

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 10th January 2017 in Council Chambers

1. Sederunt

Jan Wilson (Chair), Margaret Ingle (Vice Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Rab Moran, Fiona McEwan, Chris McEwan, Fiona-Frances Adam, Ron Goldie, Paul Darling, Betty Somerville, Graham Samuel

In attendance

Cllr Tom Trotter, Cllr John McMillan, Robert Flood (Knox), Calum Learmonth (Knox), Rebecca Keegan (Knox), Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).
Carol Duff and Fiona Marr from the Art Hub in Hardgate.

2. Apologies:

PC Lynn Black, Cllr Ludovic Broun-Lindsay, Ruth Moncrieff (Secretary)

3. AOCB

3.1 New CC applicant - Christopher Zientara. Christopher introduced himself to the meeting. Being fairly new to the town, having taken over the stationers (formally Watson's) in Market Street, he said they have been made to feel very welcome by the people of Haddington and is keen to get more involved within the community and hopes to do this by being a member of the CC. After his brief introduction he left the room whereby a short discussion was held – it was concluded he would be most welcome to join the CC. Christopher came back to the meeting and Jan welcomed him on board. She reiterated that it is expected that all members are hands-on with the work/projects organised throughout the year and any ideas for future projects are also most welcome. John H thought it worth mentioning that the Events Group (EG) are always looking for new members to get involved in organising events (the group are a separate entity but come under the CC banner)

3.2 Art Hub

4. Minutes of 13th December 2016

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Margaret Ingle and seconded by Fiona McEwan

(apologies to Rab for omitting him from the sederunt for December meeting – he was actually present at this meeting!)

5. Matters arising

5.1 Item 14.5 Santa sleigh: the sleigh is now safely in its new home at West Fortune farm (many thanks to Haig for this). Jan thanked all those involved in the santa run – they visited Crookston in Tranent which was a lovely surprise for the residents.

5.3 Item 15.1 Raised beds: correction: the soil for the beds was kindly donated by Morrisons construction

5.4 CC meal out: this has been booked for 20th Jan at the Tyneside – new member Christopher was invited to come along

6. Treasurers Report

6.1 Accounts have been circulated to members. A few final costings are as follows: sleigh £275, panto profit £162, payment due to St Mary's for Armistice day £108. Profit from Art Exhibition £255.

6.2 Funday/Christmas lights: profit from the day this year was £325. It was felt that the community should be aware of the costs for the lights (this year £3845). Chris pointed out that this sum was for new lights bought this year and that the work to put up/take down was done solely by volunteers (thereby not costing anything).

7. Councillors Corner

7.1 Carlyle Court: the roadway here is in a very bad state of repair. John McMillan said that this was scheduled to be done in the next quarter.

7.2 Macmerry Ind Estate road: Jan said that the bollards at the Ind Estate are very dirty – the reflective strip is totally obscured and therefore hazardous for drivers who may not know the bollards are there. Tom will look into this (John McM reiterates that in a case such as this, where urgent action is necessary, a quick email to the council should be forthcoming)

Action T Trotter.

7.3 Speedbumps at Monkmain: Paul reported that the speed bumps have still not been replaced here. Tom said this has been reported but will chase.

Action T Trotter

7.4 Traffic warden update: John McM reported that the wardens will be in place from the 23rd January 2017

7.5 John McMillan update: John said that the George Hotel will launch their commercial side from 27th January (gallery and ballroom upstairs and retail units on the ground floor). The café area is still open to offers at present – any interested parties to contact IME direct.

Thanks to all the councillors for attending the meeting.

8. Police Questions – Any items for Lynn can be sent direct to her or via Ruth.

8.1 CAPP meeting:

CAPP priorities identified (from previous meetings)

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 S6 panto: the panto on 21st Dec went very well

9.2 Christmas boxes: every registration class creates a hamper – these are then distributed to the foodbank, elderly care homes etc.

9.3 Poppy Scotland: Robert reported a total raised of approx. £4500 – he will write to all the businesses involved.

9.4 Rugby trip to Wales: the boys involved have been busy fundraising for this trip – bag-packing in Tesco raised £917 and they are holding a quiz night this Friday also {which has now been reported as raising the grand sum of £657}.

9.5 Youth Philanthropy Initiative: congratulations to the S5/6 groups who took part in this – the winning group were presented with £3000 for their chosen charities. John McMillan said he was honoured to be asked to judge it and said that the pupils involved were outstanding.

Thanks to representatives of Knox for attending.

10. Planning Applications

10.1 No 8 Court Street: application for change of use from shop to housing

11. Local priorities budget

11.1 Uncommitted: approx. £5538 left in budget to spend. This will be lost unless we spend it – ideas to be brought to the next meeting. John suggested we commit monies to the Armistice day and the sleigh – could the money for these come from the LP budget? After a short discussion, it was agreed we email Lillian to suggest we take this money from the LP budget and reimburse the Events Group for the outgoings on sleigh and Armistice Day. *Action John H*

11.2 Festival 2017: Chris suggested the CC make a donation to the EG for this years' Festival – they have plenty ideas of how to make it bigger and better - some extra money would help realise this.

11.3 Art Hub: Rab suggested we help them by giving a donation. Jan said that this would be considered and that they should apply to the CC in the usual way. We previously made the criteria that groups apply in writing, with details of their bank account - they will then be considered (a total sum of £500 per group was previously agreed).

11.4 Blooming Haddington: Graham asked if the £400 to BH has been paid – John confirmed that this sum is just committed but not yet paid out - will action this. He also said he would like to see details of the BH accounts and will write to Laura or Louise for this information. Christopher agreed that as a lot of local businesses contributed to BH it would be good to see where the money goes.

Action John H

12. Correspondence – has all been circulated via email by Ruth

13. Haddington Community Development Trust

13. Update: Fiona-Frances attended the last meeting. Funds of 17k have been allocated to social media/marketing. One formal application to the community grants fund also. HCDT also keen to support MADE in East Lothian. They are also discussing producing walking/running routes and a town centre map (the CC asked for details of all these

proposals). Chris McEwan suggested that spending 17k on social media and marketing was a huge waste of money and this would be better spent within the community.

14. Events Group meeting

14.1 Update: Fiona said that there was no update until after their next meeting. They are currently trying to recruit 2 new members to the group. Jan thanked Fiona for all her work over the past year – much appreciated

15. Blooming Haddington (BH)

15.1 Update: Rab gave an update as follows:

Hanging baskets – these are to be recycled for the summer

The Hub (Ideal garage site) - lights have been taken down

Public toilets - the frame outside the toilets has now been filled with plants (donated from the Gardening Club)

Oriental garden – some hours have been spent planting and tidying this area

Memorial Park – the beds have been dug over and thousands of bulbs have been planted

Meeting: a meeting is scheduled for next week between BH, Beautiful Scotland and KMP to discuss the way forward

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

16. AOCB

16.1 Art Hub: Fiona and Carol from the Hub gave a resume of what they are doing. They are one half of the 4 people (all volunteers) involved in running the centre whose aim is primarily to support and promote artists and makers in East Lothian.

Premises: they negotiated the use of the old carpet shop premises in Hardgate which is not ideal as due for demolition and not in great condition. But they have had great support from Blooming Haddington in helping make the premises more habitable. This space will be used to run workshops, promote the group and exhibition space. They are currently in the process of looking at more suitable premises – Peter Potters is one option, although this is not ideal in terms of location and accessibility (have talked to council and would be open to sharing a lease if this would be more viable). The George Hotel is another but this may prove too costly. The search for new premises is ongoing.

Projects: they have taken over the running of the wee market in Tynningham and are hoping to run childrens arts/crafts sessions on Friday afternoons. They are also involved in 2 major community arts projects Open Window Initiative/Poldrate and Haddington Star Project (which will utilise the hanging basket brackets and will fill the gap between now and summer when the baskets will be put up). They have applied to ELC council visual arts fund to support this.

Finances: they currently do not have any funding in place but will be meeting with the Business Gateway to discuss options. They are very keen to be part of the town, to enhance the town and bring something that would benefit all in the town. Jan thanked them for coming and telling us about the Hub – she said they should keep us informed of their progress and we would be happy to consider a donation if they apply through the usual channels.

Remit: John H asked them what their remit was and whether they would be keen to be involved with the WWI project he has in mind which would commemorate the 130 local men who died in the war. This would perhaps involve some metal work. Carol said they have a network of artists/sculptors who may be able to help. Jan also suggested John McPhail in Tranent – John will contact him. **Action John H**

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 14th February 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, Dunpender 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 - Monkrigg 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

2017

10/1 Carlyle Court – state of road

Bollards at Macmerry Ind Estate

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)