

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 18 July 2016 at 7p.m

In Council Chambers, Town House, Dunbar

Present: S. Bunyan (Chair); J. Bell (Vice-chair/Secretary); S. Anderson; H. Coutts; G. Robertson; A. Swan (Treasurer); P. Swan

Others present: G. Adams (Christmas Lights); C. Ritchie (Press); M. Brown (Minutes)

- 1. Apologies:** W. Collin; P. Morriss; Cllr Veitch (retrospective)
- 2. Minutes of meeting held on 16 May and short meeting of 20 June:** These were taken as a true record.
- 3. Minutes of Sub-committees (Civic Week, Christmas Lights):**

Christmas Lights (G. Adams); Graham reported that Minutes were not available but that everything was going along well. He had completed his Sponsored Cycle and had raised over £1000 for funds. Congratulations were given to Graham for his fine achievement.

Civic Week (S. Anderson); Sue was pleased with how things had gone. There had been a decent turnout and people seemed to have enjoyed themselves. It was encouraging that some of the Youth Groups had taken stalls to raise money for their own organisations. Congratulations were expressed to Sue and her team for such a successful event and particularly for her efforts in raising funding. It was suggested that next year the Crowning Ceremony be returned to Lauderdale Park in conjunction with the Fun Day
- 4. Police Report:**

No report was available but Jacquie Bell had attended the CAPP meeting held on 29 June. The following priorities were set:

Youth ASB over Summer: Monitor groups of youths involved in ASB, ascertain where they are socialising, make sure they are safe, disrupt ASB.

Speeding motorbikes: Conduct road checks to prevent speeding on A198 by Tynningame.

Anti-social behaviour associated to vehicles parked at Shore Road car park: Patrol, link in with young persons present and deal with criminal or anti-social issues.

Next meeting: Thursday 11 August 2016 at 19.30 hours.

5. Treasurer's Report: (A. Swan):

The Finance Report had been circulated previously.

General Fund:

- Last year's accounts have been submitted for independent review.
- Arrangements have been made to lodge the accounts with ELC.
- Expenditure for month was £75.00.
- The balance on the account stands at £8697.74 but this includes a Lottery Grant of £7,295 received on 10 June. Of this grant £6745 needs to be transferred to the Christmas Lights Committee and the balance of £550 is due to Tracy Largue for her Exhibition about the Lights.
- The bank balance, excluding this grant, and taking into account expense for 20's Plenty Consultation, is approx. £1000.

Christmas Lights Account:

- The bank balance at the end of the financial year stood at £15,576.
- This included funds raised for the current year's planned capital expenditure. (A separate report on this subject had been appended.)
- The Committee would appreciate £2000 from the Local Priorities Fund for the revenue expenditure in 2016, as the grant money raised needs to be spent on the capital projects. This was approved.
- The Committee would also be grateful for a further £2000 contribution towards the Year 2 Capital Expenditure plan.

Civic Week Account:

- The Civic Week bank account at the date of the last statement had a balance of £8671.99.
- An estimate of the costs of this year's Civic Week is £3000.

Local Priorities Fund:

The Budget for 2016/17 is £9350.

Grants have been awarded to –

1. Dunbar Science Festival balance	£1060
2. Battlefield Trust	£500
3. Dunbar Music Festival	£500
4. Dunbar Colts	£200
5. Dunbar John Muir Birthplace Trust	£200

The uncommitted budget, prior to the July Community Council Meeting, now stands at £6890.

Herbert thanked Alasdair for his report and particularly for the Christmas Lights Capital Budget update which gave a very clear picture of current and anticipated future costs.

6. Matters Arising (Not on Agenda):

a) Planning Matters:

- i) SESPLAN – Main Issues 2 – this is still progressing.
- ii) Development at 52 High Street (Lothian Hotel). The application is not yet ready for Planning Committee.
- iii) Beveridge Row. Included as a development area following the Main Issues Special ELC Meeting. CALA held an Exhibition on 28 June. There have been major changes to the plans since the Reporter passed the outline application and issues continue. Many local residents remain very concerned about the development, particularly about flooding and traffic flow on the inadequate Hospital Road. Beveridge Row residents are concerned about reduction of landscape screening between the development and their properties. A resident has called for traffic calming on Hospital Road although the current speed limit is 60 mph. There are issues about the adequacy of the proposed SUDS system and location of the affordable housing. The Community Council will have further discussion and respond once detailed plans have been submitted to ELC and are made available for consultation.
- iv) 1 Shore Road (Cuckoo Wrasse): Planning Consent has been approved.
- v) Robertson Homes – Jacquie Bell had attended Planning Committee on behalf of DCC. The application was passed by a majority vote. Issues were raised on transportation, infrastructure, overlooking of neighbourhood homes and affordable home provision.
- vi) Proposal for 9 flats and parking at Church Street – Keith Dingwall advises that there is still no Planning Committee date. A meeting was to be held to discuss the way forward for the Assembly Rooms site which is linked to this one. It was agreed that Jacquie Bell will contact Keith Dingwall and ask him to ensure that the Community Council is kept aware of any developments. **JJB**
- vii) Proposal for 9 flat and house at High Street (former Smith's bakery). Jacquie Bell had submitted DCCs objections. However, the application had been passed under delegated powers. Jacquie had contacted Councillors to raise concern that the application had not been called in. DCC had not known it had been on the Expedited List until too late. Cllr. Veitch has agreed that in future DCC will be advised when Ward 7 applications appear on the Expedited List so that a request can be made to call in if required. Letters have been received from Bill Dodd of AHSS regarding use of the

shop/building and garden as a John Muir Centre. He had also drawn up a very interesting and informative historical study paper. The Community Council was sympathetic to his views. However, it was felt that his ideas could not be taken forward at the Smiths site as Planning consent had already been granted in May. Herbert Coutts and Jacquie Bell noted past ideas for a John Muir centre in West Barns which had not come to fruition.

- viii) Planning in Conservation area – Multiple adverts on railings outside Pick ‘N Choose have been reported by Jacquie Bell and Jimmy Wilson (Community Warden). David Taylor (Enforcement) will visit the shop owner to ask for removal as they require planning consent.

b) Twinning Links.

Lignieres – Alixia Beuvais had visited from Lignieres. Plans for an October visit from Dunbar are being made. 4 pupils from Dunbar Grammar School are taking up scholarships to Lignieres over the Summer.

It was agreed that Stephen Bunyan, on behalf of DCC will write to the Mayor of Lignieres expressing sympathy following the recent tragedy in Nice.

John Muir Connections – Pupils have been from DGS to California.

- c) A1 Safety - Jacquie Bell had raised concerns with Transport Scotland about cross winds on the viaduct/deer accidents but had received a non-committal reply which Iain Gray has been dealing with. The matter will be taken further at the next A1 Safety Group meeting.
- d) East Beach – Pippa Swan reported that some progress is being made. Mattressing will be used over the sewage pipe and the beach will be re-profiled. ELC will monitor the sea wall. Plans to restore the groyne may be delayed.
- e) 20 MPH Zone – Herbert Coutts reported on the Public Meeting held on 21 June and the results of the Public Consultation. George Robertson had prepared a comprehensive report on the survey results as well as the survey analysis. In terms of the sample survey results there appears to be a strong feeling of support for going ahead with the trial. It was agreed that the results should be submitted to ELC with the suggestion that consideration be given to proceeding with a trial period.

HC/JB

- f) Winterfield Park/Bear – Pavilion demolition is still awaited. Herbert Coutts is awaiting a response from Andy Scott the sculptor.

g) Corn Exchange – building health check. The condition survey is several years old. Pippa Swan will do a survey of the building and submit it to ELC.

PS

h) East Lothian Community Hospital – Jacquie Bell has had no reply from David Small at East Lothian Health & Social Care Partnership. There will be no Day Surgery needing general anaesthetic at the new hospital. Jacquie had written to Iain Gray MSP and Shona Robison the Health Minister. A response had been received from a civil servant on behalf of the Minister and circulated. Stephen has written to Rachel Hamilton MSP. Jacquie will contact David Small again.

JB

i) Condition of Parish Churchyard - A meeting had been held with Stuart Pryde. It was understood that a different treatment will be tried for part of the Churchyard for a trial period.

j) Methodist Church – Stephen Bunyan had written and had a reply from the Methodist Circuit. The expectation is that Church remain in use for at least the next 2 years. St. Anne's Church is using it for their services until Christmas whilst renovations are being done at St Anne's.

k) War Memorial – Cllr. Veitch had sent information. There were doubts over ownership following many changes of local authorities. Regardless of this ELC should be liable for upkeep. It was felt that restoration should be carried out. George Robertson agreed to take photographs of the erosion. Jacquie Bell noted that the War Memorial Trust have a Scottish centenary fund which might be approached to assist with funding renovation. **GR**

l) Awards Night – This had been successful. Pippa Swan suggested that the Community Council should start to think about nominees earlier in the year and also give consideration to a wider spectrum of candidates. Advance engraving of shields etc. would also be beneficial.

m) Condition of Dunbar High Street – Dunbar and East Linton Area Partnership have given funding for repairs. Pippa Swan confirmed that £50,000 will be spent on the High Street. There will be a meeting with planners, Stuart Pryde and Tom Reid on 19 August to discuss street furniture etc. Lamp posts are to be repaired. Improving the appearance of the High Street had scored highly in the recent Public Consultation and it will be important to make it more attractive throughout the year. Pippa circulated some pictures of seasonal lighting that might be purchased.

n) Shore Road Pumping Station – Bill Elliot of Scottish Water has advised that it is essential. Nothing further has been heard from the person who made contact.

o) Parish Church Repairs – Stephen Bunyan had written a letter of support. Jacquie Bell had advised the Kirk Session to apply to Viridor Credits for a grant.

p) First Bus Withdrawal – Jacquie Bell had attended an emergency RELBUS meeting. A Lothian Bus subsidiary, East Coast Buses, is to provide a service.

q) Heritage Angels – Members agreed to support nomination of Dunbar History Society. Alasdair Swan agreed to complete the application for which Jacquie Bell gave him the paperwork. **AS**

7. Local Priorities:

a) Updates:

Information Boards – Parish Church – complete.

John Muir Birthplace Exhibition - expenditure of £235 agreed at the June meeting was homologated.

f) New Applications:

- Dunbar Day Centre – As a 40th Anniversary celebrations an “Open Day” and small evening event are planned. £300 agreed.
- Christmas Lights £2000 agreed as previously stated under Treasurer’s Report.

8. Local Area Partnership:

A Meeting was held on 27 June.

A Head Teacher meeting held on 16 June which Jacquie Bell had attended. LAP had set aside £100,000 for “Improving Educational Achievement” within schools and also in the wider community. Ideas were being sought.

The next meeting is on 5 September.

9. Community Engagement by DCC - This matter was deferred as Penny Morriss was not present

10. ELC Draft Road Safety Plan – Jacquie Bell had sent comments on road surfacing (issues for cyclists etc. of pot holes), maintenance of cycle routes, 20 mph zones and A1 Safety. The condition of Hospital Road, Belhaven was also of great concern to residents and a danger to cyclists. The road surface in the High Street was thought appalling. Jacquie will contact Alan Stubbs at Transportation.

JB

11. Belhaven Hospital – NHS Lothian are proposing the closure of Ward 2 with provision moved to Ward 3. This is due to the need to spend £500K on upgrade. Closure of the service at Ward 2 which is well used will lead to under capacity in the system. Ward 3 which is a nursing home ward has a waiting list. Following a public meeting set up by Cllr McLennan a Steering Group is to be set up to seek the retention of Ward 2. NHS reps at the meeting had said that there will be a consultation on the future of the service. Jacquie Bell had contacted Iain Gray and Health Minister Shona Robison. It was agreed to support preservation of this vital local facility. There had been previous agreement that it should not close without appropriate replacement local facilities. Jacquie Bell will contact David Small to ask for a clearer picture of the situation. It was felt that the Community Council should hold its own public meeting on the matter. **JB**

12. Local Councillors' Reports: None available.

13. Reports from Committees/Meetings Attended:

Day Centre – The AGM had taken place and main committee members remain the same. Thanks were expressed to the Civic Week Committee for the tree planted by the Queen during Civic Week.

Sustaining Dunbar – Work on the Zero Waste Town project is progressing.

Viridor Liaison – As a member of Sustaining Dunbar Board, Jacquie Bell had attended the recent meeting. She had asked questions about the new energy from waste plant which is currently under construction with regard to the planning conditions set by the Reporter in 2009 and updated in 2012. Waste from 5 local authorities in the Clyde Valley will be transported to it by road. There is still no Heat Plan proposed, as required by the Reporter. Jacquie has contacted Keith Dingwall and SEPA for further information on the Heat Plan which is to be approved by East Lothian Planning before the plant starts operation.

14. Correspondence – previously circulated:

Via Website – Heather Christie – wishing the 20mph zone to cover the main Edinburgh Road. However, this has to remain 30mph as it a main route into the town.

ELC – Draft East Lothian Safety Plan.

Traditional Music Festival – thanks for the grant.

Dunbar Colts – thanks for the grant.

STRIVE – Funding Surgery in Tranent on 14 June.

Via website - ELC Transportation – parking issues in West Port.

Dunbar Parish Church – Request for letter of support for application to Heritage Lottery Fund to enable repairs to the church.

Sc. Civic Trust – Heritage Angel Awards.

Via website – concerns re 20mph plans.

Lilian Pryde – NHS Lothian Annual Review 2 – 3 p.m. on 31 August at Waverley Gate.

RAGES Rag.

Lorna McLennan – Local Government Boundary Commission – response from ELC opposing changes.

Lilian Pryde – Stronger Policing Public Consultation.

Lilian Pryde – Community Choices Fund.

Lilian Pryde – Annual leave.

Brake newsletter.

15. Any other competent business:

- Jacquie Bell had reported potholes, signage and lighting fault. Major repairs have been completed on the road from Belhaven Road to Edinburgh Road.
- Scottish Battlefields Trust – Herbert Coutts reported that the Trust wishes to stage triennial re-enactments of battles, including one of the 1650 Battle of Dunbar in September. They were seeking a letter of support from the Community Council to seek support from Visit Scotland and Events Scotland.

Stephen Bunyan agreed to write.

SB

16. Date of next meeting: This will take place on Monday 15 August 2016 at 7 p.m. in Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Appendix to the minute of the July 2016 meeting of the Community Council

I feel that I should put on record the fact that our message of sympathy and support for the event in Nice went out more widely than perhaps was expected. I have had a message of appreciation in response to the message.

For convenience we are used to saying we are twinned with Lignieres.

In fact, we are twinned with some of the surrounding Cantons as well.

Each has a Maire. I caused surprise at the original ceremony in France in 1994 when I suggested a group photograph of the maires. It seemed they were not used to such fraternity. The letter went to each of the mairies.

The cantons are Lignieres, Villecellin, St Hilaire en Lignieres, Venesmes, La Celle Conde, Ids Saint Roch, ChezaL Benoit, Saint Symphorien, Montlouis, Touchay and Saint Baudel.

One of the original twinned cantons Mareuil sur Arnon had withdrawn in 2009 but in that year we welcomed Villecelin as a new twin. On behalf of Dunbar I presented a saltire to be flown at the Mairie and we planted a tree of friendship.

Stephen Bunyan