

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 11th December 2018 in Council Chambers

1.Sederunt

Ruth Moncrieff (Vice Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Rab Moran, Pat Lemmon, Fiona-Frances Adam, Morgwn Davies, Betty Sommerville

In attendance

Cllr Tom Trotter, Cllr John McMillan, Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Angela Leitch (ELC Chief Executive), Robert Flood (KA), pupils Lauren Aitchison (KA), Moira Graham, Jim Graham (HBCP), PC Lorna Bairden, Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).

2. Apologies: Cllr Brian Small, Jan Wilson, Paul Darling

Guest Speaker Angela Leitch

Angela is currently engaging with all the community councils, attending meetings and getting to know what's working well and what can be improved. She will be looking at what issues could come up in the coming year and prioritising these in partnership with the CC's. She pointed out that she has seen a huge variety of great work across the county and looking to continue this.

John asked about the withdrawal of ELC from supporting community based activities and the increase in red tape which gives community volunteers like the members of the CC a lot more work and creates a barrier to staging events. Could they consider some concession for the CC around these matters (licencing being one of them).

Angela is very aware that the CC do all the ground work and that a lot of energy goes into this and ELC are committed to supporting but have to work around a 7.2% cut to budgets. Certain services are to be prioritised, eg adult and children services for one. The Area Partnership works to distribute funding and support to community projects so there are opportunities available.

As to the red tape, the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) are tasked with preparing for any eventuality around public events and to that end certain procedures must be adhered to and licencing fees are statutory. She is however happy to look more closely at these to see if anything can be done to minimise the work involved. We must comply with licencing laws but happy to have a look at where we can be more flexible. Pat thought that the SAG works well but that they don't seem to communicate well with the licencing bodies. We need to make sure that everyone knows what's happening – be more coherent.

Resilience Plans: Angela keen for the CC to engage with this. She said that 20% of the communities have already put a plan in place – this allows for swift action should it be needed. John and Jan were involved in meetings around this and we have had a visit from Sandie Baptie outlining the details. John said that one problem around this is the scalability – during the last bad spell of weather early in the year some people were able to help with the salt bins etc but more input needed by the community to make this work.

Angela thanked the meeting for allowing her to be involved and said she would get back to us on the points raised in the meeting.

David Oldham

David is at the meeting representing the Hogweed and EL County Volunteers which is a charitable society with around 150 members. They have dealt with a variety of issues including drainage, litter clearing, clearing pathways and have been instrumental in opening pathways near Gifford and Morham. They raised over £10k last year for training and equipment and are currently working on a number of projects across the whole of East Lothian. This year they are tackling the problem with giant hogweed. There are 3 dangerous varieties of the weed which can cause serious burns from the sap produced. Land owners/farmers are on board with helping to keep this under control and volunteers are tasked with spotting areas of concern and reporting to the relevant authorities. Friends of the River Tyne are also on board with this project but more volunteers are requested. They have also applied to Scottish National Heritage for funding to supply the weed killer.

3. Minutes of 13th November - Corrections

Item 7.2 ASB in town centre: Pat did not say she would send details to the CAPP

Item 8.7: event was in the Corn Exchange, not St Mary's

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Rab Moran and seconded by Pat Lemmon

4. Matters arising

4.1 Item 7.2 ASB in town centre: Tom said he had reported and they are aware of the situation but reiterated that residents must continue to report immediately problems are spotted. Pat has heard back from the police and had a visit from the cleansing department – all under discussion.

4.2 Item 8 Councillors Corner feedback -

8.1 Pothole, Sidegate: has been reported

8.2 Victoria Terr: waiting on linesmen

8.3 Speedbumps, Monkmain Rd: are in process

8.4 Buses parking: buses are parking only during scheduled breaks but this can be addressed within the Town Centre regeneration and dealt with if an issue

8.5 Banners: any issues with this report to David Taylor

5. Treasurers Report – December: Summary of Accounts sent out to all

Accounts totals for month

- CC BoS Account balance: £16,109.94 as of 5/12/2018
- Events Groups TSB balance: £3,833.47 as of 2/12/2018
- Held in cash-box: £128.49 as of 6/12/2018
(CC cash = £128.34, Events cash = £0.15)
- Local Priorities **uncommitted** 2018 – 2019: £6,499.45 as of 5/12/2018 (see comments below about possible £3975 actual total)

Highlights

- Additional £700 paid to Community Kitchen from Local Priorities.
- Xmas lights costs so far this year are £4540 – noting £2075 of this paid through Events account, so do we transfer this from LP or CC account?

CC BoS Account transaction highlights, since last report

- £50 paid to Anna for monthly secretarial fees.
- Treasurer's and Secretary's Honorarium paid (£350 and £100 respectively)
- Art Exhibition showed a profit of £520.15 this year – caveat on 1 cheque with no description on it, so don't know if written or cancelled.

Events Group TSB Account transaction highlights, since last report

- £100 paid to Anna for monthly secretarial fees, this figure including £50 retrospectively for month of Oct.
- Summer Festival week totals now revised to a loss of £844.33 – as just refunded cost of Qty 200 boats for boat recently received.

Local Priorities Account transaction highlights, since last report

- To query: £2075 was paid from Events cheque account to pay Lothian Tree specialists to decorate 3 trees, should this come from LP or CC account?
- £700 additional payment paid to Community kitchen (bringing total to £1700).
- Cost of Armistice 2018, £355.16 paid from Local Priorities. Figure excludes cost of wreaths paid back directly from Nungate Gala and Rotary (both payments now received).

Cash transaction highlights, since last report (CC: from CC cash, EC: from Events Cash)

- <nothing to highlight>

Local Priorities summary

BUDGET 2018/19					
	Budget	Activity	Committed	Spent	Remaining
HADDINGTON (RLXH) 5144					
carry over from 2017/18	£1,955.66	WW1	£305.00	£305.00	£0.00
		refuse bag holders	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00
2018/19 budget	£11,300.00	Haddington Pipe Band - bagpipes	£1,350.00	£1,350.00	£0.00
Total Budget	£13,255.66	Festival marquees etc	£460.75	£460.75	£0.00
		Cranston website WW1	£226.20	£226.20	£0.00
		Christmas lights 2018	£2,259.10	£2,259.10	£0.00
		Our Community Kitchen	£1,700.00	£1,700.00	£0.00
		Remembrance Day	£355.16	£355.16	£0.00
					£0.00
		Total Committed	£6,756.21	£6,756.21	£0.00
Total Uncommitted	£6,499.45				

5.1 Updates:

Christmas lights: total spent this year £4500

Tree specialists: the money paid out for this (£2,075) needs to be transferred from the LP budget – this has been approved.

Art Exhibition/Festival: shows a profit of £492 for the exhibition and a loss of £844 for the festival.

Donations: the oven for the Community Kitchen worked out more so a total of £1700 has been donated for this

Local Priorities: just under £4k still uncommitted. The work to upgrade the junction boxes will probably make use of this money.

6. Councillors Corner

6.1 Gateside pedestrian crossing: Fiona-Frances asked why the lights had been taken away – councillors did not know the reason for this.

Thanks to all the councillors for their support throughout the year.

7. Haddington Business Community Partnership (HBCP)

7.1 Moira reported a quiet spell as they all concentrate on business over the festive season. The Shop Local scheme has been replaced by the East Lothian Gift Card, with 150 businesses signed up to accept them. They are hoping that this proves a successful change.

8. Police Questions

PC Lorna Bairden was welcomed to the meeting and read out the police report. She was asked how Haddington compared with other towns in the County. In comparison with some other areas she suggested that we are doing alright so this was a positive.

8.1 CAPP priorities

1. Speed checks to be conducted on West Road, Pencaitland Road, Whittinghame Drive in Haddington and in East Saltoun

Next CAPP meeting: Monday 21st January 2019 at 6.30pm at the Town House, Haddington

Tom left the meeting wishing everyone all the best for Christmas and the New Year

9. Knox Academy News

9.1 Update:

Children in Need: raised £1,944 for this (which includes £166 raised by Meadowpark)

Christmas dance: took place last week

Aubigny Trip: S5 pupils taking French will be involved with this in August.

Faculties challenge: this quiz challenges the houses to compete against each other

3rd Annual Model UN: very successful event

S6 leadership team: successful assemblies have been held

Young Provost: pupil Louise Allan has been a great ambassador for the school

Mock interviews: John McMillan took part in these and was very impressed – very well done to Robert and all those who took part.

Martinmass Fair/Armistice/Christmas: John thanked all the KA pupils who helped out. Ruth also thanked all those who helped with the Armistice Day and Christmas events.

9.2 Christmas concert: Robert said this will be on 18th Dec with 4 tickets available to the CC for the 2pm show this day.

9.3 Events Group representative: Robert still not got anyone for the role but will keep trying. To include him in the emailing list for these meetings.

10. Planning Applications

10.1 Proposal for flats in small car park next to GP surgery: Paul will have a look at these and report back to the CC

11. Correspondence – none to discuss

12. Haddington Community Development Trust – no update available tonight. Pat asked that we write to them for clarification on the proposal to drop community groups. And if this is the case, what are they going to call themselves.

Action Ruth

13. Events Group meeting

13.1 Very busy Christmas in Haddington event with lots in attendance. This made a slight profit.

14. Blooming Haddington

14.1 Update:

Nursing home: bulb planting ongoing

Monument park: tidying ongoing here

Future projects: in discussion

15. Area Partnership (AP) – no update avail

15.1 CC representative: Pat happy to go the meetings if need be.

16. AOCB

16.1 Haddington 700 celebrations: John said it has been a fantastic year and an amazing closing concert was held in St Mary's

16.2 Partnership Star Awards: these were held to recognise achievements over the past year which included the Blooming Haddington team, Hadd 700, the WWI Thistles. It was great to see Rab and John there. Rab thanked the EG for all their help this year too.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 8th January 2019 in **Council Chambers, Town House** at 7.00pm.

Outstanding Matters Arising from previous minutes

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)

10/10 Curfew Bells

Traders licence – concession available

12/12 Station Court – disrepair of the road

2018

Feb Wynd by Leisure Time - ?signage

Road by car park – Nungate Bridge

Mill Wynd – tree stump at corner -? Removal

March Whittingham Drive

Unlit bollard at PO/Gateside development

Traffic lights at Ideal Garage junction – sequencing

May Hardgate – parking spaces

Victoria Terrace – double lines on pavements

June Dog bin at golf course

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

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

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