

MCC POLL on support for Spaces For People temporary measures to be developed as permanent measures.

Morningside Road:

MCC would welcome a plan for the general reduction in parking and bins, whilst recognising the need for shop deliveries.

In particular, we ask that

- There are wider, level pavements and at road junctions, raised tables are built for ease of pedestrians crossing.

- Increase pavement space around bus stops. Traditionally bus stops in Morningside Road are busy places for people waiting and can be difficult passing places for other pedestrians.

- Create sufficient waiting space at the pedestrian crossings and remove unnecessary railings, particularly near Mellis's shop.

- Retain the automatic pedestrian crossing at Belhaven Terrace /Morningside Road /Comiston Road junction.

- Retain the cycle space from Morningside Place up to Churchill.

Although making a place for pedestrians only, is not part of Spaces For People temporary proposals, we wish include a town centre proposal to assist Morningside Road recover from Covid and improve Morningside as an attractive bustling Town Centre. There are several reasons for making a pedestrian area in front of M&S and Superdrug

- The Council Town Centre study (published Dec17) recommended this as a pedestrian area for a number of reasons, in particular the extremely high footfall in this place with people going to and from the bus stop, people waiting for buses in numbers in this space and pedestrians visiting shops.

- MCC was contacted by The Morningside Traders early in 2020 as they were concerned about the dangers to pedestrians crossing the junction at Morningside Park / Morningside Road junction immediately to the south of the M&S store. Although MCC consultations were limited at this time, there was a consensus that closing the general access road in front of M&S and Superdrug would enable a safer crossing for pedestrians to and from the bus stop and the shops. We thought that the existing small taxi rank could be relocated nearby in Steele's place or at the side of M&S.

- The high footfall in this place (prior to the pandemic) meant it was also an attractive space for charities and campaign groups to put up stalls. Morningside does not have other public spaces where these kind of social activities and general meeting can take place.

- Morningside Road townscape has tenemental properties on both sides of the road that is busy with road traffic moving through. There are no attractive public spaces that provide a break to the general congestion. This space could create a welcoming public social place among the dense living of the area and reclaim a corner away from the traffic congestion of Morningside Road.

Canaan Lane:

With access to 2 primary schools from Canaan lane, this road is a valuable safe route for children going to and from school. However, at the same time some consideration is required to the businesses and residents that use the road. Measures to ensure this Lane is a safe pedestrian route at school time is welcome.

Braid road:

A permanent pedestrian and cyclist crossing at Hermitage of the Braid is urgent, as pedestrians and cyclists are now used to this road being closed.

Midmar Drive:

Improving the safety for pedestrians crossing from Cluny Drive to the Bowling Green, the Hermitage and the Allotments is very welcome. At present, it is not possible for pedestrians to have a clear view of traffic approaching the junction.