

Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting 10th December 2019 in Council Chambers

1.Sederunt

Jan Wilson (Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Fiona McEwan, Chris McEwan, Pat Lemmon, Betty Sommerville, Jack Worden, Jim Graham, Fiona-Frances Adam, Paul Darling

In attendance

Cllr John McMillan, Cllr Tom Trotter, Cllr Shamin Akhtar, Robert Flood, Laura McKinnon (KA), Cameron Ritchie (Courier), Anna Faulkner (minutes' secretary).

2. Apologies: PC Duncan, Rab Moran, Ruth Moncrieff, Morgwyn Davies

3. Applications for new members: applicants were not able to attend tonight's meeting. After a discussion it was agreed that Erica would be a great addition to the CC – she is very hands on with many community events. A show of hands agreed that she should be voted on. We will write to Ron Goldie to say he has not been successful at this time (*Action Fiona McEwan*)

4. Minutes of 12th November

Correction: Fiona-Frances gave her apologies for the November meeting but this had not been minuted.

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Fiona McEwan and seconded by Betty Sommerville

Betty Sommerville: Betty has given her intention to retire from the CC. Jan thanked her for all her very hands-on help with many events over the years, she has been a fantastic addition and will be sorely missed by the CC. As a token of our appreciation a basket of flowers was presented to Betty.

5. Matters arising

5.1 Area Partnership: John and Chris attended their last meeting to discuss our application for funding towards the junction boxes. They had declined our application as they needed more technical information. A further meeting is planned with the Chair Doug Haig, Shamin, Chris and John. Chris said he is still querying why we were having to pay so much to have this done. The boxes are over spec for what is needed and therefore the CC are paying over the odds for the upgrade. Pat suggested that it's perhaps time for an independent report. Jack thought it worth approaching the council and asking them to explain why and if no response then we take it further. We need to ascertain who agreed the specifications. Jan asked if Chris could action this. We also need to think about an independent review and who would pay for this.

5.2 Item 7.1 Sandbags: John had enquired on behalf of residents out Whittingham way as they had been refused help by ELC. It was confirmed that this is the case unless you live in a recognised flood area. The residents in question are happy with the explanation.

6. Treasurers Report

Community Council Accounts Dec 2019

Accounts totals for month

- CC BoS Account balance: £8,778.80 as of 25/11/2019 (-£4,000 & -£50 pending for Xmas lights junction box replacement & cheques pending)
- Events Group TSB balance: £4,194.52 as of 3/12/2019 (-£353.68 cheques pending)
- Held in cash-box: £159.13 as of 4/12/2019
(CC cash = £5.79, Events cash = £153.34)
- Local Priorities **uncommitted** 2018 – 2019: £0.00 as of 3/4/2019

Highlights

- £460 donation received from Barratt homes for Nungate Xmas tree.
- New tab on Accounts ledger showing our yearly fixed costs – currently £2540/year.
Incl Yearly memberships (£140), Liability insurance (£351), Honorarium (£700), Audit fees (£350), Secretarial fees (£1000, Events and CC).

CC BoS Account transaction highlights, since last report

- £50 paid to Anna for monthly secretarial fees.

Events Group TSB Account transaction highlights, since last report

- £50 paid to Anna for monthly secretarial fees.
- £2083 cost to date for this year's Xmas lights (£1623 nett with Barratt Homes donation deducted).
- £51 cost for Xmas light switch on event – covering Sweets, Apples and Oranges.

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>

Local Priorities Budget

COMMUNITY COUNCIL LOCAL PRIORITY SCHEME					
BUDGET 2019/20					
HADDINGTON	Budget	Activity	Committed	Spent	Remaining
2019/20 budget	£11,480				
Admin budget	£1,181				£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
Total Budget	£12,661				£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
		Local			£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
					£0.00
		Total Committed			£0.00
Total Uncommitted	£0.00				

6.1 Nungate Christmas tree: thanks to Barrett Homes for the donation of the tree

7. HBCP (Hadd Business Community Partnership)

7.1 Town Centre Strategy: an informal meeting was held regarding the town centre plans which seemed to be a positive meeting. This positive attitude was reversed a couple of days later, stating that the businesses will just have to get on with it as the plans will be going ahead despite any objections. It was felt that this attitude is bordering on bullying and they are not optimistic of a positive outcome and hope that they can rely on the support of the CC to challenge the plans. It was agreed we need to find out who in ELC actually said this. It was agreed that the town centre does need some attention but the infrastructure will not support what they are proposing.

Stakeholder/public meeting to be held on 16th Dec between 5-8pm - all are encouraged to attend to have their say. This does not appear to have been widely advertised so the CC members are encouraged to spread the word for as many people as possible to attend. This lack of advertising seems to be a tactic to dissuade proper public scrutiny of the plans and we need to address this.

8. Councillors Corner

8.1 Flooding at Knowes Road: Fiona-Frances said there was a problem at the bridge near the end of Knowes Road – Shamin asked that this be reported at the time by calling 827827 – they are very responsive.

8.2 Law enforcement (parking on pavements): John McMillan once again said to report this sort of problem right away to the council. The problem remains in the area of construction work at ELCH. If reported the police can go and warn motorists.

8.3 Victoria Bridge: lights still out on the bridge. This has been reported already but they have been told it's a Scottish Power problem.

8.4 Meadowpark – proposed development: Jim asked if there was any update on this situation. Shamin said she is keeping in contact with those involved and will feedback the results of a consultation.

8.5 Antisocial behaviour – High Street: Jim Graham has been asked to bring to the CC the problems being experienced in Mark Lane – resident very upset that it is being used as a public toilet every weekend. Drug dealing is also evident and has been reported on numerous occasions to the police. The police do meet regularly with the ASB teams to address problem areas and over the summer the problem solving partnership was set up and seemed to make a difference as incidents of bad behaviour dropped.

8.6 Broken gate from Langriggs to High Street and at Ross's Close – have been reported. ASB here is dreadful since the gates have been removed.

8.7 Traffic lights at Gateside: Jan asked why the lights are not in operation. It was suggested the developers have not complied and need to address the issues. This is in hand.

8.8 Nungate Christmas event (grotto/tree): Shamin thanked the CC for their input to this event. John McM agreed it was a great event.

8.9 Playparks: there are 3 possible designs which Jan said look great. Jan thanked the councillors involved with this and also Stuart Pryde who was a great influence on this project.

Jan thanked the councillors for all their help throughout the year.

9. Police Questions – no police in attendance but report available

9.1 CAPP priorities

1. Parking / Congestion in Haddington town centre including Station Road and the areas around the primary schools.
2. Youth issues within Neilson Park.
3. Speeding on Aberlady Road, Haddington.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 30th December 2019 at 6.30pm at Haddington Police Station.

10. Knox Academy News

10.1 Christmas concert/dance/S6 panto: concert on 11th Dec, the dance on 17th and panto on 19th.

10.2 Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI): team from S4/5 taking part in this initiative – prize is £3000 for a local charity

10.3 Children in Need: this year their efforts raised over £600

Jan thanked Knox for their help over the last year

11. Planning Application

11.1 Gateside East: the layout proposed is now to be units in a block. It was suggested we make comment to suggest we would like the landscaping to be thought about and to make sure there is a height restriction. *Paul will action*

11.2 Bermaline: application for a 2nd silo to be built beside the new brew house – no comment necessary

11.3 Letham development: a triangular area which was originally in the plans but then removed has now been resurrected and an application has been submitted. It was suggested we make comment that a) the residents should be made aware of this and b) this would affect the schools so an extension to KA needs to be considered.

11.4 Retail Park: Paul has submitted the CC comments on these proposals.

12. Correspondence – all emailed out previously

13. Haddington Community Development Trust – no update as Jack not at last meeting. Still some uncertainty about the future of the CDT

14. Events Group (no meeting held last month)

14.1 Members: the EG are down to only 4 members so need to keep looking for volunteers. It was suggested they would welcome more representation from the CC. John will be leaving the EG at the end of the year – he will however continue as Treasurer of CC.

15. Blooming Haddington

15.1 Rab not at the meeting tonight but wanted Jan to convey his thanks to everyone who has been involved with BH including all the other groups who gave their time this year to make it the success it was.

16. Area Partnership (AP) Update

16.1 Members: there are spaces for 2 more members on the AP. Some groups who have benefitted this year include the lunch club (room hire for the Masonic Hall), the CAB (IT upgrade and training), KA chrome books and mathematics building blocks, Art Point – Play Map. Paul reiterated the AP would like more representation from the CC.

17. Community Council night out

17.1 Decided on Sat 11th January at the Golf Tavern, 7pm. Fiona will book if everyone could let her know if they will attend or not.

18. AOCB - none

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 14th January 2020 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
- Nov** Sandbags

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)