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THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

# HOUSING CASH GETS GO AHEAD

## **But councillors fall out over £3 million for Wester Hailes Drive**

**A FURIOUS political row broke out last week over plans to spend £3 million on a housing project in Wester Hailes.**

At a full meeting of Edinburgh District Council, Liberal Democrat councillors joined forces with the Conservatives in a bid to stop work going ahead on a refurbishment scheme in Wester Hailes Drive.

But the majority Labour administration were backed by the two SNP councillors and the scheme was given the red light.

News of the victory was warmly welcomed by Margaret Manzie, chairperson of the Wester Hailes Drive North neighbourhood council.

She said: "All the local people involved in this

project are delighted that the money has now be agreed.

"We have put an awful lot of work into this, and we were not impressed by the Liberals and Tories attempts to stop the work. They obviously do not understand what was at stake."

Local councillor Mark Lazarowicz accused the Liberals and Tories of using "political tricks" to block the badly needed work.

He said: "I am outraged. This scheme is an agreed part of the Wester Hailes Partnership housing strategy, which involves the Government and Scottish Homes. And until now all parties on the council have supported the work of the Partnership."

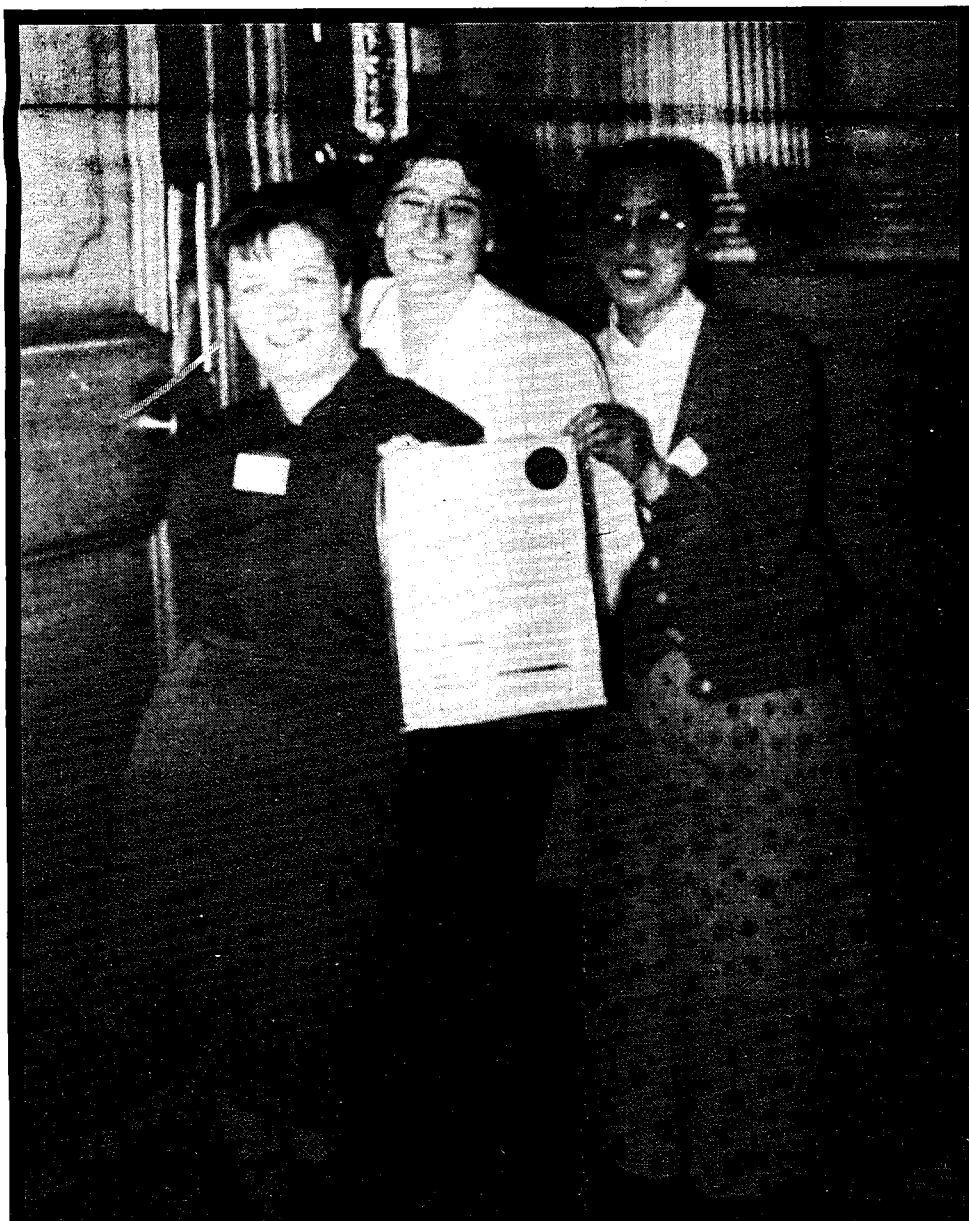
Work on phase 1 of the Wester Hailes Drive regeneration scheme is likely to start within the next few weeks.

Nearly 200 homes will get new windows, door entry

systems, and shared back greens. At the same time 80 homes in the Drive, which are owned by the Wester Hailes Community Housing Association, will be completely refurbished using cash from Scottish Homes.

**We have put an awful lot of work into this, and we were not impressed by the Liberals and Tories attempts to stop the work.**

**Margaret Manzie**



### **Training for success**

THREE local women graduated from the Edinburgh Women's Training Centre last week.

Janice Williamson successfully completed a nine month training course in computing and Ann McDonald and Min Guo both finished an electronics course.

The women received their graduation certificates from Councillor Sheila Kennedy at special ceremony in the City Chambers.

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