



# February 2018 Update

from West End Ward councillor

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**Nethergate road surface :** I have expressed concern that, less than a year after the resurfacing and relaying of the block paving surface at Nethergate outside Dundee Contemporary Arts, the road surface is already appearing to sink in places and is uneven - see right :



I have received numerous complaints from constituents about the road condition in just the past two days. The work to bring the road outside DCA on the Nethergate at the South Tay Street junction was undertaken in February and March last year. It is concerning that, so soon after this work being completed, the road brickwork is uneven, exactly the issue with the road prior to the 2017 work. This needs to be urgently attended to.

One West End constituent said when reporting the matter to me :

**'I have noticed that since the upgrade of the road outside the DCA that it is slowly going back to its condition of loose brick and developing pot holes. I think that this is due to the volume of heavy bus traffic up the Perth Road, although it is pleasing to the eye the surface is not practical for the traffic volume. I am sure that the previous resurface cost a significant amount of money and I don't think we have got what we paid for here, therefore I would be keen to see, acknowledgment that this is an issue and any subsequent communication with the council roads team on what the long term solution is.'**

I reported the matter to the council's Roads Maintenance Partnership seeking urgent repair. Having now discussed this at length with the Roads Maintenance Partnership Manager, he has advised that repairs will be undertaken that will replace the Monobloc surfacing with 'black top' and a screed top surface to maintain an aesthetically pleasing finish. The good news is that this work will not take the length of time the previous Monobloc work took (3 weeks) with the Roads Maintenance Partnership Manager indicating this can be undertaken and completed over a long weekend, hopefully around late March.

**Miller's Wynd Car Park** : Residents will recall that, back in November, I highlighted the poor maintenance of the Miller's Wynd car park - the foliage was very tired and there were dumped items across the car park.

The acquisition by Dundee City Council of the Miller's Wynd car park - from the University of Dundee - has provided much-needed additional free 2 hour parking in this area of Perth Road.

However, it is important the infrastructure of the car park is improved and I contacted Dundee City Council seeking improvements.

I am pleased to say that the overgrown foliage has now been tackled and the dumped items removed - see below :



The Head of Roads and Transportation at the council has now advised me :

**"I hope to see this car park given a fuller bit of design attention and I will ... arrange for a bit of multi department design, surface, vegetation, seating, recycling, lighting and issues and there will be an element of community co-design.**

**This all won't happen overnight and it is not best if we do it in uncoordinated manner/piecemeal manner without an end plan."**

**Lighting - Ninewells Village to Clayhills Drive** : I am pleased to say, after considerable correspondence I have had with various parties, the lighting in the pathway from Simpson Avenue in the Ninewells Village hospital housing down to Clayhills Drive is now finally repaired and working again - see right :



The lighting had been out of action for some time and there was a question mark as to who had responsibility for this lighting which sits south of the Ninewells Hospital grounds and north of Clayhills Drive.

I am grateful to all parties I have contacted for moving this forward - NHS Tayside, Netlach (who manage the Ninewells housing site), the factors of the Clayhills Drive/Ninian's View development and the council's Street Lighting Partnership.

The path was previously extremely dark at this location at night and it is much safer now the lighting is back on.

**Hawkhill and West Port - Street Lighting** : Residents recently raised with me the fact that the street lighting in parts of the Hawkhill by-pass (near Blackness Primary School) and West Port was not on in the morning when it was still dark.



I am grateful to the Street Lighting Partnership who promptly resolved this - a timeclock issue, now fixed.

The Street Lighting Partnership Manager advised me that timeclocks are being phased out to avoid such issues. She indicates :

**"We replace the timeclocks with a photoelectric cell which operates on the ambient lighting levels. Currently we are using cells which switch the lights at 35 lux in the evening and 18 lux in the morning.**

**Unfortunately it is not a straight swap for these components and often some additional cabling and tracking is required."**