

Possibly a great opportunity here!

There is a proposal, currently a PAN, for a supermarket (probably Tesco) on the site of the former B&Q at Inglis Green Rd. I've been in touch with the Agents, WYG, and there is to be a public exhibition next week, Wed and Thurs 14th and 15th, 10am to 9pm, at Slateford-Longstone Church Hall, Kingsknowe Rd North. Staff will be present to answer questions and there will be the chance to lodge comments.

The opportunity is to ask for a pedestrian/cycle bridge over the Water of Leith at this point. This could be a vital link in a longer-distance route. To the east, a new-built path already leads to New Mart Rd, and future developments will provide a route along the line of the old railway which served the meat and fruit markets (currently cleared), including a bridge under Chesser Ave., thence to Hutchison Crossway, from where the old rail path has already been recently tarmac'ed as far as Slateford Green (where the railway joined the South Sub).

To the west, the opportunities are even better, as one can use the existing crossing of Inglis Green Rd to reach the path into Redhall Park, which leads to a railway underpass and thence to the canal and the rail path to Colinton, Currie and Balerno. This means there would be a connection from the WoL to the canal without having to use the long flight of steps at Slateford Aqueduct.

We can point out that the bridge would enhance the supermarket's green credentials, as it would link all the residences east of the river (new flats on New Mart Rd, and future big developments on meat/fruit market sites) to the store, off-road, enabling customers to travel the shortest route and by foot/bike. It would also give direct access to the store for users of the WoL path.

If you can't make it to the exhibition, comments can be lodged on the Agents' website, www.morbaine.co.uk but don't do this until the exhibition has opened.

I hope we will get lots of support for this from walkers, cyclists and river path users.

Peter Hawkins