

Five things you need to know today

Full council meeting begins today at 10am

Today the monthly meeting of all 63 councillors takes place in the City Chambers.

In the papers for today's meeting there is an Agenda, Motions and Questions and Answers – questions asked by councillors of the various Conveners.

One question to the Culture Convener has uncovered the possibility of the new owners of the Filmhouse (Caledonian Heritable, Kevin Doyle's company who also numbers The Dome and Archerfield in East Lothian in his portfolio) leasing back to parties who wish to run it has a "cultural film venue".

The property was bought recently from the Administrators of Centre for Moving Image (CMI) a charity which was the umbrella organisation for Edinburgh International Film Festival and which went into liquidation last year. The price paid was £2.65 million which is small change for Mr Doyle, whose Archerfield Estate alone is worth a reputed £55 million.

Another question shows that the city is not increasing its recycling rates with a slight dip from 67.6% in 2020/21 to 66.1% this year.

Cllr Vicky Nicolson who is the SNP group Social Care spokesperson has raised the matter of a £430,000 salary for an interim appointee to the role of Director of Adult Social Care. This salary will not cover the entire job just vacated by Judith Proctor who resigned from her position as Chief

Officer of the [Edinburgh Integration Joint Board](#) following a damning report by the Care Inspectorate. The Inverleith councillor says that this is twice the salary for half the job.

And a question by Green councillor Chas Booth asks how many planning applications for a change of use for a property to a Short Term Let (for which there are new planning rules) have been received and refused.

In answer there were 66 applications in quarter one 22/23 of which 14 were refused and one was granted. In Quarter one this year there have been 20 applications of which only 2 have been granted. This has led to the Edinburgh Green Group totting up the numbers in the answer and concluding that holiday let landlords must be ignoring the law. They say that out of the estimated 5,000 holiday lets in Edinburgh, only 604 have applied for planning permission to make their position legal.



Cllr Ben Parker PHOTO ©2023 The Edinburgh Reporter
Cllr Ben Parker, Co-Convenor of Edinburgh Green Councillors,

and a member of the council's housing committee, said:"It is simply outrageous that more than eight out of every ten holiday let operators in the capital are choosing to effectively ignore the law by not seeking planning consent. We know that holiday lets are contributing to the city's housing crisis by driving up rents, and the control area was introduced to try to address that. Those struggling to find an affordable home will be sickened by these new figures. Green councillors will continue to take action to try to redress the balance of holiday lets in Edinburgh and advocate for homes for communities, not private profit."

Cllr Cammy Day the Council Leader has raised the matter of cyclists employed by food delivery companies whose employers do not provide them with safety equipment such as lights. He has suggested a joint campaign with the Police on promoting safe cycling at work.

And in good news, there are congratulations for Spartans and for the North Edinburgh Community Festival.

[Follow the meeting from 10am by clicking here or watch the recording afterwards.](#)

Today at Hidden Door



The bad thing about Hidden Door is that it only lasts for five days. The good thing is that today is one of the days.

Today from 1pm at the former Scottish Widows building on Old Dalkeith Road there is a full programme

1:00pm – Doors Open (free entry until 5pm)

6:00pm – The Environments Open (on a loop until late)

6:15pm – Berta Kennedy (Music, Cabaret Stage)
6:30pm – The Micro Band (Music, Loading Bay Stage)
7:00pm – Bibi June (Spoken Word, Poetry Stage)
7:15pm – Azamiah (Music, Cabaret Stage)
7:30pm – Fiona Robertson (Spoken Word, Poetry Stage)
7:30pm – Flasher (Music, Loading Bay Stage)
8:30pm – AKU! (Music, Cabaret Stage)
8:30pm – Jay Whittaker (Spoken Word, Poetry Stage)
8:30pm – Solar Panel (Music, Basement)
9:00pm – Butch Cassidy (Music, Loading Bay Stage)
9:30pm – Exterior (Music, Basement)
10:00pm – Hot 8 Brass Band (Music, Cabaret Stage)
10:00pm – Samedia Shebeen (Music, Club Space)
11:30pm – BUTH0 THE WARRIOR (Music, Club Space)
11:45pm – O. (Music, Cabaret Stage)
1:00am – Close

[Buy your tickets here.](#)

Sheppard calls for portaloos in Portobello

The Edinburgh East MP has called upon the council's Chief Executive to spend £4,000 on installing portaloos in Portobello this summer to avoid the distress to his constituents of people using alleyways and gardens to relieve themselves.

[*Edinburgh East MP calls for portaloos in Porty*](#)

Sports news

There is a lot happening in Edinburgh based sport this week – read more [over here](#).

And on Saturday the horses will line up to race for the Edinburgh Cup at Musselburgh – where lots of [entertainment](#) is planned for later in the day.



Chameleon Lady

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the Edinburgh Reporter

June 2023

EDINBURGH'S FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER... A CAPSULE READ FROM START TO FINISH



Here's looking at ewe

RHS artists find their inner sheep for show

By PHYLIS STEPHEN

IT'S JUNE AND that means it is time to get ready for the annual Royal Highland Show at Ingliston which is sponsored by Royal Bank of Scotland.

To publicise the event the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) commissioned "Flock to the Show", a public art trail made up of fibreglass sheep sculptures which are on tour in Edinburgh and Lothians.

Rosie (photographed left) had incredible fun getting to know these two sculptures at Port Edgar marina.

On the left is Eaba designed by Central Scotland artist Anna Bilyk and sponsored by Galloway MacLeod. Anna said her inspiration came from a mixture of landscape and process. She said: "The images are all inspired from travels and surrounding landscapes brought together and merged into a type of visual story. The style of the design comes from the process and style I use to design images for lino printmaking."

On the right Davy Baa-wie was designed by Fife knitwear designer, Jennifer McHardy, and sponsored by Macklin Motors. Jennifer said she just loves David Bowie. She said: "he is a true music and style icon, the inspiration for my sheep design came from the iconic knitted jumpsuit designed by Kansai Yamamoto for David Bowie during the Ziggy Stardust era worn by him in 1974."

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