

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 13th December 2016 in Council Chambers

1. Sederunt

Jan Wilson (Chair), Margaret Ingle (Vice Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Ruth Moncrieff (Secretary), Fiona McEwan, Chris McEwan, Fiona-Frances Adam, Ron Goldie, Paul Darling, Betty Somerville, Haig Hamilton

In attendance

Cllr Tom Trotter, Robert Flood (Knox), Calum Learmonth (Knox), Rebecca Keegan (Knox), Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary)

2. Apologies: PC Lynn Black, Cllr Ludovic Broun-Lindsay, Cllr John McMillan

3. AOCB - new CC applicants

Haig Hamilton had not been aware that he had to re-apply to remain on the CC - he is happy to be back. We also have another interested businessman who will be invited to attend the January meeting. *Action Ruth*

4. Minutes of 8th November 2016

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Fiona-Frances Adam and Margaret Ingle

5. Matters arising

5.1 Item 9.7 events group rep: Margaret wanted to thank all the pupils from KA who helped out at events such as the Fun Day and the Armistice Parade. Jan also gave a special thanks to the Events Group for all their hard work over the year - all the events have been well attended and 'Christmas in Haddington' was a particularly busy and well attended day. The christmas lights are also a huge amount of work and organisation and she commended all the people involved in making this happen ie Events Group members and also Callum from KA.

5.3 Item 11 Memorial Tree: John reported that Mike Foye is in the process of sourcing a lime tree to be put in a spot opposite the Post Office in Court Street. It has also been suggested a plaque of some sort is put on or by the tree.

6. Treasurers Report

6.1 Accounts have been circulated to members. John said he has slightly changed the way he is reporting the accounts and will only show the highlights - will have all the details in a master spreadsheet which can be requested at any time.

6.2 Funday: this year showed a profit of £325. Panto money not available as yet but thought to be a great success with possible plans to do again next Christmas (report will be avail for next meeting). Suggest that the Courier put in an article about this.

6.3 Telephone calls: Jan told the members that she will be foregoing her £40 fee towards phone calls as she does not make as many now.

7. Councillors Corner

7.1 Street furniture: having spent a fair bit of time recently in the centre of the town putting up the lights, Chris has noticed that the street furniture is in a bad state of repair. Some of the poles are bent, signs facing the wrong way etc. and the whole area just looks shabby. Rab also said that the lights in Shields Close (on the way up to Tesco) are out.

7.2 Hilton Lodge: Chris asked if the tree at Hilton Lodge (hanging over the pavement) could be cut back as it not only obscures the street light but one of the christmas lights.

7.3 Lamp House Music: Rab said that the road behind here is in a bad state of repair, with parts of it sinking.

7.4 Market Street pharmacy: Ruth asked if a mirror could be put in place to allow better pedestrian sightlines for crossing the road at this junction. She also asked about the previously mentioned crossing for Newton Port at Tesco junction -Tom said the nothing had been progressed on this as yet.

7.5 Slip road at Abbotsview: Fiona-Frances reported bags of rubbish strewn by the road in this area.

7.6 Whittingham Drive: Margaret said that both sides of the road are very badly affected by potholes - this has been reported to John McMillan. Tom confirmed that both himself and John have reported this.

7.7 Newton Port/Surgery car park: Ruth thanked the council for the repairs that have been done in Newton Port - the pavements are a lot better. Jan also wanted to thank them for installing more disabled bays in the car park - this has made a huge difference.

Jan thanked Tom for coming to the meeting and for all his help and support. He in turn, on behalf of himself and colleagues, wished the CC all the best for christmas and the coming year.

8. Police Questions - Full report available from Lynn who was not present at the meeting. Any comments can be reported direct to Lynn or via Ruth.

8.1 CAPP meeting:

CAPP priorities identified (from previous meeting)

1. Attention to be given to the following areas in relation to complaints of youth related antisocial behaviour including litter, noise, smashed bottles and fireraising: Millfield Football ground, Haddington Joint campus playground, Neilson Park and Mill Wynd.
2. Hi Visibility mobile and foot patrols during evenings in High Street, Haddington, in relation to youth related incidents.
3. Enforcement patrols in Victoria Road and Neilson Park Road, Haddington, during the school restriction periods.
4. Pro Laser speed checks in specified areas in the Haddington and Lammermuir ward area, including Gifford and Athelstaneford.

9. Knox Academy News

9.1 School trip to Auschwitz: details of this will be reported in the new year.

9.2 Christmas jumper day: this was held recently as a fundraiser

9.3 Memorial plaque at Dino's: this is still in negotiation with Stuart Pryde at ELC

9.4 Gravestone restoration: a meeting has been arranged with Alan Sheerin in the new year.

9.5 Children in Need: approx. £600 was raised by Knox

9.6 Events Group representative: Callum along with Molly Young are continuing to be part of the EG

9.7 S6 Panto: all are welcome to come to the evening showing on 21st December.

9.8 Poppies: all the tins are now collected – final figure will be known in January.

Thanks to representatives of Knox for attending. Ruth and Fiona also thanked all from Knox who have helped at recent events.

10. Planning Applications

10.1 Briery Bank: Paul brought details of a proposed development to the south of Briery Bank. Part residential, part burial ground - a public meeting is scheduled for 27th January 3-8pm.

10.2 Letham Development: part of the original plot has been sold on (275 houses) with the original being 700/800. If they get permission to build there would not be a new secondary school but money from the developers to council could be available for an extension to Knox. After some discussion it was felt that much more information and input is needed as the CC are not happy with the proposals. The biggest problem being the lack of infrastructure – Jan concurred and suggested that any developers should be willing to put money towards developing the infrastructure to deal with the increase in the population of the town. Paul will write to planning with our comments and reservations on this development.

Action Paul

11. Local priorities budget

11.1 £5538 is the current balance which we need to spend or commit by end of March or we will lose it. Some ideas like sound system for the Corn Exchange, buy costumes instead of hiring at Christmas (although the draw-back of this would be storage). Although Fiona-Frances thought it might be worth asking the Dance School in Newton Port if they would have a room which could be used for storage – Ruth will write to them. Some other ideas were to use the money to clean up the memorials in the town, a 2nd cherry picker for the Christmas lights, plaque for the memorial tree. All of these will be considered. Ideas from Athelstaneford were also asked for. All ideas welcome. *Action Ruth*

12. Correspondence

12.1 Kay Wilson: letter received from Kay regarding her proposed gap year in India which involves teaching and setting up an arts and crafts centre. Kay needs to raise over £6000 to go on the trip and has already been working at raising this through other events. She is asking if the CC would consider donating to this fund. Some members were keen on supporting this but John was uncomfortable at setting a precedent and suggested we consider giving a donation if she reaches her target. Haig also suggested we re-assess in 3 months to see how she has got on raising the money. After a show of hands the majority voted against a donation but would be happy to give a free table at the craft fair and

re-assess in a few months – Ruth will write with our decision and ask her to contact us again and give us a report on her current situation regarding fundraising.

Action Ruth

13. Haddington Community Development Trust

13. Update: Neither Paul nor Fiona-Frances were at the last meeting therefore nothing to update. Chris felt that there seemed to be not much being done apart from working on the Website.

14. Events Group meeting

14.1 Update: it has been a busy month with the Funday, Christmas lights, panto etc. All were really successful with some changes made to the running of the Funday and some to take forward to the next one.

14.2 Christmas lights: a huge thank you to all involved, including Graham, Paul, John, Rab and Steven

14.3 Fireworks: this was a huge success and was helped by the addition of a PA system provided by Davie Martin – we will be keen to use again for events in 2017.

14.4 Festival 2017: work will commence in January on plans for the festival and all events in 2017

14.5 Santa sleigh run: 3 nominations have been received for house visits. We are still looking for an alternative storage solution for the sleigh. Some people have been approached. John asked Haig if he would have any suitable accommodation for this – he said he probably could find something and asked John to contact him direct and they can discuss.

Action John/Haig

15. Blooming Haddington (BH)

15.1 Update: Rab gave an update as follows:

Raised beds – 13 have been donated by Morrisons, with the compost donated by Alba Trees. They now need painted before planting can go ahead

Bulbs/plants – thousands of bulbs have been planted around the town with some more sourced for the memorial garden. Planting still to be done at the public toilets.

The Hub - lights have been hung at the site of the old Ideal Garage. A shed promised to them has also been delivered and just needs to be built.

Civic reception - an invite has been received for this at the Brunton Hall

Viridor – some members attended a meeting with Viridor regarding fencing at the memorial garden

Save the Children - £430 was raised in a collection in Tesco

Memorial Park – bench commemorating WWI is now in place

Oriental Garden: Rab has recently spent a number of hours tidying up this area.

Jan thanked Rab for his update and all the BH members for their hard work and input.

16. CC night out

It was suggested we arrange a meal out on 20th January – Ruth will book at the Tyneside.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 10th January 2017 in **Council Chambers, Town House** at 7.00pm.

Outstanding Matters Arising from previous minutes

2013

14/5 Waste bins in High St (14/6/16 - no feedback yet)

Various transportation issues: Lammermuir Cres, Dunderpender Dv, Church St, sunken road by JG Gray Centre

9/09 Mental Health Resource: Tynepark

2015

8/9 Victoria Bridge - parking/congestion

High Street - flood-lights out

Hardgate/Artillery Park: uneven paving stones

Monksmains Road - missing speed bumps

The 4 items above are in hand (as at 13/10/15)

10/11 John Muir House - re-painting of disabled parking bays

2016

12/1 Newton Port - traffic survey ?

- 9/2 Lights in Hospital Road

- 10/5 Speed bumps - Monkriegg Road
Pencaitland Road - incomplete road works/hole in ground
Meadowpark - loose speed bump
Wheelie-bins in High Street
Whittingham Drive - state of the road surface
Hospital Road - congestion
- 11/10 Newton Port pavements
Poles in town centre - christmas lights
Bench at bottom of High Street
- 8/11 Clerkington Road – holes in road (temp filled with rocks)
- 10/12 Street furniture – state of disrepair
Overhanging trees at Hilton Lodge
Lamp House Music – disrepair of road surfaces
Market St Pharmacy – mirror for sight lines
Slip road at Abbotsview - litter

Transportation Dept. -Pot Holes and Broken Slabs throughout the Town & Athelstaneford

Pot Holes: Ideal Garage junction, Stevenson, West Road surfaces, Whittingham Drive

Uneven Pavements: High Street, Market Street, Court Street. St. Anne’s Place, Mitchells Close (11/1/11)