

## Reference Sheet for Hopetoun Village.

(None of the Hopetoun planning process alters statutory rights: planning applications are treated according to normal procedures).

### **Community Council Elections this September**

Every three years elections are held for the Community Council. You can stand as a Councillor. Contact Allan Wilson on 554 9144

### **Local Groups and how to contact them.**

**NTBPC: (Community Council)** Meets 7.30 p.m. first Monday of month. Mr Allan Wilson, tel 554 9144. (see below)

**Bellevue & Claremont Residents Association:** Mrs Jane Coville tel 556 1851

**Gayfield Association:** Mr W. McNair tel 556 4493

**McDonald Area Amenity Society (MAAS):** Mr Bob Stewart: tel. 557 1267.

### **New Town, Broughton and Pilrig Community Council:**

#### **What is the Community Council?**

The Community Council is made up of elected members and representatives of local organisations in the New Town, Broughton and Pilrig areas. It discusses local issues and has a right to be consulted on planning matters and some environmental issues.

#### **Who pays for the Community Council?**

Members of the Community Council are simply local residents with a concern for the community and do not receive any payment. The Community Council receives a small annual grant from the City Council (about £1000). Some of this money is made available to other local organisations (e.g. Scotland Yard Adventure Centre) to be spent in the community - or to fund newsletters such as this.

#### **Can anyone attend meetings?**

Yes! Meetings are normally held in Drummond Community School, at 7.30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month. We need your views!

For further information, contact Allan Wilson, Secretary, (554 9144), or George Reiss (Hopetoun Village Sub-group) (556 6212).

### **And for more information....**

Read future issues of the local monthly newsheet, the Broughton Spurtle: it is available at many local shops and the library.

Hopetoun Village Steering Group is a forum for local people, businesses and the Council: it coordinates the plans for Hopetoun: Chairperson is Cllr. Macgregor as below.

Letters to The Secretary, New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council 2 Shaw's St Edinburgh EH7 4PH

Councillor Margaret Macgregor: Surgery : Wednesday 6.00 p.m. at Drummond School: Cllr. Dougie Kerr, Surgery: Saturdays 10 a.m. at Calton Centre or write to them at: City Chambers, High St. EH1 1YJ.

### **Notes:**

A special issue newsletter for residents and businesses from

**New Town, Broughton  
& Pilrig Community Council**  
with

**Broughton Sprtle.**

May 1998

**FREE**

# **Do you live in one of ...**

**EAST  
LONDON ST.**

**HOPETOUN CRESCENT**

**HADDINGTON PLACE**

**HOPETOUN ST**

**ANNANDALE ST**

**... ???**

**McDONALD ROAD**

**... then a new neighbourhood is taking shape around you, called Hopetoun Village.**

For the latest information and to give your views come to the Community Council May 4th in Broughton St Mary's Church Centre, 7 East Broughton Place at 7.30 p.m.

## Introducing Hopetoun ....

Hopetoun Village is one of the biggest local developments in decades, affecting generations to come. The Community Council has come to the conclusion that development is inevitable, and that probably this is the right time, but that it must be done to a plan, and done sensitively.

**Past plans:** Back in 1993 the City Council Planning Department started to consider whether to allow certain industrial sites in our area to become residential. Since then there have been various consultations with the public. The Community Council, which is an elected body of volunteers representing the interests of the area, felt that piecemeal development by different property developers could have very poor results. However the days are long gone when the City Council would have developed such an area all by itself, so we decided the only option was to campaign for an overall framework which would set boundaries for the developers.

Over the last three years the Community Council has kept a close eye on the plans as they evolve and has tried to influence them by attending meetings, doing surveys, and helping the City Council put together the framework "Masterplan" for it all. When the draft of the Masterplan was complete we sent a newsletter to all the local households and businesses asking for comment (September 1996).

A consensus was eventually reached to develop the area as an "Urban Village" - meaning that there should be a mix of housing, businesses, and community amenities, and that the neighbourhood should have an identity of its own. As one McDonald Road resident put it: "an urban village is not just somewhere that you drive through, it's somewhere you're happy to stay and hang around."

**Present proposals:** individual sites are now being looked at by the City Council Planning Department, and briefing papers being written as to what sort of development will (and won't) be allowed on particular sites. These "design briefs" will then collectively form an "Action Plan."

For example the Kwikfit site next to McDonald Road Library is site Number 11 in the Action Plan, and part of the proposal is that it should be developed along traditional lines, on a similar scale to McDonald Road Library and the new Teague houses, but that news houses at the back would be suitable, and that "the opportunity to produce innovative modern architecture should be explored."

**How does it affect me ?** In short it may mean outline planning guidance is being given for the site next to your home or office. In the above example you might be pleased that the Council were suggesting building on traditional lines, but abhor the idea that modern design would also be considered. You could now write to the Council giving your reasoned point of view and suggesting changes. An example of a change brought about by the last consultation was that the idea of turning McDonald Road into two cul de sacs was dropped. This is your chance to set the guidelines for developers - by the time they put in their planning applications many of the (continues p.3 col.1)

## Happening and Hammering in Hopetoun

The Community Council is aware of 11 major projects already on stream or completed in the area: it estimates that so far about £45 million pounds has been invested - largely by private developers.

The Community Council's aim has been that each development should (a) fit in with the overall plan for Hopetoun, and (b) contribute something extra to community life. Particular objectives have been (i) family sized houses (ii) more green space, (iii) a mix of uses.

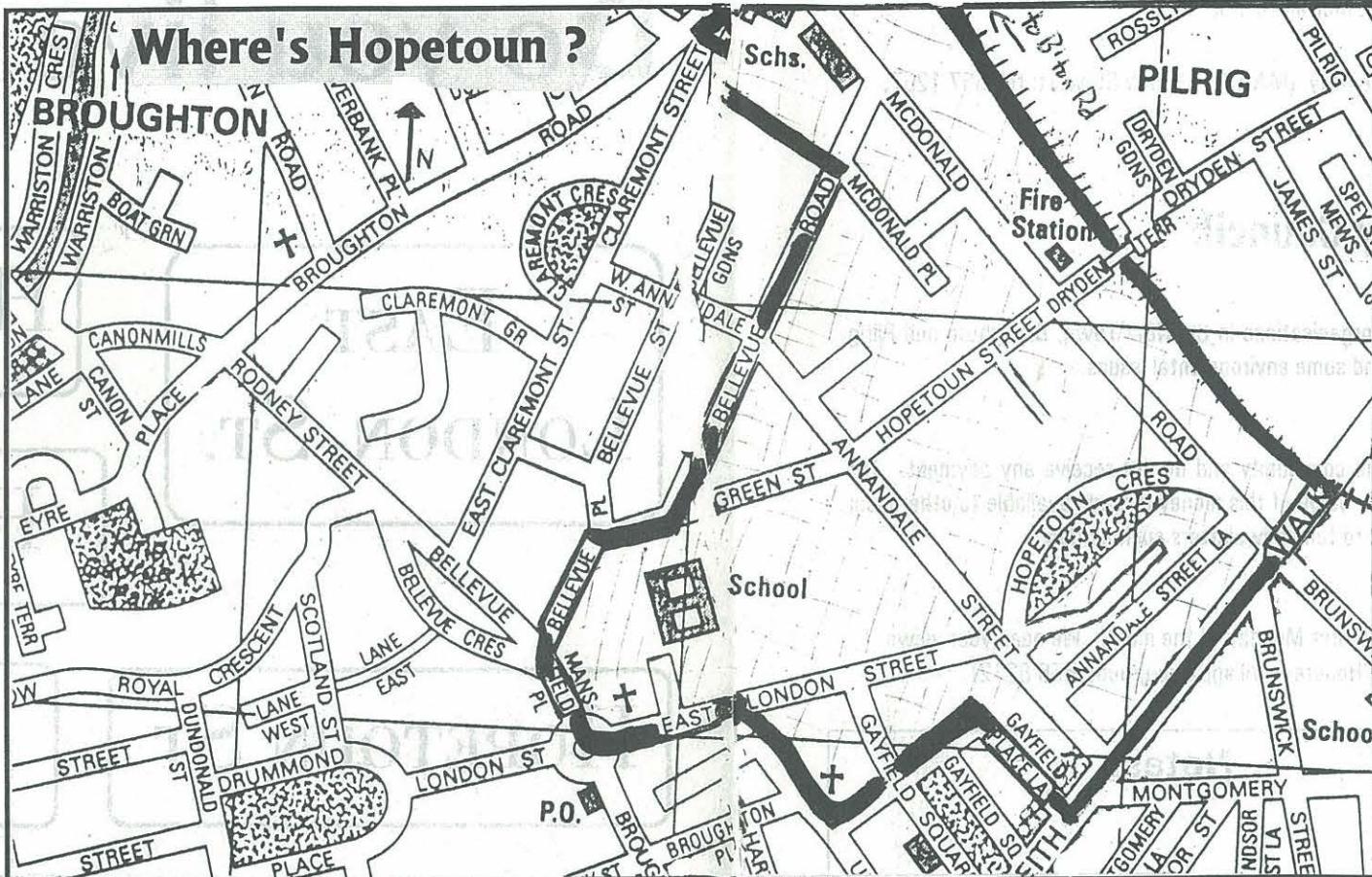
The Community Council has no powers to give or refuse planning permission (all that is done by the City Council) but we can represent, lobby and try to influence policy. Several projects were given the go-ahead, although we had argued it was better to have an overall plan in place first - but they were altered thanks to our lobbying.

A list of these eleven projects follows with valuations where they have been publicised:

Baratt Homes Sovereign Court	£13 million
Baratt Homes King's Park	£9 million
Teague Homes	£10 million
Champion's Club relocation	£750 thousand
McDonald Road reconstruction	£1 million
Mansfield Traquair Church	£4 million
Drummond School	£1.5 million
Islamic Community Centre	not available
Hopetoun Crescent Gardens	not available
Standard Life office refurbishments: i) 23 Annandale St. ii) 52 Annandale St.	£300 thousand £2.3 million

Estimated total value approximately £45 million.

Additional planning applications are currently with the City Council for Blandfield and East London St.



### how does it affect me ?

(cont. from p. 2 ...) boundaries will effectively have been set. Copies of the Action Plan with site drawings can be asked for in McDonald Road Library throughout May.

Finally you could decide to be proactive. Join the **local groups** listed on the next page. We hope too to have a **Garden Party** in June in Hopetoun Crescent Garden to celebrate its refurbishment.

### Eminent Hopetounites No.1

A hundred and some years ago there were allotments on the site of what are the new Barratt Flats at the corner of McDonald Road and Hopetoun Street. Into a shed in the corner of one allotment Mr Alexander Howland Smith of Brunswick Street used to retire for hours at a time.

The fruit of Mr Smith's labour was neither prize marrows nor tatties for the pot, but a succession of minutely copied "historical" documents. Cooking the books as the UK's leading forger got him into hot water: too many manuscripts were issuing from Edinburgh, the dealers became suspicious and "Antique Smith" was arrested, convicted, and sentenced to 12 months stay just up the road - in the Calton Jail.

(REF: *Edinburgh Curiosities: a Capital Cornucopia* by James Thomson)