

# **ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minute of meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**In Council Chambers, Town House, Dunbar at 7 pm**

**Present:-** S Bunyan (Chair), J Bell (Vice Chair/Secretary/Minutes), A Swan (Treasurer), P Swan, S Anderson, H Coutts, A Massimo, G Robertson,

**Councillors in Attendance:-** Cllr Hampshire, Cllr Veitch

**Others in Attendance:-** Graham Adams(Christmas Lights Committee), Gordon Millar (Chair, Friends of Winterfield), Cameron Ritchie (East Lothian Courier)

## **Obituary**

Stephen Bunyan noted that Mrs Pam Mason, wife of James Mason, long time owner of Masons shoe shop had died on Friday.

The Community Council expressed its condolences.

Stephen also noted that following a long dispute with the family The City Of Edinburgh Council has released 2 mummified bodies for burial/cremation from the City Mortuary. The bodies are of Hilda and Eugenios Marcel, the former owners of the Roxburghe Hotel, Dunbar. They had died many years ago and had been stored in the Mortuary since 2002 when they were found in the basement of an Edinburgh shop.

**1)Apologies** -P Morriss, W Collin, G Wilson, M Brown

**2) Minutes of Meeting of January 18<sup>th</sup>** – accepted

## **3)Update – Friends of Winterfield**

Gordon Millar, Chair of the Group, updated Community Council members on the work of FOW. This was established in 2011 and has 70 members. The Park has Fields in Trust Status. Part of the Park is Common Good Land.

The main aims of FOW are

- a) To preserve Winterfield Park as an open recreational space for the town of Dunbar in co-operation with other organisations in the community.
- b) To support the provision of recreational facilities and activities for the public at large.

During the last 5 years with the help of ELC staff and financial support from a range of sources FOW is coming to the end of its initial work plan. There have been improvements to the landscape of the park, there is more use of the site for sports e.g. Dunbar Cricket Club has moved its pitch to Winterfield and there have been other community activities including a Civic Week dog show.

FOW is now considering the way forward. There are plans to further enhance the park with planting and landscaping. Stuart Pryde, of ELC is preparing a new masterplan for discussion.

However, there are major challenges which FOW feel, as a small group, they cannot tackle without support of Dunbar Community Council, Local Area Partnership and wider community.

FOW, along with Dunbar Community Council had reluctantly accepted the ELC decision to demolish the Pavilion. The demolition had met with a public petition raised by Ruth Elford. This had obtained 513 signatures. Ruth had attended the last FOW meeting and the situation had been discussed. Although the Pavilion will come down it is important to plan for the future use of its site.

In addition there are issues with the condition of the Promenade lying outside the Park boundary. There have been discussions about moving the route of the John Muir Way into the Park and lowering some parts of the wall to enable better views of the coast from within the Park.

There was a discussion as to how Dunbar Community Council may be able to assist FOW. It was thought that once Stuart Pryde's new masterplan is available a Public meeting might be held.

Pippa Swan had attended the recent FOW meeting in her role as Chair of the Local Area Partnership(LAP) It was thought LAP may be able to assist in some of the development of the Park as it has substantial funding from ELC for local projects and access to ELC officers for direct work, administration etc. She said that money may be used to improve the clifftop trail, initially from the Leisure Pool to the Rocks Hotel.

Pippa also noted discussions she has had about the siting of a bear statue. This statue, to be created by Andy Scott who designed The Kelpies, is being funded by the developer contribution from the many new housing sites on land belonging to Halhill Developments. The bear design refers to the links of John Muir to the town. The current planned site is on Spott Roundabout. All present felt that the Roundabout was not an appropriate site for such a statue and it was felt that the Park may be an alternative site. Pippa agreed to have further discussions with the Developer as the commissioner of the statue and report back. Herbert Coutts suggested that the sculptor may also be involved in discussion as to the siting of his artwork.

#### **4) Minutes of Sub Committees : Civic Week and Christmas Lights**

##### **a)Civic Week**

Sue Anderson advised that the Civic Week account currently holds £8720. The Accounts will be passed to Alasdair Swan for audit.

Sue said that A Rio Olympics theme is being planned for Civic Week 2016. It is likely that a smaller offering may be on offer this year as the committee is small. Sue would

appreciate other volunteers coming on board to assist with the committee. Sue has been speaking to Clare, the new leaseholder at Lauderdale Park café about taking an active role in Civic Week.

### **b)Christmas Lights**

Sue Anderson had circulated update information, including budgeting proposals, prior to the meeting. She is preparing a funding request to Awards for All (National Lottery). She is still to hear more from Rev Twaddle about his Trust.

The next Christmas Lights meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Committee is still seeking volunteers for maintenance of the lights but also for fundraising.

Graham Adams updated the meeting on the replacement programme e.g. of the High Street wires. These will have a 25 year lifespan and work is planned to be done in August. EDF have offered some assistance.

Christmas Lights can be part of the discussions at the LAP public meeting on the High Street on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

There will be a Fundraising Quiz Night for the Christmas Lights on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Dunbar Bowling Club (£5 a ticket).

A request had been made to the Community Council Local Priorities fund for £3,345. As Graham was present it was agreed to discuss this item earlier in the Agenda. The Community Council agreed to fund the request from the current year's allowance. (See Local Priorities below)

### **5) Police Report**

No Report had been received

Jacquie Bell, as Convenor of the Community and Police Partnership, noted that the current priorities are Illegal Parking at Dunbar Primary School, John Muir Campus, Anti- Social Behaviour in Dunbar High Street and Speeding in the 20 mph zone south of the railway line.

The next CAPP meeting will be at 7.30 on February 24<sup>th</sup> at Dunbar Police Station.

### **6) Treasurer's Report**

Alasdair Swan had circulated his report.

The Bank Balance stands at £1651.34

The amount remaining in the Hippo (Pool) account stands at £923. This balance will be paid to Enjoy Leisure who manage the pool to help finance new lane barriers. Some money had already been allocated to fund the Molly Keith plaque at the pool in recognition of her sterling work in raising funds for a new pool for the town.

## **7) Matters Arising**

### **a) Planning**

**i) SESPLAN** – No new information

**ii) Lothian Hotel.** Pippa Swan noted that there were issues about window replacement at the development. The Hotel will be part of discussions at the public meeting on the High Street on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**iii) Beveridge Row.** Cllr Hampshire advised that there had been a delay as the agreement on the sale of the land had lapsed. This is now in place. Hallam Land Management have now passed the land to a developer who will be submitting detailed planning proposals. Jacquie Bell said that although Mr Jackman, the Scottish Government appointed Reporter, had controversially given outline planning permission for development of the site the objections to any development by the community remain.

**iv) Cuckoo Wrasse** – no further information

**v) Robertson Homes** – discussions on this development are ongoing. The developer will need to show provision of a safe route to school from the development.

**vi) Church Street** – no further information

**vii) Former Smith's Bakery** – no new information

### **b) Twinning Links**

**Lignieres** – The AGM will be on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Dunbar Town House.  
New members are welcome.

A visit to Lignieres is being considered for October 2016

**Belhaven, North Carolina** – Jacquie has had no further contact from them.

### **c) A1 Safety**

Cllr Veitch advised that the next A1 safety meeting date is being arranged. ELC have looked at the works needed to improve Broxburn junction and passed information to Transport Scotland and Amey for consideration.

### **d) East Beach**

Options are being discussed. There is nothing specifically identified in the ELC Budget for the works needed but it may be funded from the general budgeting for Coastal erosion. A meeting is to be held with Heads of Department on 16/2.

**e) Street Names**

The names of Provosts that have not been previously used will be identified for the next batch of street names required.

**f) High Street**

Pippa Swan outlined plans for the LAP public meeting to be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Boards produced for the meeting will be on public display at the Bleachingfield Centre for two weeks after the meeting for people to make comment.

**g) 20s Plenty**

The updated survey was discussed. Morag Haddow had suggested that names and addresses might be added so that people could be written to and invited to a public meeting. It was felt that this was not needed and Jacquie Bell suggested that retaining addresses could raise Data Protection issues.

Cllr Veitch said that he chairs a 20 mph Steering Group at ELC.

It was noted that Wingate Tenants and Residents Association have canvassed their residents and they are interested in progressing a 20 mph zone.

It was agreed that the project can be part of discussions at the LAP meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

Survey dates will need to be set and a date planned for a public meeting.

**h) Winterfield Pavilion - already discussed**

**i) Station Carpark**

Cllr Veitch advised that capital money had been put aside in the ELC budget. Further discussions are to be held with Abellio Scotrail as charging for the car park remains an issue. The land belongs to Network Rail but is leased to Abellio Scotrail.

**j) Council Chambers Tables**

Jo Moulin had sent information on tables that she proposes to purchase using Common Good Funding from the next financial year. These can be used for Community Council meetings but also for other events being held in the Town House. The planned purchase met with approval from Community Council members.

**k) Water Fountains**

This matter had been added to the list of projects to be considered by LAP. Jacquie Bell noted that the North Berwick Coastal LAP is planning to purchase water fountains for their area.

**l) Viridor Credits Grants Panel**

Jacquie Bell reported that Iain Gray MSP had written to the Chairman of Viridor Credits in Taunton to raise concern about the centralisation of the Panel. The next meeting, which

will be the last of the present Dunbar local panel, will be on 17/2/16. Jacquie Bell and Stephen Bunyan will be attending.

## **8) Local Priorities**

### **2015-16 Budget**

#### **a) Updates**

Parish Church Information Board – progressing

Benches at Yeomanry Memorial – progressing

Dunbar Rugby Club – No further information

Dunbar Dementia Friendly Carers Group. It had been noted by the group that the funding previously agreed had not been received. Stephen Bunyan will action this with Lilian Pryde.

Jo McNamara Music Project – Stephen Bunyan will action this funding which had been previously agreed

North Light Arts – Susie Goodwin had provided further information on the project. It was agreed to give £400

#### **b) New Applications**

Christmas Lights - £3,345 had been agreed earlier in the meeting

Wandering Map of Dunbar (See below) Pippa Swan wished to produce maps for use initially at the LAP public meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March. The estimated cost would be £40. It was agreed to fund this. Pippa will provide paperwork for the application.

#### **c) Future applications**

Herbert Coutts advised that an application may be submitted for a re-enactment of the Battle of Dunbar.

## **9) Casual Vacancy**

Filling of the vacancy was discussed. Jacquie Bell advised that she had been approached by somebody who had recently moved to Dunbar from East Linton who had been active in that community. However, they had not lived in Dunbar for a year. It was thought that people could be co-opted without meeting the residence requirement although they would not have a formal vote at Community Council meetings. Jacquie Bell agreed to contact the interested party and invite him/her to come to meet the Community Council at the meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **10) Local Area Partnership**

Pippa Swan and Jacquie Bell gave updates from the meeting of February 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Projects are moving forward in a number of areas.

Community Council members were asked to attend the meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> regarding the High Street. Pippa asked for assistance in distributing publicity about the event.

## **11) Local Councillor's Reports**

### **Cllr Hampshire**

Cllr Hampshire advised that the ELC Budget has been passed. It is hoped to protect local services.

Jacquie Bell asked about the proposal to raise Council Tax by 3% by both the Administration and SNP Group. This raise is not for 2016-17 but for the following year. Raising Council Tax for the former would lead to a penalty from the Scottish Government.

### **Cllr Veitch**

Cllr Veitch advised that LAP funding has been continued. The funds have been well used by Dunbar and East Linton LAP since it was set up.

Cllr Veitch advised that a metal post in the High Street which had been intended for a real time bus information board is to be removed.

A bus stop at the Junction of Spott Road and Lochend Road is to be repaired and paving is to be provided as currently there is no hard standing.

Jacquie Bell noted that many street lights are out in the town. She has reported them over a number of months. This will be chased up.

Jacquie Bell noted that she had also reported the broken sign coming onto the 1087 at Thistley Cross Roundabout. This will also be chased up. Cllr Veitch noted that another sign at Broxburn is also damaged.

**Cllr McLennan** – no report

## **12) Reports from Meetings Committees Attended**

### **Dementia Friendly Dunbar.**

Pippa Swan noted that activities linked to this are moving forward but more people are needed to help progress the initiative. There had been some issues at a recent meeting of the Carers Group.

### **Scottish Government Dementia Strategy Consultation**

Jacquie had attended this event in Musselburgh. Discussions had included concerns about hospital closures, shortage of staff for home care, lack of consistency and reliability of some services, variable availability of services across the county.

### **Association of East Lothian Community Councils**

Jacquie had attended this meeting which only saw representation from a few of East Lothian's Community Councils. Those present had been asked to identify on boards some of the achievements of their own community councils and to identify actions they would like the Association to take forward on their behalf. There had not been feedback from the boards on the night.

### **Sustaining Dunbar**

Jacquie Bell noted that the Zero Waste Town project under the auspices of Sustaining Dunbar is taking forward a range of initiatives.

## **13) Correspondence previously circulated**

Via website – Scottish Office Briefing on the Scotland Bill

John Muir Working Group – Lee Stetson will be travelling the John Muir Way April 24th-May 14<sup>th</sup> 2016

St Anne's Church – John Muir Window Project.

Community Council members expressed support for this project.

SP Energy Network – An information event on the cableworks will be held at Innerwick Village Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> February.

## **14) AOCB**

Pippa Swan discussed proposals for a Wandering map of Dunbar at a cost of £40 (See Local Priorities above)

## **15) Date of Next Meeting – March 21<sup>st</sup> 2016**

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm