Paper 1/2015

SCHOOLS STREETS

For Decision

1. Consultation has opened on the implementation of pilot Schools Streets schemes for Duddingston Primary and St John’s Primary Schools Drop-in information sessions are being held – Duddingston on 14 January and St John’s on 4 February. The Council says that the Community Council will be consulted and there is a webpage:

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/school-streets-project-proposed-experimental-traff>

12 schools are involved in the pilot and the expectation is that it will be extended to others.

1. Little detail on how the scheme will operate has been offered. Vehicles will be not be able to drive into specified streets for about 45 minutes around school rush hours except for residents, who will have an undefined form of permit, blue badge holders and council and utility vehicles. The penalty for entry will be a £80 fine and 3 points on the licence. Enforcement will be by police as these will be moving traffic offences.

Action

1. If the Community council is to comment on the proposals we need to:

* Have a better idea of the detail of the scheme – which may come from the drop-in sessions (Duddingston attended). Our suggestions can have a significant effect on the design of the scheme.
* Consult local people: a Council leaflet is being delivered to houses in affected streets but the impact will affect the streets not covered – cars being diverted elsewhere to “Park and Stride” This may need a leaflet drop in surrounding streets saying that the CC is seeking views. There would be a cost to this – say no more than £100.
* Give the Council our view before the consultation closes on 27 February.

1. If this “in principle” consultation supports the idea then the scheme will be worked up in detail, drawing on comments made, and a further consultation will follow on a formal Traffic Regulation Order. The schemes might be in place for September and certainly by the end of the year.

Recommendation

1. The Community Council sets up a short-term ad-hoc group to engage with this process.

