

# Success for community campaign against WH



**Dumbarton Road Corridor Environment Trust**

*Your community, Your Planet*

[This article has been prepared by Neil Lovelock of Dumbarton Road Corridor Environment Trust on behalf of all the community groups and individuals who took part in the campaign.]

We are delighted to be reporting in this newsletter that the campaign against planning permission for a gasification unit with the chimney stack in South Street was successful and many of you who sent objections to Glasgow City Council will have received letters notifying objectors that permission was refused. Part of our campaign focussed on issues of air quality in South Street which were a cause for concern and three community councils – Whiteinch, Scotstoun and Yoker – submitted letters on behalf of residents of homes in and close to South Street to raise our concerns with Glasgow City Council through the Public Petitions and General Purposes Policy Development Committee.

For petitions to be considered only one community council letter or signatures of 25 Glasgow residents are required but our 'Air Quality Management – South Street and Environs' petition had three community council letters AND 286 signatures! We also were supported by Bill Kidd MSP and Carol Monaghan MP along with Harland Cottages Residents Association, Friends of Victoria Park, Scotstoun Conservation Area Residents Association, Victoria Park Residents Association and Dumbarton Road Corridor Environment Trust. Thank you to all of you who supported us with this to show that this was truly a concern for our local community.

The petition was submitted at the City Chambers in September 2015 and it was presented to the committee of 15 city councillors on 9 February 2016. The procedures for the committee required one person to be named as Principal Petitioner and the named person was allocated ten minutes to state why the petition had been put

forward. After the presentation there was a question session from the city councillors. The officer from Sustainability Glasgow (part of Land & Environmental Services) was present to answer questions about what was being done to monitor air quality in the area around South Street.

#### **These are some of the points that we put to the committee:**

- Firstly we know from current highly rated research that polluted air from traffic and industrial activity poses severe health risks but we don't know what pollutants at what levels are in the air we breathe living in or near South Street.
- Also research tells us: 'Air pollution has a worse impact on the most vulnerable: children, the elderly, people with pre-existing health conditions' so we pointed out that South Street & Environs include –

St Paul's Primary School (Whiteinch) with 300 pupils at 200 yds from South Street

In the immediate area there are also - children's play parks at Earl Street and Northinch Street; some Nursery Schools or Playgroup Rooms; several local Medical Practices and Queen Elizabeth University Hospital just across the River Clyde; National Route 7 cycle path used by people who cycle to work, walk to school, jog, walk the dog or push the babies' buggies or wheelchairs along from Burnham Road to Smith Street

Sheltered Housing complexes, including Primrose Court Complex



- Thirdly we don't know what current types and levels of pollutants are present from vehicle emissions from South St and Dumbarton Rd and from the link streets of Burnham Rd, Balmoral St, Harland St, Methil St, Scotstoun St, Edzell St, Squire St.

We do know that South St, Dumbarton Rd and all the link streets are busy and congested throughout the day with vehicles travelling and parked.



South St

Cycle Path

St Paul's PS playground