

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 10th September 2019 in Council Chambers

1.Sederunt

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

In attendance

Cllr John McMillan, Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Cllr Craig Hoy, Kevin Sewell (Resilience and Events Safety Officer, ELC), Robert Flood, Kuba Stepniewski, Laura McKinnon (KA), Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).

2. Apologies: Cllr Tom Trotter, PC Duncan, Pat Lemmon, Ruth Moncrieff, Moira Graham, Jim Graham, Morgwyn Davies, Betty Sommerville, Sandie Baptie (Resilience Officer ELC). Callum not present at the meeting – no apologies received

3. Guest Speaker – Kevin Sewell

Kevin is responsible for events safety and emergency/resilience planning.

Resilience Plans: he is engaging with all the CC's in East Lothian and a number now have their emergency plan in place. An annual resilience day will be held at the Brunton Hall on 26th Oct, to which all CC members are invited. John McM suggested this is an excellent event and well worth attending - lots of help and information on how to create an emergency plan will be available.

Currently Garvald and Morham have their plan in place and are running a training exercise involving mountain rescue, police and their resilience team and will be tasked with finding missing persons. Other CC's are already looking at holding something similar once their plans are in place.

Equipment – money available from Scottish Gvt to buy necessary safety equipment (high vis jackets, radio's etc)

Points of Contact (POC) - it was suggested Jan and Chris be the POC for Hadd CC. Kevin happy to meet to discuss and help in any way to create a plan.

Events: Kevin works along with the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) overseeing the 140 events which take place over the year (which include the Air Show, Christmas Festival etc). Jan said that the SAG meetings were very helpful.

Licences: It was evident that there will be a major impact to some of the events with the increase in cost of Licences, TTRO's etc. Charges for hall hire will also have an impact. The only event not charged for will be the Armistice Day. A meeting is planned at Penston House to discuss how the CC's and events organisers can come together to address these issues. John McM said that the charges are set by the Scot Gvt but assured the meeting that they will be reviewing these costs. Kevin pointed out that so long as any event is declared so that he is aware of it then he will advise if it needs a licence.

Jan thanked Kevin for attending the meeting tonight.

4. Minutes of 11th June

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

5. Matters arising

4.1 Meadowpark Residents: Shamin confirmed that she is in direct contact with Desi and Sue, who were two of the residents who attended and spoke at the last meeting. No progress has been made as yet but she will keep us informed of any developments.

6. Treasurers Report – Sept 2019: Summary of Accounts (sent out to all)

6.1 John reported that the yearly audit has been completed successfully.

7.4 ELC App – faults, potholes etc can all be reported on the new App. Area works programme can also be accessed online.

8. Councillors Corner

8.1 Thank you: Chris thanked Shamin for actioning all his recent requests – much appreciated.

8.2 Posters/signage: Rab suggested the council should enforce the placement of signs/posters. John McM said that the council are aware of this and will enforce where necessary. The Events Group said they have to stick to the rule of max 2 weeks before an event so everyone should come under this ruling.

8.3 Shamin update:

Nungate bridge lights up and running

Cross Lane – lighting to be installed

Park at Seggarsdean to be upgraded.

Congratulations to Blooming Haddington on their recent awards. Also to Nungate Gala and East Lothian Horticultural Society.

Scottish Government fund for school estates. Pre-consultation to be held with parents/teachers in primary schools with a formal consultation to follow. Encouraged all to attend

8.4 Grass Cutting: it has been noted that the cut grass in public areas is not being uplifted. Some residents have expressed their upset that the graveyards are also having this same treatment. Shamin will look into it.

8.5 Craig Hoy update:

Review to be held on bus services – public consultation on 3rd Oct

Police Scotland to support the use of ‘cut-out’ speed cops. Have proved to be a deterrent in encouraging drivers to drop their speed (seen in Dunbar). A ‘Safe Driver’ event was also held recently at the Knox which was very successful.

8.6 River Tyne: Jan has had a letter from a resident worried about the state of the river. Councillors said he should email them direct with photos of the area of concern.

8.7 Roads: areas of concern were noted (Whittingham Drive and Victoria Terr) – these are just 2 areas which it is felt should have double yellow lines to prevent indiscriminate parking.

8.8 John McMillan update:

Cabinet meeting – full report avail on the installation of vehicle charging points. Council are up for an award for this. Various road traffic amendments around the town (including Haldane Ave, Hopetoun Drive, Neilson Park Road and Rosehall). Change in speed limit to 30mph at Oaktree junction. Implications of Edin Low Emissions zone – cars will be tracked. Money for town centres, to look at long term parking and transport hub. Parking area of at least 200 spaces, most of which will be equipped for electric charging. Further design work on town centre.

Jan thanked all the councillors for their support over the last year.

9. Police Questions – report available

9.1 CAPP priorities

1. Speed Checks to be carried out on West Rd & Pencaitland Rd, Haddington, & in Humble, Bolton, Gifford & East Saltoun.

2. Patrols to be carried out around Haddington Golf Course, Whittingehame Drive & Abbey Mill in response to an increase in reports of persons riding offroad motorbikes.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 30th September 2019 at 6.30pm in the Town House, Haddington.

10. Knox Academy News

10.1 Pupil parliament: elections are coming up

10.2 Volunteering Fair: to be held at the end of the month. Guests from various businesses and charities are invited – great opportunity for pupils to find out about volunteering in the community.

10.3 Higher Education Event: event to be held on the 17th at Ingliston

10.4 School Vision: questionnaire has been circulated by head teacher (200 responses so far)

10.5 Poppy Scotland: starting this next week

10.6 Events Group meetings: still aiming to get pupil representative to come to the meetings

11. Planning Applications

11.1 Letham Mains: couple of revisions though no change in actual number of houses planned

11.2 Mercat, High Street: application for change of use in top floors (bar to flats)

11.3 Corn Exchange: plans are finally available but will probably take another few months to go through

11.4 Oak Tree site: we have sent in our reservations regarding the size of the petrol station proposed. It has been suggested a meeting between retail park and business association would be beneficial.

12. Correspondence – all emailed out previously

13. Haddington Community Development Trust

13.1 Jack reported he had attended a meeting but still not very clear what was happening and has still not received any minutes – distinct lack of communication. Craig and John McM agreed that they were currently in a state of flux, change in office bearers etc. Jack has yet to be co-opted also.

14. Events Group

14.1 Resignations: possibly 3 resignations from the group

15. Blooming Haddington

15.1 Judging day 9th Aug: all went really well. Rab thanked the council for all their help over the year. It is a massive team effort so huge thanks to all involved. Awards ceremony 25th October in London – some members attending.

15.2 Wheelbarrow competition: this was very successful with the individual winner at Herdmanflat, Business category winner Ogilvies and overall winners were the residents at Fairways. CC got a commendation for their entry.

16. Area Partnership (AP) Update

16.1 OCK: £300 given for a defibrillator. BHF also gave them a resus dummy for training sessions

16.2 Art Point Scotland: application received to run sessions in outer lying areas

16.3 Wave Project: funding for 12 vulnerable children to attend surfing tuition at Belhaven Beach

16.4 St Mary's Primary School: STEM science and technology – application for funding to buy equipment etc

16.5 Applications and ideas are welcomed by the Area Partnership. Paul thinks that the AP will consider funding the cardboard police – this to be confirmed.

17. AOCB - none

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 8th October 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)