

Potential Problems Anticipated to Result from the Zoo Master Plan

Because of the problems pertaining to the proposed Zoo development, we have formed a secondary group, which includes representation from Corstorphine and Murrayfield Community Councils, Corstorphine Heritage Centre and other members of the community.

The Group considers that the Royal Zoological Society is the body responsible for the perceived problems to the area. It is well known the Society is intent on expansion in Scotland. As well as Edinburgh Zoo development there is the Highland Safari Park and suggested plans for a rainforest exhibit for endangered species in Glasgow. It raises the question where is all money from the sale of Zoo land really going? Resulting in no advantage to the local community with increased housing density, massive traffic congestion, and loss of valuable nature reserve and green belt land.

The attached map illustrates the problems, which the Group foresee being brought to the area.

Areas shown

- * Within LNR outline the area is council owned green belt and nature reserve.
- * Outline of the zoo boundary.
- 1** Green belt approximately 13 acres of land within the zoo presented for building 100 houses.
- 2** Hatched area of land zoo would like to lease.
- 3** Hatched area of land zoo would like to take out on licence.

Congestion areas including existing and other developments

- 4** 30 flats completed at foot of Kaimes Road.
- 5** Forestry Commission building. It is known that other organisations are about to move into the building thus increasing the amount of traffic.
- 6** The proposal of a roundabout on the main road to cope with the traffic from 100 houses in the zoo (area 1) and the Forestry Commission car park.
- 7** It is also proposed that a set of traffic lights will be installed on the main road at Pink Hill to cope with the additional traffic caused by 130 houses yet to be completed.

Summary and Conclusions

There are 30 flats at Kaimes Road exiting onto the main road, proceeding east 30 metres it is proposed to install a roundabout to cope with the houses within the zoo and vehicles from the Forestry Commission. Pedestrian traffic lights exist some 20 metres further along opposite the zoo entrance. Proceeding eastwards some 30 to 40 metres we have the combined entrance and exit of the zoo and Holiday Inn car parks, which have the capacity for approximately 600 cars. A further 10 meters along would be traffic lights to deal with the Pink Hill development of 130 houses. The zoo visitor numbers for last year was approximately 650,000 with a predicted increase to 900,000 in the future.

Cumulatively does this amount to an unacceptable congestion?