

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council Minutes of meeting 12th September 2017 in Council Chambers

Jan Wilson (Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Fiona McEwan, Chris McEwan, Rab Moran, Betty Sommerville, Fiona-Frances Adam, Paul Darling

In attendance

Cll John McMillan, Cllr Tom Trotter, Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Lauren Rodger (Head Teacher KA), Robert Flood (KA), Fergus Dickson (head pupil KA), Cara Morrison (deputy head pupil KA), Gavin Harper (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).

2. Apologies: Margaret Ingle, Haig Hamilton, Ruth Moncrieff, Callum Learmonth, PC Lynn Black

The meeting tonight was not quorate therefore cannot take any financial decisions – these will have to be taken forward to next meeting.

Welcome to Lauren Rodger and to new S6 members Cara and Fergus.

3. Resignations

Both Chris Zientara and Ron Goldie have resigned from the CC. Chris felt that he had not been living on the town long enough and may consider re-joining in the future. Ron has moved away to Ormiston. We thank them both for their help and input during their time with us.

4. Minutes of 13th June 2016

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Fiona McEwan and seconded by Fiona-Frances Adam

5. Matters arising

5.1 Item 7 Licences: John has been getting to grips with the different licences. Basically if any profit is made from the event we need a licence. He thought that there should be another option for us as a community/voluntary group where all monies are ploughed back into the community. Shamin and John McM said they would investigate and report back. John McM also said he would be happy to arrange a meeting with the licencing committee to discuss. Jan also said that if it is deemed we do need a licence then we can pay this from LP budget. **Action JMcM/SA**

5.2 Item 8.4 Ball Alley, metal pole: John noted that this has not been removed despite being reported in June.

5.3 Item 9.3 Haldane Avenue: despite the 40mph sign being obscured by trees, it is painted clearly on the road.

5.4 10.2 Young Achiever Award: all the files for this have been passed onto Ruth. John McM reported that the Scottish Govt theme for 2018 is 'Year of Young People'.

5.5 Item 13.3 Hadd Festival 50th Anniversary: the CDT want to be involved with this – it was suggested a member from the CDT plus a councillor attend the next festival meeting in 2 weeks' time.

6. Treasurers Report – details already emailed to all members

6.1 Bank accounts: John reported that the Festival account with Bank of Scotland has now been transferred to TSB Events Group account. We will hold a nominal amount in the BoS account.

6.2 Fridge for CEx: this has been ordered. John McM queried why the CC were paying for this for a council run building. Jan said this was the 3rd one we had bought over the years and that the CC do use it a lot. Tom T also said that he thought something could have been done by the council about this.

6.3 Audit: the accounts have passed the audit.

6.4 Scaffolding payment: John confirmed that this has been paid but they maintain they have not received it. John McM will investigate. **Action John McM**

7. Councillors Corner

7.1 Gateside Avenue: Fiona-Frances reported dog 'poo bags' being hung from the trees (there is a waste bin in this location). Also that the railway walk is pretty over-grown in places.

7.2 Notice board: Fiona-Frances also asked if there was a noticeboard for the use of the CDT. There is one at the Corn Exch which is co-owned by the Library/Tourist Board. Also boards at Dunbar Road and the Nungate Community Centre. John McM said he would try to find out the location of the keys. **Action JMcM**

7.3 Town House wall: Rab has noticed that the wall facing west at the TH is in need of some repair. Intensive repairs have previously been done on this building but there has obviously been further deterioration.

7.4 Speed signs – Whittingham Drive: Chris wondered whether the signs here are solar powered as they only seem to react during the day.

7.5 Sustrans Workshop- Thurs in TH: Jan mentioned this event and asked that members go along to give their views. This is followed up by another on 31st October. Tom said that so far they have had very positive feedback and that parking is high on the agenda.

7.5 2018 – 700th anniversary of 1318 Robert the Bruce Charter: this will be a year-long celebration launching in January and the CC are invited to give their input. John McM will have the information sent to all CC members. Robert said that the Knox would be keen to be involved, along with the CDT. Shamin said that there is a meeting to be held on 26th Sept in the Plough to discuss.

8. Police Questions (as Lynn not at meeting pls email any items direct to her)

8.1 CAPP meeting: CAPP priorities identified

1. Hi visibility foot patrols within Haddington town centre by community police officers in relation to recent shoplifting incidents

2. Attention to be given during licensed premises dispersal time in Cross Lane, Haddington, and surrounding streets in relation to urinating, antisocial behaviour and general disturbances.

3. Cont. Attention to be given to youth related antisocial behaviour at Knox Academy playing fields

The next meeting will be Monday 16th October 2017 at 6.30pm within the town hall, Haddington.

9. Knox Academy News

9.1 Introduction from interim Head Teacher: Lauren Rodger said she took up her position a couple of weeks ago and has been pleased by her warm welcome from the school. She said it has been a real pleasure to be at Knox and is looking forward to her time there.

9.2 Leadership team: Fergus and Cara are part of the S6 leadership team- they were elected through a selection process. They are part of a 5-strong team so there may be others attending the monthly meetings. Jan welcomed them and said how much a pleasure it was working with the teams from the Knox.

9.3 Volunteering Fair/QMU/Saltire Awards: the 3rd annual fair will be held where pupils from S3,4,5 and 6 can find out how they can get involved with volunteering.

9.4 Events Group: a couple of S6 pupils are keen to be involved and will attend the meeting.

9.5 'Tomorrow's Driver: John McM said he had been asked to talk at this recent event – he was most impressed with the pupils there...a real set of ambassadors for the school. Shamin also said that the feedback had been great.

10. Planning Applications

10.1 Gateside East: plans for this site have changed a couple of times and the final proposal is for a row of industrial units in front of the houses -and these to be more in number than the original plans. It was agreed that we do need industrial units but question the change and number being asked for. After some discussion it was agreed we object to a) the number being asked for and b) the location (ie all in a row in front of the houses). We were happy with the original proposals.

Action Paul

10.2 Gateside West : original plans were for a pub-restaurant, nursery and housing etc. A large square was also reserved for industrial units so planning permission was granted on this basis. There has now been another proposal to use this space for more houses (instead of the ind units). It was agreed we need to object to these new plans – Paul will draft a reply and email round all the CC members (as meeting tonight not quorate).

Action Paul

10.3 Sheriff Courts building: proposal to change the window (to right of door) into a door with step. No objections to this.

11. Correspondence – all details email to members

12. Haddington Community Development Trust

12.1 AGM: Fiona reported that the next AGM is to be on 31st October at 730pm in Town House. It was suggested as many members attend – it is free to become a member of the CDT. Fiona-Frances also confirmed that it is her intention to step down from the CDT. The CC need to nominate another member to take this on – Callum was a suggestion.

13. Events Group meeting

13.1 2018 Festival – 50th anniversary: it has been previously agreed, in principle, that CC donate (from LP budget) up to £5000 to this event. A headline act is still being sourced and also arrangements for the Hogmany event are well underway.

14. Blooming Haddington (BH)

14.1 Update:

Awards: Rab pleased to report that Haddington won a Gold award again this year - congratulations to all involved. North Berwick won the best coastal town and a gold medal, with Linlithgow taking the best medium town award. The judges commented on Amisfield Garden – they were most impressed with what has been achieved here. Rab said that a lot of hard work had been undertaken to get to this point and thanked all involved. Jan also commented that it reflects well on East Lothian as a whole – all those involved have done incredibly well. Shamin also thanked BH for all their hard work. She added that a fairly recent residents survey undertaken by the council showed that 99% of people felt that ELothian was a great place to live.

KMP: pupils have been busy helping with the planting of bulbs around the town.

Token collection in Tesco: As a result of this BH has been awarded £4000.

15. Area Partnership (AP) Update

15.1 Chair/Vice Chair elections: this has now taken place

15.2 Budget report: this has been released

15.3 Funding: reports on a couple of groups they have funded. Jan asked if we could have an idea of criteria for applying to them for funding. Paul reported that members of the AP have undergone training so they can understand the processes. Funds to the total sum of 48k can be available. Jan wondered if we should apply for speed limit sensors for Pencaitland Road. Paul will put in a proposal for this. John H also suggested they could help with the WW1 commemorations and will apply to them also.

Action Paul/John H

15.4 AGM: Paul will let the CC know the date for this.

16. Art Exhibition (12-15th October)

16.1 October 10th - help needed to set up. October 11th – preview night, help needed also. Jan also asked for help to man the exhibition between 12th-15th. Betty and Margaret will look after the catering.

17. AOCB

17.1 Armistice Day (WW1 commemoration): John had details of the prototype ‘thistle’ he has had created to commemorate the 130 soldiers lost in WW1. These will be placed on the fence at the memorial park – date to be the day each soldier died and starting on Armistice day this year through to Armistice 2018. The name of the soldier will be engraved on the leaf. It was suggested we include the families, CC members, councillors etc for a short parade through the town before arriving at the memorial park. The cost for all the thistles is £2820 approx - John has approached Tesco (blue buttons appeal) for help with funding this. John McM had attended a meeting recently regarding ‘making the best of your town centre’. He will send over the details to John H as there may be scope for funding from them.

17.2 Shamin gave a brief update on the recent Scottish Government Education Governance Review which gives an outline of the link between local government and schools. A copy of the report is available - the link can be obtained from Shamin.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 10th October 2017 in **Council Chambers, Town House** at 7.00pm. The AGM will be held in October.

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, Dunspeir 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?

10/5 Speed bumps - Monkrigg Road
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

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

14/2 Roads issues: pole in pavement, Pencaitland Rd, diversion signs, dumped cones etc
Athelstaneford: speeding signs, signage at cemetery

11/4 Lights out on Nungate Bridge

13/6 Ball Alley – pole sticking up
Tyne Walkway – flooding(behind St Mary's)

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)