

from Cllr Michael Crichton &
Cllr Fraser Macpherson
and the West End Liberal Democrats

Edition 116

September 2025 edition



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Autumn 2025 updates from Fraser, Michael and the West End Focus team!

Welcome to West End Focus Edition 116! Councillor Fraser Macpherson, Councillor Michael Crichton and the West End Focus Team are always pleased to assist anyone in the West End with any concerns, problems or queries.

Michael and Fraser can be contacted as follows :



- By e-mail - westendfocus@dundeelibdems.org.uk
- By phone - Dundee 459378 - or send back the Grumble Sheet on the back of this edition of Focus.



Weekly West End Surgeries

Fraser and Michael do surgeries jointly on Tuesdays as follows :

- * **Blackness Library** (Tuesdays 5pm - every week during school term time)
- * **Ancrum Road Primary School** (1st Tuesday of each month at 5.45pm during school term time)
- * **Harris Academy reception area** (2nd Tuesday of each month at 5.45pm during school term time)
- * **West End Campus** (come to reception area of St Joseph's RC PS and Victoria Park PS) - (3rd Tuesday of each month at 5.45pm during school term time)

There are also additional pop-up street surgeries, usually on Thursdays, which are advertised regularly.



Roads condition issues across the West End

As always, Michael and Fraser have been very active raising West End roads condition issues on behalf of residents.

They were pleased that the promised resurfacing of Jedburgh Road was undertaken during July. Although, as reported in the last West End Focus, it was initially envisaged that funding limitations would mean that neighbouring Kelso Place and Kelso Street would not be included, the good news is that it did prove possible to include them.



Fraser is pictured (above left) at Shaftesbury Park, a street the Focus Team has long asked the roads maintenance partnership to resurface given its very poor condition. The good news is that, as Focus went to print, the roads maintenance partnership manager advised that the street would be resurfaced during September.

Michael is pictured (above right) in Saggart Street, where given the poor road condition, the Focus Team has requested that the council agrees to resurfacing in a future programme. The Focus Team has also requested this in Westgrove Avenue, given the poor state of the road.

Fraser and Michael have also raised numerous other roads condition issues - Corso Street, Tait's Lane and Rockfield Street are just some examples.



Swallow roundabout issues : Over the past few months, Michael and Fraser have received many concerns about the operation of the Swallow roundabout at the west end of Riverside Avenue.

The roundabout was “improved” in a project led by the Western Gateway housing developer and was completed earlier this year but there have been many complaints about the operation of the new signalised junction including the lane markings and signage.

Following a safety audit, changes were agreed between Transport Scotland and the roundabout designer. Fraser said, “We have been in protracted correspondence with the developer about resolving this and this work to improve signage and road markings should have started on 25th August. It was slightly delayed as the developer did not obtain necessary roads permissions in time, but as Focus goes to print, the work is imminent.

“We await to see just how successful these alterations prove to be but what is vital is that all safety issues are addressed and that tailbacks are tackled.”

❖ **Dundee bus station toilets :** The Focus Team has been in correspondence with Stagecoach East Scotland about the poor state of the bus station which it owns and the fact that the public toilets have been closed for a lengthy period due to vandalism.

Michael said, “We were pleased to learn recently from Stagecoach that, as part of improvements at the bus station, the toilets are to be refurbished during September, with a re-opening targeted for mid-October.”



❖ **Road sweeping and weeds issues :** Fraser and Michael have raised numerous street cleaning issues recently - examples being Logie Street, Blackness Street, Peddie Street and Bellefield Avenue. Related issues include weeds at road edges and blocked street drains.

Fraser said, “The huge reduction of the street cleaning staffing resource by the SNP-controlled council over the past decade has had a hugely detrimental impact on the cleanliness of the city. Our council group continually attempts at budgets to reverse this decline but has not had the necessary cross-party support. However, we continue to campaign for improvements and will tackle all issues raised by residents.”

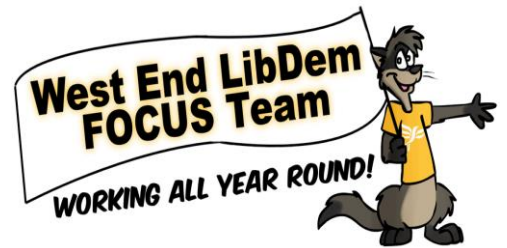
❖ **Damaged wall in Pentland Avenue :** Michael and Fraser are pictured (right) in Pentland Avenue where the walling is damaged. The Focus Team raised this with the City Council following residents highlighting this and repairs are now promised.



❖ **Ninewells Hospital parking issues :** Residents will know from previous editions of West End Focus that Fraser and Michael have continually raised issues around parking at the hospital, both for staff and patients and the “spillage” of hospital related parking onto adjacent streets. Michael recently attended an NHS Tayside organised workshop to discuss the issues and look at improvements.

**Cllr Michael Crichton and Cllr Fraser Macpherson
work all year round for the West End**

Latest West End news from Cllr Fraser Macherson and Cllr Michael Crichton



❖ **Whitehall Theatre - buses** : Last year, Michael and Fraser met with board members of the Whitehall Theatre and they were impressed with the progress the board had made and its plans for the future.

The board members mentioned that it would assist residents attending the theatre if some evening number 22 buses covered Bellfield Street. The Focus Team wrote to Xplore Dundee and are pleased to advise that this has agreed to and will commence from 28th September (evening buses only).

❖ **Greenbank Place** : Fraser and Michael are pictured (right) in Greenbank Place where residents had raised concerns that some of the foliage is so overgrown it creates a security issue near one of the blocks.

Following the Focus Team contacting environment management some trimming took place but this was necessarily limited due to the bird breeding season so further work will be undertaken later in the year.



❖ **Trees issues across the West End** : Over a lengthy period, numerous residents have raised tree-related issues with Michael and Fraser. The Focus Team has raised all of these with the forestry team but what is a very small team has been dealing only with emergency work following the various storms in recent years.

Fraser and Michael will continue to pursue these issues but also tried at the council's revenue budget to increase the forestry staffing resource. This was unfortunately voted down by the SNP administration but Michael and Fraser will continue to raise this as it is clear that additional forestry resources are required.



❖ **Road safety white lining across the West End** : Michael and Fraser are pictured (left) at the northern half of Ninewells Avenue where the white centre lining has been very worn for some time. The Focus Team raised this with the roads maintenance partnership who agreed to refresh it.

After something of a false start due to adverse weather on the dates covered by the temporary traffic order to allow the work to take place, by the time you are reading Focus, if all goes according to plan, the relining should have taken place.

Fraser and Michael have raised numerous other examples of faded lining recently at the request of residents, including many of the side roads lining at junctions on Perth Road in the shopping district and in Blackness Road (for

example at the junction with Peddie Street).



Keep up with the West End News ...

In addition to the regular FOCUS newsletter, Michael and Fraser also do daily on-line West End updates :

- * Their West End Facebook Page covers West End news and other Dundee updates and has around 3 450 followers. You can view it on Facebook at www.facebook.com/dundeewestend
- * They are also on X/Twitter at @dundeewestend - and additionally on Instagram, Threads and Bluesky - just search for @dundeewestend on these platforms
- * There are also daily West End updates on our West End Blog at www.dundeewestend.scot



❖ **Pavement parking exemptions** : As residents will be aware, parking on the pavement can now result in a fixed penalty notice being issued. The council agreed a very small number of exemptions where there are extenuating circumstances - there are only three part-exempt streets in the West End.

The council is not currently willing to review the situation to allow for any further exemptions in the future where there is a good case and clear majority residents' support, which Michael and Fraser feel is not a reasonable approach.

Many residents in Pentland, for example, have contacted the Focus Team saying that some partial exemptions should be considered given the parking difficulties there and the Focus Team has raised this with council officers to request that there are future consultations rather than setting the current position in stone forever.



❖ **Graffiti - Technology Park** : This prominent graffiti at the west end of the technology park (see photo left) has been thankfully painted over following the Focus Team raising this.

The FOCUS "Grumble Sheet" : The West End Focus Team is here to help. If you have a problem or complaint that you'd like sorted, let Councillor Fraser Macpherson, Councillor Michael Crichton and the Focus Team help.



My problem/suggestion/complaint is:

Your Name _____
Your Address _____ Postcode _____
Phone number _____ E-mail Address _____

I would be willing to deliver Focus in a few streets near my home ☐

I would like to join West End Liberal Democrats ☐

Post this to Michael and Fraser at our Freepost address :
Freepost DUNDEE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
(please just write Freepost DUNDEE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS all on one line on your envelope)
You can alternatively e-mail your grumble to westendfocus@dundeelibdems.org.uk

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