

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 14th February 2017 in Council Chambers

1. Sederunt

Jan Wilson (Chair), Ruth Moncrieff (Secretary), Rab Moran, Haig Hamilton, Fiona-Frances Adam, Ron Goldie, Graham Samuel, Chris Zientara

In attendance

Cllr Tom Trotter, Cllr John McMillan, Calum Learmonth (Knox), Laura Samuel (Blooming Haddington), Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).

2. Apologies: Margaret Ingle, Fiona McEwan, Chris McEwan, Robert Flood (KA), Rebecca Keegan (KA), PC Lynn Black, John Hamilton, Paul Darling

3. AOCB

4. Minutes of 13th December 2016

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Rab Moran and seconded by Graham Samuel

4.1 Correction: Item 13. Fiona-Frances said that the figure quoted was not 17k but 6k allocated to social media. She will go back to her notes and double check this.

4.2 Laura Samuel, BH, also wanted to correct items under Blooming Haddington in the previous minutes.

Raised beds: were donated by Brian East in Dundee.

Viridor: no meetings have taken place with them as yet, all in the discussion phase

Memorial Park: this is also in the discussion phase, with quotes being sought but no-one has been approached regarding this yet

Save the children: a final figure has not been reported

Newsletter: BH have now produced a newsletter. They have also approached ELC to request the BH awards be mentioned in the 'Gateways to Haddington' leaflet

Jan once again thanked all involved with BH for their work and commitment which has produced such fantastic results in such a short time. Laura in turn thanked the CC for their financial help.

5. Matters arising

5.1 Item 7.2 Bollards: bollards at Macmerry have now been removed – thanks to ELC for dealing with this so quickly

6. Treasurers Report (update email from John in his absence)

6.1 Action points from last meeting –

11.1 – Lilian sent request to transfer cost of Sleigh run and Armistice Day to our CC BoS account.

11.4 – Lilian sent request to transfer £400 from our LP to Blooming Haddington.

11.4 – I was also to request visibility of Blooming Haddington's accounts so we can review what future, if any, donations we can commit to them. See below.

16.1 – Attempted to make contact with artist John McPhail from Tranent but, either broken links or no contact details, made this unsuccessful. However, contact has been made to 4 other metalwork businesses in Lothians, with 2 having responded so far. Giving them to the end of the week before making further contact with them.

Blooming Haddington accounts – I've received the attached from them, showing a total of £11,624, of which £4,849 is Unrestricted (meaning not pledged, or their day to day balance) and £6,775 Restricted (meaning monies pledged/spent and awaiting invoiced). I queried their Restricted total as it's been sitting at £8,180 from Sept 2015 until 6th Jan this year, with £1,333 tx'd into their Unrestricted balance being the 1st transaction in all that time; the explanation was that the Council had supplied some of their line items (i.e. flowers etc) and they were expecting to be invoiced but, to date, they hadn't been, hence the static figure.

My take is that given their relatively healthy balance, and bearing in mind they have a lot of ideas on what to do to the Town, we should be offering a more targeted donation for specific developments, rather than the historic carte blanche £2,000 donations. On speaking to Laura, she's identified one of this year's initiatives is that they're looking at

putting in two benches and restoring the draught board in the memorial park; Is this something we can target? I've asked for costings for these.

7. CC boundary to include Cockles Brae

7.1 Lynda Boyle-Ronaldson: Jan said that at the last election when Lynda went to stand again it was found that she lived out-with the CC boundary. We could ask ELC to move the boundary lines which would allow Lynda to come back onto the CC. Therefore it is suggested we write to the Chief Executive to ask them to consider this. *As the meeting tonight is not quorate this item cannot be passed therefore deferred to next months' meeting.*

8. Councillors Corner

8.1 Pencaitland Road: Graham said there is a random pole in the middle of the new path towards the new houses

8.2 Diversion signs: he also said that there are a lot of diversion signs in the town which are very confusing as they don't state which diversion they refer to.

8.3 A1 cones/signs dumped: signs etc dumped by the roadside at slip road to the West of town. Also, sign saying 'no road markings' still in place – Tom said this was a matter for Bear and not ELC.

8.4 Athelstaneford: Haig said there have been complaints about speeding through the village and asked if a flashing sign could be in place at Kilduff

8.5 Museum of Flight: the signage at the cemetery is completely unreadable, could this be addressed

8.6 Village hall: this requires a new ceiling and they are wondering if there is any funding available for this. John McMillan said they can look into this if costings are brought forward.

8.7 Bus stop: Tom reported that the bus stop has been repaired. John McM paid tribute to Harald Vox who pursued the repair to this and he also complemented the standard of workmanship.

8.8 Chris Zientara: Chris came to the meeting with an idea used in Poland to tackle youth anti-social behaviour. He has been upset to see some of the problems in Haddington involving ASB, drugs etc. In Poland they have a 'Cultural House' where kids can get involved in various activities including dance, singing, music, films clubs etc. Tom, without discrediting these ideas said we have to be very careful not to brand everyone together – the trouble makers are in the minority and we have a lot of good examples and that many groups and clubs the kids can get involved with, including the Poldate Motor Cycle club, dance groups, scouts, brownies etc.

John McMillan agreed with this and added that the Local Area Partnership (Penny Short) is piloting a scheme in Garvald for a young persons' shelter. He reiterated that there are a lot of good things going on in the town to support and encourage the youngster – we see this also through the input from the KA representatives who attend the meetings. Any ASB and reports of vandalism etc are dealt with swiftly by the local wardens. John said he would be very keen to see Chris's report and perhaps pass on to Penny Short – he thanked him for his comments and suggestions. Jan concurred that we are very lucky in Haddington – there are many places with much greater ASB problems.

8.9 Aubigny centre car park: Rab reported very bad potholes in this area

8.10 Bottom of High Street (opposite Mike's bikes): Rab said that the flood-lights on the goats are out of order. Graham said they are on but are shining onto the wall instead of the goats.

8.11 Coop at Hopetoun Drive: Jan has been made aware that youths were seen to drop litter out of a car parked outside the coop. This has happened a couple of times – details of the car have been taken.

8.12 Cabinet papers: John McM said that consultation is ongoing re loading/unloading in areas of the town – can leave details if anyone interested

8.13 Alderston House: has been sold by the Council. Application for a crematorium has not gone through.

8.14 George Hotel: refurbishment is well on the way and areas have been launched for lease.

Thanks to all the councillors for attending the meeting.

9. Police Questions – Any items for Lynn can be sent direct to her or via Ruth (full report available).

9.1 CAPP meeting:

CAPP priorities identified

1. Cont... Haddington Problem Solving Partnership to continue to tackle youth related antisocial behaviour in the town with a multi-agency approach.
2. Attention to be given to Victoria Road and Neilson Park Road, Haddington, to enforce driving restrictions during school pick up and drop off times.
3. Pro-Laser speed checks to be carried out on Duns Road, Gifford.

The next meeting will be Monday 20th March 2017 at 6.30pm within the Town House, Haddington

10. Knox Academy News

10.1 Plaque for Dino: Callum said they had raised enough money to buy the plaque by holding a cake sale, with the surplus being donated to CHSS. Stuart Pryde has agreed that it can be placed on a bench located in the High Street.

11. Planning Applications (Paul not at meeting)

11.1 Clarendon Development – housing at Letham Mains: this development was approved in November 2015 which is part of the 10.5k included in the Local Development Plan (LDP) to 2024. John McMillan confirmed that once the LDP is approved it cannot be added to – prevents ad hoc and speculative developments. Jan also pointed out that there is a great need for social housing, despite the proviso that 25% of new housing has to be ‘affordable’.

11.2 Hospital Road: Graham said there is a mobile snack van parked in Hospital Road – does this need any form of planning approval. John McMillan will look into this. *Action John McM*

12. Local priorities budget – discuss at next meeting

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

14. Haddington Community Development Trust

14. Update from Fiona-Frances Adam:

1. Treasurers Update

* Subject to committed outgoings and offers of Community Funding we are on target to use the funding from ELC, our final year of three.

* Fran (Chair, HCDT) confirmed she has written to ELC to request further funding.

2. Haddington & Lammermuir Local Area Partnership:

a. Proposal re Town Centre Sub Group

HLLAP have asked the HCDT to take a prominent role in the town centre improvements project (& other projects linked to this). This means we may we consider a new model of operation. We agreed we would seriously consider it as a focus for the CDT – it appears a good fit with the Vision document.

b. Access Strategy ELC are tendering to appoint a Consultant, who will produce a design for Haddington Town Centre that can be put out to tender should funding become available to implement it

3. Community Grant Fund applications – two received a. MADE in East Lothian All present agreed to support MADE in their application for financial support for 4 planned markets this year b. Blooming Haddington All present agreed to support BH in producing an updated ‘Garden Trail’ leaflet, and the membership fee to join the ‘Discover Scotlands Gardens’ website. A third request, to help fund the general purchase of plants and bulbs for Haddington, requires some further clarification

4. Haddington paths HCDT members have met with Nick Morgan, ELC, to discuss advertising, and possibly improving, current routes for walking, running and off road cycling in and around Haddington. This includes updating an existing walks leaflet published by HCC, and to look at installing waymarker posts on paths.

Fiona-Frances to refer this to HCC to confirm they are happy for us to take this forward, and if they would like to help, as the original leaflet was produced by them

5. Haddington website and ongoing marketing Shaw have sent a more detailed Marketing and Social Media Strategy, and we will meet with them to discuss this w/c 13th February.

15. Events Group meeting

15.1 Update: Ruth reported that they have started the Festival and Hogmanay planning. They have also created some sub-groups to organise specific events. The next meeting will be held in the Plough on 28th February.

16. Blooming Haddington (BH)

16.1 Update:

Pear Tree Nursery: meeting held with them to discuss their garden

Knox Memorial Park: raised beds have been painted

Oriental Garden: a disabled access will be created

Cast iron litter bin: this has been acquired and BH are looking into painting it gold to celebrate events of the last year. Probably to be situated at the top of the High Street and will also have a plaque attached.

17. Craft Fair: help needed for the fair on 25th February.

18. AOCB

18.1 Brian Small, Conservative Unionist: a request has been received from Brian to attend a CC meeting. It was agreed he could do this.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 14th March 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, Dunder Dy, 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

14/2 Roads issues: pole in pavement, Pencaitland Rd, diversion signs, dumped cones etc

Athelstanford: speeding signs, signage at cemetery

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

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

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