

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 20 October 2014

In the Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar at 7 p.m.

Present: S. Bunyan (Chair); J. Bell (Vice-Chair); S. Anderson; W. Collin; H. Coutts; A. Massimo; P. Swan; G. Wilson; M. Young

Councillors in attendance: Norman Hampshire

Others in attendance: P.C. Gavin Ross; K. McNeill, E.L.C. Licensing; W. Laird, E.L.C. Transportation Dept.; S. Guy, Harbour & Shore Neighbourhood Group; 2 representatives from the Army Cadet Unit, Frances Rollinson (Member of the public)

Apologies: K. Croft (Treasurer); Cllr. M. Veitch

- 1. Licensing Policy:** K McNeill gave a brief explanation of the application process for Street Fairs. She also gave details of the events, as known to her and her department, leading up to the Street Fair which had been held in the town in September. W. Laird explained the procedures from the transportation side. The Application and granting of the licence had met all the necessary criteria. However, there had been a breakdown of communication with local residents and High Street traders. The Authority has now put measures in place to ensure that there is no re-occurrence of such a situation.

It was noted that the stall organisers have applied to have a street fair in November from 13-16.. There is a clash with a request from Dunbar organisers of stalls to co-ordinate with the Christmas lights switch on. The Dunbar applicant had given the wrong date on the application. Licensing are in contact with them as the local event will have precedence.

S. Bunyan thanked Ms McNeill and Mr Laird for coming to the meeting.

The Community Council agreed to look at alternative sites for future Street Fairs and also seek public opinion.

- 2. An Appreciation:** John Stephenson – Former District & Regional Councillor

The Chairman had tabled an obituary and made a brief statement paying tribute to Major Stephenson. Herbert Coutts mentioned his contribution to the life of Our Lady of the Waves Church.

A letter of condolence, on behalf of the Community Council, will be written to Mrs Stephenson expressing thanks for his contribution to Dunbar and acknowledging his significance in the community.

3 Chairman's Annual Report: This had been circulated prior to the meeting. H. Coutts on behalf of the Council members, expressed thanks to S. Bunyan for producing this useful summary.

4 Confirmation of Office Bearers, delegates to committees etc. - S. Bunyan and J. Bell agreed to continue in their current roles. Committee delegates will remain as at present.

5 Minutes of Previous meeting – these were approved.

Minutes of Sub-Committees: (Christmas Lights & Civic Week); S. Anderson will arrange to have these available for the next meeting.

A Fund-raising Quiz Evening for the Christmas Lights is being held in Belhaven Hall on Friday 24 October at 7.30 p.m.

6. Police Report: Road Safety – Fixed Penalty tickets under the Road Traffic Act have been issued for numerous offences including:-

- Parking on the zig zags on the West Port
- Driving through the restriction area on Countess Crescent
- Double parking on the zig zag restriction area for the High St. crossing.

About 1 a.m. on 21 September a male was arrested for drink driving. Due to a previous offence he was held in custody to appear at court.

Anti-social behaviour – Between 31 August & 19 September persons have entered the grounds of Belhaven Hill School and damaged 3 benches, a window was also smashed.

Between 3 & 7 October a stone step and metal railing have been vandalised to the rear of the Town House. Enquiries with CCTV are ongoing.

In early October there have been 3 incidents of vandalism to cars associated to a house in Cedar Street.

Litter – Darker morning and evenings always link in with a rise in dog fouling issues. Constable Ross and Community Warden Wilson will be conducting patrols.

Theft – About 23.30 on 21 September an attempt was made to break in to a house in Friarscroft.

At 3 a.m. on 14 October a theft by housebreaking occurred at “Looks” Store, Summerfield Road. A window was smashed, persons entered and stole the cash till.

On the same night “Smuggler’s Cave” at 33 High St. was broken into by similar means and various items were stolen. Enquiries are ongoing into these incidents.

Other incidents of note- on 18 October a male was issued an Anti-social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Ticket for an incident that occurred in James Court.

CAPP Priorities:

- Inconsiderate parking in residential areas. Patrol areas such as Floors Terrace and Countess Road in relation to persons parking inconsiderately and obstructing other drivers' view.
- Anti-social Behaviour in vennels off the High St. Patrol High St. and vennels to prevent anti-social behaviour and check for any lighting faults or common stair security issues.
- Poor driving on rural roads. Patrol rural roads, especially between A1 and Oldhamstocks, to check irresponsible driving following reports of persons driving fast on narrow road alongside horse riders. Contact ELC regarding signage.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 23 October 2014 at 7.30p.m. in Dunbar Police Station.

M. Young had been informed of exchanges taking place between a male and some youths at the skatepark in the "Tree Scheme" area. This was noted and will be followed up.

Speed Reactive cameras: Approval was given for the cameras to be positioned at the next point in the rotation. It was suggested that further cameras would be helpful although the cost was noted.

7. Treasurer's Report: This had been circulated previously. No comments were made.

8. Matters Arising (not on Agenda):

a) Planning matters-

Station Road – Appeal has been submitted;

Beveridge Row – No further update

Fences – Rose Cottage, Seafield Crescent, Cherrytrees Nursery – no update.

Flagpoles – Southfield and Rose Cottage No update

b) **A1 Safety** – No reply, as yet, from Transport Scotland. Meeting held on 16 September re bridge over A1 (minute circulated). UK Government has confirmed funding to upgrade A1 in Northumberland. No information from Scottish Government.

c) **Licensing** – Umberto's – Licensing changes had been granted.

d) **Viridor Legacy Project** – Dunbar Harbour Project – letter of congratulations had been sent to the Harbour Trust. S. Bunyan had gone on the tour. J. Bell attended the Awards Evening.

e) **Memorial Garden at Parish Church** – Meeting held with Andrew Hogarth of E.L.C. Bollards are to be erected at edge of pavement. Access to Church will be maintained.

f) **Portrait of Earl of Dunbar**– Approval was given for H. Coutts to obtain a photograph for framing.

HC

g) **Town House Flags** – Discussion took place.

S Bunyan outlined the present policy and suggested updates for notable dates in 2015 as follows

1 to add the 8th Feb the date of the Royal Charter by King David the second to Dunbar

2 to delete the 2nd June the anniversary of the coronation

3 to note the Queen's official birthday as 14th June and revised dates for Civic week, armed forces week and remembrance Sunday

4 to add 24th December The centenary of the death of John Muir

5 Will Collin also suggested VE and VJ day as it was the 70th anniversary of the end of the second war.

These changes were accepted, [Up dated Document to follow]

Herbert Coutts then spoke about the decision which had been made earlier in the summer and pointed out that the resolution which he had proposed and which Gill had seconded had been that the Union flag should be flown on a permanent basis This had been carried.

It had been minuted on the chairman's statement as up to the 18th September and it had been agreed in September that we should remove it after the referendum.

He pointed out that there is a UK government document which lays down national policy on flying the union flag and he commended it to the council.

He therefore proposed that option 1 below should be implemented;

1The Union flag to fly continuously alongside the Saltire [which will be replaced as and when required for specific reasons/occasion]. (Proposed by H. Coutts & seconded by P. Swan)

2 This led to some discussion and Alberto Massimo commented that the plan which the chairman had outlined was good and proposed that it be adopted.

. (This was Proposed by A. Massimo and seconded by W. Collin)

A show of hands resulted in 5 for 1st option, 3 for 2nd option, 1 abstention. The first option was therefore carried.

It is understood that the Local Authority is currently reviewing the flag policy and it was suggested that we should re-visit this item once the outcome of the review was known.

Herbert Coutts suggested that it could be implemented straight away.

h) **Community Resilience Event** – J. Bell will attend on 25 October. She noted that a 2nd place is available for other DCC member.

10 East Lothian Local Development Plan: No further information.

11. East Beach Area: Sue Guy was representing the Shore & Harbour Neighbourhood Group. There was grave concern about the unsightly sewage pipe which was now completely visible and the general erosion of the beach. The Group would like the DCC to consider taking a lead in a drive for improvement of the East Beach. The DCC declared interest. It was agreed that ownership of the area of beach be established before taking the matter further. S. Guy and P. Swan will arrange to convene a meeting.

PS/SG

12 Dunbar – Dementia Friendly East Lothian Town: Pippa Swan would like DCC to be positively aligned with raising public awareness in Dunbar. This was agreed. Pippa will act as the link person. **PS**

13. Local Priorities – 2014/15 Budget:

a) Updates:

Information Boards – i) Parish Church – text to be agreed;

ii) Swimming Pool – awaiting response from Osprey.

b) New Application: Approval was given for a grant of £500 to be made to Dunbar Cricket Club. H. Coutts disagreed with this decision and suggested only one net should be funded.

14. Community Planning: Next meeting will be held on 3 November 2014 at East Linton Council Chambers.

15. Local Councillors' Reports:

N. Hampshire

a.) Cllr. Hampshire reported that the Major Issues Report document is due to go before East Lothian Council on 28 November. This is a very important document for the community. Comments from the community will be taken into consideration.

H. Coutts suggested that a vision statement of how the High Street and East Beach area of the town could look would be useful. It was agreed to resurrect details of the designs which had been drawn up a number of years ago by Douglas Laird, Architect and to look again at the papers of the Townscape Heritage Initiative **NH**

b) Road construction is complete for the proposed 500 houses at Hallhill

c) Development of ground behind Bleachingfield Community Centre is in hand as per a longstanding planning application.

d) Cllr Hampshire responded to concerns raised by Sue Anderson regarding the organisation of Hallhill Healthy Living Centre. He indicated that positive steps were being taken.

S Bunyan suggested that it might be a good idea if the Community Council was represented on Hallhill board. Cllr Hampshire agreed to take this idea back to the board.

M Veitch – no report

P McLennan –no report

16. Reports from Committees/Meetings attended:

RELBUS – minutes circulated.

Viridor – minutes circulated.

Twinning (i) Lignieres –Sixteen visitors are expected to arrive on Tuesday 28th until Friday 31st Thursday. The agreed reception will be on Thursday 30th

ii) Narni – no new information.

iii) John Muir connections – W. Collin intimated that an Exhibition is taking place to mark the 20th Anniversary of the founding of John Muir’s Birthplace.

17. Correspondence – previously circulated:

From website – Frances Rollinson – interested in the work of the Community Council . She will attend a future meeting. She was in fact present.

From website – Paul of Thurso interested in getting DCC Agendas & Minutes. Has read about us in E.L. Courier. J. Bell in touch.

From website – Dunbar Army Cadets – interested in attending meetings. 2 representatives were present and informed the meeting that the unit was keen to get involved in helping the community in any way feasible.

Torness Community Newsletter.

RAGES – First Scotrail has lost the Franchise to Abbelio

Lafarge – recent fire.

MELDAP – newsletter

RHS – Grants for Community Garden Projects.

East Lothian Foodbank – Open Day and AGM 12 November.

Community Windpower – information on Aikengall 2 Project.

North Light Arts =- Fertile Ground Conference 25 & 26 October at Bleachingfield.

20s Plenty – 20mph improves public health.

From website – Torness – wishing help with asbestos disposal. Advised to contact ELC.

18. AOCB:

Gill Wilson explained that Andrew Bain, Rector of St Anne's Church, was looking for a letter of support from the CC to support an application to Viridor to develop plans for increasing public use and creating a community facility within the Church. Approval was unanimous. A letter will be sent. **SB/PS**

19 Date of next meeting:

Monday 17 November 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.