

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 11th June 2019 in Council Chambers

1.Sederunt

Jan Wilson (Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Ruth Moncrieff (Vice Chair/Secretary), Pat Lemmon, Fiona-Frances Adam, Jim Graham, Betty Sommerville, Morgwn Davies

In attendance

Cllr Tom Trotter, Cllr John McMillan, Cllr Craig Hoy, Moira Graham (HBCP), Laura Samuel (BH), Robert Flood, Kuba Stepniewski, Lauren McKinnon (KA), Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).

2. Apologies: Fiona McEwan, Chris McEwan, Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Jack Worden, Rab Moran, PC Duncan

Meadowpark Residents

Desi Dunkinson and Sue Hastings along with other residents made representations as follows regarding the proposals for Meadowpark.

The residents thanked to the Community Council for giving them the opportunity to put their concerns across regarding the proposed development of council homes on the former Haddington Infant School annex site.

Desi Dunkinson: We are here because we all attended the public consultation meeting on the 28th of May in this very building.

I personally came away feeling quite deflated and by the number of people I have spoken to I am not the only one who feels this way.

The council's letter which we received inviting us to this consultation day stated that the design takes into account the location of the site within the Haddington Conservation Area and that the proposed layout has been designed to retain as many of these features as possible and to complement them.

This new design is an overdevelopment and certainly not in keeping with the predominately Victorian surroundings.

I especially felt upset that my and my fellow residents numerous visits and/or phone calls over the years to the Council Traffic Department, the Police station, even attending some CAPP meetings, Community Council Meetings and the many visits to speak to teachers and head teachers of the nurseries and primary schools to raise awareness of the terrible road and traffic conditions we and the school children experience in our area, have been to no avail and that the Council is willing to not only ignore these problems but to actually add to these existing problems with even more homes which means more cars/traffic associated with these homes thus creating even more traffic in the area, not to mention the construction traffic which will have an horrendous effect on the infrastructure of the area.

Too many properties and too few parking spaces. To add to the problem the design has included electric car chargers, attracting an even wider population to come into this area, so even more traffic.

A day after this consultation day I read "a letter to the Editor" in the Scotsman newspaper in which a letter by Mr Andrew Robinson, Chair of Haddington and District Amenity Society (HADAS) was printed.

I am going to quote you some sentences of his letter: "The growth of Haddington is happening in a manner which is damaging to its landscape setting, consumes prime quality agricultural land and is in a physical form which lacks any evidence what so ever of design.

At the root of our problems here is an inability or incapacity on the part of the statutory authority to understand what makes a place work, visually and in terms of access as the essential context for decisions regarding the future.

Change must happen and be embraced but it must, surely, be managed in a manner which is respectful of context.

The historic qualities of our cities and burghs deserve no less. At the moment we seem to be losing sight of what matters on the altar of short-termism." (End of quote)

I and my family completely agree with this statement from Mr Robinson.

Would it therefore not make sense for the Council to mark this site for educational purposes, like it has been for the last 50 years.

With an ever in population increasing Haddington this will fulfil the needs of a much greater part of the town's population for many years to come.

CC agreed that traffic and parking a major issue. John also pointed out that historically that land was garden area for Knox Institute and land should be used accordingly. John McM pointed out that these are only proposals and not applications and all have to go through a process and all the points brought by residents and CC members will be discussed through said process. Craig also agreed that all concerns are noted and all those concerned will be written to individually. In the meantime any concerns regarding traffic should be reported right away so police and wardens can address.

3. Minutes of 14th May

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Pat Lemmon and seconded by Jim Graham

4. Matters arising

4.1 Correction: Item 4.1 Local Priorities: John confirmed that the application to the Common Good Fund is done

4.2 Item 7.1 Tustain Motors (parking restrictions): this has been reported and added to the list for action/painting

4.3 Item 12.1 HCDDT – CC Rep: was it indicated to David Cockerton that Jack agreed to sit on this for 6 months? Jan thought she had done this. It was agreed that her email had the desired effect and we have at last received minutes from their last meeting.

5. Treasurers Report – June 2019: Summary of Accounts (sent out to all)

5.1 John reported a quiet month. Donation made to BH – litter picking. Annual fee paid to Horticultural Society. Donation received from Hadd Theatre Bus - £367 to Events Group (thanks to them for this)

Accounts totals for month

- CC BoS Account balance: £28,992.19 as of 22/5/2019 (- £30 of cheques pending)
- Events Group TSB balance: £6,599.12 as of 1/5/2019 (- £2,120 of cheques pending)
- Held in cash-box: £1069.62 as of 5/6/2019
(CC cash = £20.79, Events cash = £1048.83)
- Local Priorities **uncommitted** 2018 – 2019: £0.00 as of 3/4/2019

Highlights

- Festival week monies being processed, full report in next report (Sept, due to summer recess)

CC BoS Account transaction highlights, since last report

- £50 paid to Anna for monthly secretarial fees.
- £180 donated to Blooming Haddington for litter picker devices.
- £30 donated to Horticultural Society for yearly donation towards their annual show.

Events Group TSB Account transaction highlights, since last report

- <Anna couldn't make May's meeting>

Local Priorities Account transaction highlights, since last report

- <nothing to report>

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

- <nothing to report>

8. Police Questions – report available

8.1 CAPP priorities

1. Speed Checks to be carried out on West Rd & Pencaitland, Haddington, & in Humble, Bolton & Gifford.
2. Patrols to be carried out in Haddington town centre in response to an increase in reports of persons driving in an antisocial manner.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 19th August 2019 at 6.30pm in the Town House, Haddington.

9. Knox Academy News

9.1 School Elections: will be taking place soon (2 head pupils and 3 deputies). Candidates are required to present a manifesto – voting will then take place

9.2 Poppy Scotland: Robert and a couple of pupils travelled to Stirling for this event at the end of April

9.3 Bud Buster: large truck which transforms into an inter-active centre coming soon to KA. Being tested out by pupils in the school.

9.4 Sports Day/Awards ceremony: taking place on 21st and 26th June respectively.

9.5 P7 transition day: coming up next week.

9.6 School Dux: our congratulations to Laura on becoming the Dux of the school

Jan congratulated Robert for completing his run and especially given he hadn't been very well beforehand. And for then also attending the service in the church.

10. Planning Applications – nothing to discuss

11. Correspondence – all emailed out previously

12. Haddington Community Development Trust – no update available

13. Events Group – meeting to be held next week

13.1 Critics: Fiona-Frances reported some feedback she had heard that the Hadd Festival was nothing like that held by other towns. Pat agreed that there is a distinct lack of community spirit and that the greatest critics are those who are not willing to turn out to help.

14. Blooming Haddington

14.1 Litter picking: Laura thanked the CC for the donation to buy the equipment. They have been working with the Play Map people and have already litter-picked on the walk down to Abbey Bridge. More areas are planned.

14.2 Lady Kitty's Garden: Iris's have been planted with some reserved for the GSB area Thanks to ELC for help with the prep work and for providing some of the plants.

14.3 Three-tiered planters/potato boxes: work ongoing to plant these up

14.4 Britain in Bloom: judging day is 9th August.

14.5 Hanging Baskets: going up on Friday. Rab has been convinced to share the work of watering – a rota has been agreed. Thanks to CC and individuals for their sponsorship towards this.

14.6 Wheelbarrow competition: slow response to this but we now currently have 37 going out around the town. The barrow must be visible from the road and should be as creative as possible. A number of residents at Fairway are getting together to create a joint display. Closing date for registrations is Friday and need to be ready for 21st July with judging taking place on 11th Aug. Many thanks to the Rotary Club for donation of £300 to produce a map of the location of all the barrows. And thanks also to Persimmon Homes and Morrisons, who both donated wheelbarrows.

14.7 Volunteers: the group are struggling for volunteers and urge anyone interested to get in touch.

15. Area Partnership (AP) - no update available

16. AOCB - none

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 10th September 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

2019

June Sunken drain at Tesco entrance

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)