community space for events/ swap exchange markets up-cycle events/ festivals/mini -maker activities/vintage market/communal food days etc Take a look at the Wikihouse website to get enthused. http://www.wikihouse.cc/ If you would like to get involved  Contact:  janejones2001@gmail.com

Linear Park

This is the new park along the canal at the front of the new Bouroughmuir High School and the Student housing. As landscaping is laid down in the Plans already approved the scope for influence is pretty low. We can get involved in some choices to be made, some acknowledgement of the area’s Heritage, naming etc. The Garden area in the school has scope for some community involvement. There will be a presentation to the public in February. Two phases to the park ‘s development – Basic provision, then possible further work provided by a Development Fund, and maintained by a “Friends of The Park” May be a possibility of Interpretation panels in this area under British Waterways plans for Public Art along the Canal side.

Mecca Bingo Hall

Building still belongs to Mecca. The proposal is for up market Student Housing. FCI met with Developers, and stated our position, that the area is saturated with student housing. Developers have committed ground floor for Community use.
THE GROVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Congratulations! Grove Community Garden has been awarded a free Woodland Trust tree pack. It will be winging its way to you between 2 – 6 March.

Glorious Gardens had been televised, and The Grove had been well presented with good contributions from Grovers. After a successful debut in Edinburgh’s Doors Open Day at the end of September, and our now annual (2nd!) Harvest Festival, gardening activity has quietened down. But maintenance and building projects such as the greenhouse, green roof and bothy continue. The Grove and Fountainbridge got some good TV exposure on the BBC’s Glorious Gardens from Above series, broadcast on 20th November. Our AGM is coming up on 12th February, and around that time we’ll be involving ourselves with the on-going Springside pre-planning application consultation. (see below from Grosvenor)

EDI DEVELOPERS

EDI are the City Council Development group who are charged with developing the New Masterplan for the area with 7N architects. FCI has been working with the two new excellent community engagement staff employed by both EDI and Edinburgh Printmakers. This really helps communications and is a real boost to the creative and innovative possibilities for the site. Preliminary Planning Permission (PPP) was granted for the EDI Fountainbridge Masterplan before Xmas. In addition EDI are:

- progressing with detailed design work for the site and will be concentrating on developing the residential elements.
- funding a third shipping container for the Forge project, which arrived on site beginning of January.
- improving the temporary pedestrian access into the site off Gilmore Park and work on this should be completed sometime in February.

A web site for the Fountainbridge site will be launched in March, which will have scope to cover community aspects of the project including an events listing. You can register now to receive updates by going to http://www.liveworkgrow.co.uk/

EDI are in the process of applying for planning consent for the temporary uses currently on site and planned for the future.

The momentum for one off and more longer term temporary uses of both the West and East sites is growing and we have been thrilled by the enthusiasm and ideas of local groups and individuals. We are also finding that we are increasingly being approached to explore one off uses that creates a destination not just for the local community but for the residents and visitors to the wonderful City of Edinburgh. Denise Havard

BOROUGHMUIR HIGH SCHOOL.

O’Hare & McGovern have been appointed by the City of Edinburgh Council for the construction of the new Boroughmuir High School. The project is part funded by the Scottish Government through their ‘Schools for the Future’ programme which is managed by the Scottish Futures Trust.

O’Hare & McGovern commenced operations on site October 2014 with the project due for completion August 2016. The new high school is located immediately to the west of Viewforth, bounded by the adjacent Union Canal and Dundee Street to the north. The new school building and proposed Public Park is within the heart of the Fountainbridge master plan of mixed commercial and residential developments as an important part of the Fountainbridge regeneration. The new five storey school building is designed to accommodate 1165 pupils and will include a multi use games area (MUGA) at roof level and landscaping to both the school grounds and adjacent public amenity park.

The school is considering installing a camera to collect time-lapse video of the building going up.

GROSVENOR DEVELOPERS

In late December we submitted our PAN to the local authority which starts the consultation process ahead of our proposed planning application for the next phase of development. This is the site which is bounded by Fountainbridge to the South, the West Approach Road to the north, Drysdale Road to the west and Melvin Walk / McEwan Square to the east. In total, this is around 3 acres, and central to our proposal will be the development of residential apartments for let. It is likely that this will be done in 3 phases of buildings from north to south. We will be holding our first public consultation on the 12th Feb at the student union at Bainefield, Fountainbridge, and will have further meetings with the community following that.

To see the location go to the planning search page: https://citydev-portal.edinburgh.gov.uk/idoxpa-web/search.do?action/simple&searchType=Application and insert 14/05337/PAN into the search box.

In terms of the other sites we have, the vacant site fronting Fountainbridge (next to the flats from our earlier phase of development) will be going on the market shortly with a view to identifying a suitable hotel operator to take this forward. The site we have to the north of the West Approach Road, at Morrison Crescent, was refused consent for affordable housing at committee prior to Christmas. We are considering our options with this site.
STV EDINBURGH  The Fountainbridge Show
On Jan 12th STV launched its Edinburgh local TV station. The Fountainbridge News will air between 6.30pm and 7pm and this will be followed by The Fountainbridge Show between 7pm and 8.30pm. They are looking for local events and organisations to feature, so get in touch and get exposure for your project. The magazine show will reflect what’s happening in the city each day with a combination of local news, community features and live entertainment. See below for a great wee local history show!

RE-UNION CANAL BOATS MOTHERS DAY CRUISE  Sunday 15th  March 11:00-13:00
2 hour return cruise from Edinburgh Quay to Slateford. Enjoy a glass of prosecco and afternoon tea whilst taking in the surroundings from the lochrin belle  Tickets =£20

FCI  AGM - All welcome

Wednesday 4TH March 6-8PM
KINGS CHURCH 104 GILMORE PLACE

We are delighted that a local, leading Scottish architect Malcolm Fraser is coming to talk at our AGM. Malcolm is a Founder of Architects for Change, who chaired the National Review of Town Centres and is now a Board member of Commonweal. All the meantime groups will also be showing what they are up to and how you can become involved.

As you can see from the above there is a lot going on in the area. We have 80 members and over 200 friends and are connected to lots of organisations locally and in Edinburgh and beyond. We need to keep up all this activity and there is scope for much more community building. We therefore invite you to come to the AGM and join the Steering Committee where your participation will be much appreciated.

FCI COMMITTEE JANUARY 2015