Joanna Cherry QC MP Edinburgh South West



14 August 2018



Dear Mike,

Thank you for your recent email updating me on the progress of the Colinton Mural Project. I am delighted to hear that it is progressing so well. I very much enjoyed my visit to inspect the existing condition of the tunnel and to hear your exciting plans for the future, and I appreciate you keeping me informed of progress in the meantime. It was also very interesting to attend the exhibition of the work of the artist, Edward Lucas, at Colinton Library last December.

As you and your fellow volunteers have correctly identified, Colinton Tunnel is an area that could benefit from a facelift and efforts to make solo walkers and runners feel more welcome and secure.

The mural is a wonderful idea which will serve as an important record of Colinton's rich social, artistic, industrial and military history and will be enjoyed both by local residents and the visitors it will draw into the area. In doing so, I believe it will bring significant benefits to Colinton and the surrounding area and perhaps go some way to address the economic decline in the village centre.

I believe that as well as playing an important role in preserving local history the project will also reinforce the powerful sense of local community which exists in Colinton. I am especially pleased to see that the mural project has already had a positive impact on community engagement through ongoing events and workshops, as well as by linking with local schools so that everyone in the community can get involved.

I am very sorry that I will be unable to attend the Art in the Park event on 2nd September as I shall be abroad on holiday. I note however that if the weather is seriously inclement the event may be postponed to 9th September, when I will be in Edinburgh – so do let me know if that occurs. Otherwise, I would be delighted to have the opportunity to visit you again soon to hear more about the Colinton Tunnel mural project.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch to arrange a visit or for any further assistance

that I can provide. I look forward to seeing the results of the hard work you have put into the Colinton Tunnel mural.

Finally, please accept my sincere congratulations for the outstanding amount of work that has gone into this project so far and pass them on to your colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Joanna Cherry QC

Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West Shadow SNP Westminster Group Leader for Justice and Home Affairs