

Leith Walk hustings to be held next week

Members of the public may pose questions to all the candidates in the upcoming Leith Walk byelection at a hustings organised by the Save Leith Walk campaign.

The hustings will take place at Leith Theatre on 13 March 2019 beginning at 6.30pm.

A spokesman for Save Leith Walk said: "The unanimous decision by councillors to reject the demolition and proposal for student flats and a hotel was a stunning victory for the people of Leith. It showed that local residents, businesses, elected representatives and community groups can influence what happens in their area.

"We have organised this public meeting and hustings to let people hear which of the byelection candidates has their best interests at heart. This community deserves someone who is going to fight on its behalf.

"Come to Leith Theatre on March 13, meet the candidates, and let your voice be heard."

The Ward 12 by-election, triggered by the resignation of Labour councillor Marion Donaldson, who herself won a byelection in 2015, will be held on Thursday 11 April 2019.

The candidates in the byelection that we know about so far include : Rob Munn (SNP), Dan McCroskrie (Conservative), Lorna Slater (Greens), Jack Caldwell (LibDem) and former councillor Nick Gardner (Labour).

If you are proposing to stand, or if you know about anyone else who is, then please do let us know. editor@theedinburghreporter.co.uk

SAVE LEITH WALK

As the formal application is still to be lodged, now is a good time for the community to make known its general objections to the proposed demolition of Stead's Place and its replacement by yet another high rise block of student housing. Once the application is submitted, which is likely to happen this month, we will only be able to raise those objections that relate to planning legislation.

Below you will find contact details for all your local councillors as well as those who sit on the planning committee. Please try and find time to send them your opinions. Remember, they work for us!

#SAVELEITHWALK

The Leith Walk ward covers most of Leith Walk and Easter Road, plus Piling and Bonnington, including the site of the proposed 6 storey block of student flats. It has 4 councillors.

Leith Walk Councillors
 Marion Donaldson
 Amy McEese-Mechan
 Susan Rae
 Lewis Ritchie

Email
 marion.donaldson@edinburgh.gov.uk
 amy.mceese-mechan2@edinburgh.gov.uk
 susan.rae@edinburgh.gov.uk
 lewis.ritchie@edinburgh.gov.uk

The Leith ward lies just to the north of Stead's Place and covers the Links and Shore areas. It is represented by 3 councillors, including council leader Adam McVey.

Leith Councillors
 Chas Booth
 Adam McVey
 Gordon Munro

Email
 chas.booth@edinburgh.gov.uk
 adam.mcvay@edinburgh.gov.uk
 gordon.munro@edinburgh.gov.uk

Planning Committee
 Neil Gardiner (Convener)
 Chas Booth
 Maureen Child
 Denis Dixon
 George Gordon
 Ashley Graczyk
 Joan Griffiths
 Max Mitchell
 Joanna Mowat
 Hal Osler
 Alex Staniforth

Email
 neil.gardiner@edinburgh.gov.uk
 chas.booth@edinburgh.gov.uk
 maureen.child@edinburgh.gov.uk
 denis.dixon@edinburgh.gov.uk
 george.gordon@edinburgh.gov.uk
 ashley.graczyk@edinburgh.gov.uk
 joan.griffiths@edinburgh.gov.uk
 max.mitchell@edinburgh.gov.uk
 joanna.mowat@edinburgh.gov.uk
 hal.osler@edinburgh.gov.uk
 alex.staniforth@edinburgh.gov.uk

A full list of Edinburgh councillors can be found here: <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/councillors/name>

You can keep in touch with the Save Leith Walk campaign by following us on both Facebook and Twitter. You can also visit <http://saveleithwalk.org> to check our calendar for future campaign events.

We can be contacted at saveleithwalk@gmail.com

Thank you for joining us in our effort to Save Leith Walk!

#STOPTHEDEMOLITION

DON'T DEMOLISH OUR COMMUNITY

The Drum Property Group wants to demolish our much-loved red sandstone shops and offices on Leith Walk which despite being built in 1933 are still known as the "New Shops". Using this area and the land behind it, they want create a tall five storey development containing 500-bed student accommodation and a linked hotel, along with just 50 "affordable" homes.

SAVE LEITH WALK

#SAVELEITHWALK

why we want to #saveleithwalk

- 1 This style of block helps keep Leith Walk a mixed and vibrant area with a range of building types housing and businesses.
- 2 The existing building provides options for small independent businesses, and could do so in the future
- 3 The architecture of the threatened building is of historic consideration with an Art Deco style of sandstone fascia and black marble pediment.

Save Leith Walk is a grassroots public campaign to prevent the demolition of a building, protect the heritage of the Walk, and celebrate the very essence of what Leith is. Join Us.

Want to help #saveleithwalk? Contact us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram or email saveleithwalk@gmail.com

© Martin McAdam

Save Leith Walk campaign has stopped the demolition of Stead's Place – for now at least.