

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on Monday 16 January 2017 in Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar at 7 p.m.

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

Councillors present: N. Hampshire; M. Veitch

Others present: M. Shaw; C. Ritchie (Press); M. Brown (Minutes)

Apologies: P. C. Gavin Ross

2. Minutes of meeting of 19 December 2016: These were taken as a true record. (Proposed -Pippa Swan; Seconded - George Robertson)

3. Minutes of Sub-Committees

Christmas Lights (G. Adams):

Graham reported that all the lights were taken down on 15 January. He gave thanks to the volunteers who had assisted and also to ICI and ITEC for the use of their machines.

The erection of new winter lights has commenced and will be completed over the next 2 weeks.

Christmas Lights are engaging with their structural engineer for December's display. A grant has been received from Civic Pride and Christmas Lights will commence the installation of new distribution boxes with a view to completing these prior to this year's display.

Christmas Lights are aiming to put in an application to Be Green this month.

Sincere thanks were expressed to Graham and his team for all their hard work.

Civic Week (S. Anderson):

Sue Anderson reported that Civic Week is planned for 17 – 25 June 2017.

An open, informal meeting has been arranged for Thursday 26 January 2017 at 6.30p.m. in the Hillside Hotel to which local people will be invited to volunteer to assist with the Civic Week arrangements. This meeting will be intimated in the local press, on the Community Council Website and on the What's On website. It is hoped there will be a good turnout of willing helpers as this will determine what form Civic Week will be able to take. Sue confirmed that there will definitely be a Civic Week.

4. Police Report:

Road Safety: Similarly to last month there have been numerous reports of minor accidents

in the town, some of which have been hit and run accidents and people are reminded if they are involved in a bump, even minor, to stop and swap details or if the other vehicle is parked and unattended to report it to the police immediately.

Anti-social Behaviour: There have been a handful of calls reporting youths acting in an anti-social manner in and around the High St but on the whole, less than previous months.

Focused patrols by Community Officer continue.

Litter: No issues.

Theft: Numerous thefts from local supermarkets, all of alcohol and all will lead to charges being preferred.

On 2 January there were numerous house breakings, sheds forced and bikes stolen. These crimes are currently being investigated as part of a crimes series covering Edinburgh, East Lothian and the Borders. To date 2 people have been charged with 17 crimes and enquiries are continuing into the remaining.

Other issues: Council wardens are now operational in East Lothian. They have been issuing warning notices thus far but will soon commence issuing Fixed Penalty Notices. We would urge all motorists to familiarise themselves with parking regulations.

CAPP

Next meeting – Tuesday 31 January 2017.

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

General Fund –

- Bank balance is £807.18.
- A cheque for £26.50 for Remembrance Day wreath has not yet been cashed. When cashed this will reduce the bank balance to £780.68.
- Expenses claims for the current year should be submitted before the end of the financial year.

Christmas Lights Account –

- Bank balance currently stands at £21962.43. (last month £20756)
- Income for month totalled £1597.59, including various generous donations towards the work of the Christmas Lights.
- Expenditure in the month was £391.99.
- A cheque payable to ELC for £8068 is still to be presented for payment by ELC..
- The result of the application made to the Civic Pride Fund for support for the ongoing capital project is still awaited.
- Repair materials in the region of £4000.

Civic Week Account –

- Balance stands at £5407.40

Local Priorities Fund –

The LPF 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. Friends of John Muir Birthplace	-	£ 235
6. Christmas Lights Committee	-	£2000
7. Day Centre	-	£ 300
8. Victoria Street project	-	£ 604.81
9. Unplug & Read – Dunbar Primary	-	£ 300
10. Dementia Friendly Dunbar	-	£ 250

The uncommitted budget prior to the January Community Council meeting now stands at £4055.15 after some write-backs from previous years.

In principle, it has been agreed that an as yet unqualified level of support will be given to the Jimmy Bain project.

6. Matters arising (Not on Agenda):

a) Planning matters

- i) Local Plan – ELC Officers are working on responses and objections to the document. The document will then go to Scottish Ministers. A Public Inquiry is likely to be held. Dunbar Community Council will be invited to make any comments at such a public meeting.
- ii) SESPLAN – Stage 2 Document – no further information.
- iii) Development at 52 High Street (Lothian Hotel). An altered application is being worked on.
- iv) Beveridge Row – The application is still not ready for determination. Residents have seen surveyors in the field who were looking for cables.
- v) Proposal for 9 flats and parking at Church Street – no further information.
- vi) Planning in Conservation areas – Jacque has further contacted David Taylor, Planning Enforcement Officer, about the Belhaven Bikes & Border Roofing ads which will be investigated.
- vii) Application at Newtonlees Farm – A full application is to be submitted in early 2017. Jacque has become aware that Gladman have a record of submitting applications outwith local plans. They currently have applications pending in Colchester and Malvern as well as elsewhere.
- viii) Viridor- Jacque had contacted Chris Bruce at East Lammermuir Community Council. He has e-mailed Viridor staff to arrange a meeting without any response and has now chased them again. Sarah Miezitis of SEPA has advised Jacque that Viridor have asked to delay submitting their updated Heat & Power Plan for the ERF until 31/01/2017. They had been

due to do so in December. In the meantime Mark Atkinson, Development Manager – Energy – at Viridor had contacted Philip Revell at Sustaining Dunbar to see if the group had any suggestions for potential users of the heat. Jacquie has contacted Mark Atkinson for an update but had no response.

- b) Online Consultation on the future of the Scottish Planning System – responses required by 4th April. Members will look at the documentation for discussion at a future meeting.
- c) Robertson Homes development – Concerns have been raised regarding their security and privacy by Walker Home residents at Beachmont Court in relation to trees being chopped down to create a pathway to the site. Residents had been unaware that this route was included in the planning application. Jacquie Bell had contacted Stuart Pryde at ELC Amenities for further information about what was happening.

Cllr Hampshire said that a pathway had been included in the original paperwork for the Walker Homes in the 1980s. However, it had never been built.

Cllr. Hampshire explained the paths that will be built to link the Robertson Homes to Spott Road.

It was agreed that the residents should have been informed of the route of the path/tree felling work.

b) Twinning Links:

Lignieres – Only 12 families at Dunbar Grammar had expressed an interest in hosting one of the 40 pupils wishing to come from Lignieres. Thus the school in Lignieres will need to make other arrangements. Funding support towards twinning from ELC is likely to be reduced in 2017. The Twinning Association AGM will be on 22 February. New committee members are needed.

John Muir Connections – A report from Angela Wrapson/George Kerevan MP on his contacts with the USA had been circulated. Will Collin will circulate his comments/actions in relation to this report.

WC

The John Muir Way has been granted Scotland's Great Trail status.

c) East Beach : Pippa Swan had drawn up and circulated some early ideas for visitor infrastructure/general improvements at the East Beach area for once the beach regeneration is underway. This would need significant financial investment.

Recent storms had caused severe damage to the ramp near the seating area where a large hole had appeared. Cllr Hampshire noted that ELC will need to make urgent repairs. Concern were expressed about the sea wall which could be in danger of collapsing if further wave action erodes the fragile underlying material.

Jacquie Bell had reported damage to the exposed sewer pipe to Scottish Water. This had been repaired.

d) 20MPH zone – ELC Officers are working on the proposal.

e) Winterfield Park

Pavilion Scottish Natural Heritage had found no evidence of bats roosting in the Pavilion and had no concerns about loss of local bat habitat. A date for demolition will now be arranged.

Orientation plinth – George Robertson reported that a £750 Civic Pride Fund grant had been awarded by ELC. He will arrange for installation of the replacement .

f) Corn Exchange – Cllr. Veitch reported that he will be meeting with ELC officers on Tuesday 24 January to discuss the situation further. A further meeting with Community Councillors will be arranged after that.

g) Belhaven Hospital – A further meeting of the Belhaven Forum is planned for 7 February 2017. The date and venue is still to be confirmed.

h) Condition of Parish Churchyard

Will Collin noted that Stuart Pryde of ELC will do what he can during the Winter months. In the Spring there will be 2 trial areas. One area will be planted with wild flower mix and the other will be left to regenerate itself.

i) War Memorial

Herbert Coutts reported that the Chair of the Dunbar branch of British Legion Scotland had been invited to join the working group which will meet on 30th January with Helen Bowman of the War Memorials Trust. Criteria details had been received for people who had been initially commemorated at the end of the First World War. Criteria for those commemorated at the end of Second World War is awaited.

Herbert will arrange a pre meeting of the working group prior to the meeting on January 30th.

The working group will bring back proposals for the restoration of the monument to the Community Council for a decision on how to proceed.

j) Dunbar High Street

Jacquie Bell had been in contact with ELC regarding the continued poor state of the carriageway around the one-way system/access street to the car park as well as the cobbled crossing near the Post Office.

Pippa Swan noted that this work was still to be done as part of the Local Area Partnership improvements to the High Street.

k) Town maintenance –

i) Tobies- Jacquie is continuing to chase Scottish Water about repairs to tobies in Bayswell Rd. One top has now been replaced but another reported on the same day and with the same job number is still missing.

ii) Street Lights – Jacquie has reported further faulty lights which have been repaired.

Jimmy Wilson, Community Warden, has also been checking for faulty lights after discussion at CAPP.

Pippa said that, provided the budget allows, all lamp heads in the High Street are to be replaced. If this is to happen Glen Kane of ELC will be invited to attend a Community Council to discuss proposed designs.

iii) Wall between Hillside Hotel and Newhouse Terrace – Jacquie has contacted Four Seasons Care Head Office to follow up the request for repair. So far she has not had a response.

iv) Self sown bushes in the wall at The Sycamores site – Residents at the flats had also complained to Dundas Estates, the developers, about the bushes which are rooted in the retaining wall cement. Jacquie has followed up with Dundas Estates Head Office in Livingston to ask that these shrubs are removed to prevent the risk of the wall from collapsing. Sally at Dundas had agreed to ask someone from the Station Road site to go and look.

v) Scottish Water had done further work to the water system at Edinburgh Rd/Shore Rd resulting in local road closures and temporary traffic lights. Jacquie had had contact with residents and NHS about the situation. Following the work, reinstatement work of Shore Rd. has been poor and Jacquie has reported this to ELC.

vi) The bench at the corner of Belhaven Rd/Knockenhair Rd. had been removed after Jacquie had reported that it had been badly vandalised. A replacement is awaited and Jacquie is chasing this up.

vii) Jacquie has reported a number of pot holes around the town to ELC. Some have been repaired.

viii) Temporary traffic lights had appeared in Summerfield Road near the Grammar School. These seem to be related to a power failure at Looks shop. Jacquie had contacted ELC. Cllr Hampshire noted that any temporary lights must have a permit from ELC.

Sue Anderson noted that the timing sequence for the traffic lights at the building site in Bayswell Road (outside the Manse) was too long, causing frustration to motorists.

ix) Alasdair Swan noted that replacement paving is required around the Creel Loaders monument in Victoria Street. Benches and the wall around the Victoria Street Well are in poor repair. He will contact Stuart Pryde at ELC about this.

l) Bear Sculpture – A planning application for the Bear to be sited near the A1 will be submitted by the Developer. Jacquie had passed the agreed note of the meeting by Community Councillors with Ken Ross to Mr Ross as he had requested. The note indicates that at a future point further artwork from per cent for art planning gain may be sited at a place of the Community Council's choosing e.g. Winterfield Park. A story in the "East Lothian Courier" had provoked mixed views from the community about the statue funding and its siting.

m) Bus stop information – Jacquie had followed up the lack of bus timetables with ELC, RELBUS and Perryman's. Perryman's have produced a further timetable but it only gives the times that buses leave. There is no information on arrival times at a destination or at intermittent points e.g. Haddington, for those who need to connect to other services like Musselburgh. At some stops the timetables have been wrapped around the pole of the stop making them difficult to read. At other stops there is only a notice that a timetable can be downloaded and that timetable is too small to read. Jacquie noted that Perryman's will now be attending RELBUS meetings.

n) Street naming at The Sycamores - Jacquie had spoken to Sally at Dundas Estates (whilst chasing up the self sown bushes) who had said that the street name had been given to the company by ELC. Dundas Estates had no say in the name. However, the name was not one that had been supplied by Dunbar CC to ELC. Stephen Bunyan had an e mail trail as to how the development had been named by Gordon Norrie of ELC. As it was named more than 18 months ago a change of name will need agreement from the residents. It was agreed that the e mail trail would be circulated. JB

Stephen advised that an issue had arisen with the proposed street name for the Dundas Estates development in Station Road where residents had objected to the suggestion. Again the Community Council had not been consulted on a name by ELC. It was agreed that the street should be known as King's Court.

It was agreed that in future the approval for street names should be sought by ELC before developments commence.

o) 2 Vacancies - It was agreed to proceed with filling the vacancies. An article will appear in the local press and information will be placed on the Community Council website.

8. Local Priorities:

a) Updates

Jimmy Bain Project – Stephen had contacted Mark Beattie to advise that Dunbar Community Council is supportive of the project and had told him that Jimmy Bain's niece had indicated that some of her uncle's admirers may be willing to assist with funding for a plaque on the former Foresters Arms building in Shore Street. It had been noted to Mr Beattie that a statue at the Grammar School may not be easy to install as FES manage the building and that the Bleachingfield Centre, as an ELC community building may be an alternative option.

It was agreed that Mr Beattie could make further contact with the Community Council, which is supportive of his ideas, if required.

b) New Applications 2016-17 Budget

Dunbar History Society will be submitting an application for an updated edition of "A Walk Around Historic Dunbar". Stephen had spoken to them about revising the sum requested.

Sue Anderson noted that Civic Week will be looking for funding.

9. Local Area Partnership:

_Next meeting to be held on 23 January.

10. Community Engagement by DCC:

The new Website with links to Facebook and Twitter is up and running.

11. Local Councillors' Reports:

N. Hampshire:

- The Council is working on the Budget. This has seen a reduced settlement by the Scottish Government this year which will cause further difficulties. One of the main

- priorities will be funding the infrastructure required for the number of new housing developments in the County. It has been necessary to use significant reserves to fund capital projects. The Council is working on ways to increase developers' contributions in the future.
- Local Development Plan – The Planning Dept. is working on the various objections and will report back to the Council in March. This will then be presented to Scottish Ministers to hear the objections. The Community Council will be kept fully informed.
- 2 large housing applications are being considered for East Lothian – at Letham Mains in Haddington and at Blindwells. If these go ahead they should be sufficient to meet much of the housing requirements for East Lothian from the Scottish Government.

Sue raised concerns about HGVs using Haines Drive, one of the roads at the Persimmon Homes site in Brodie Road inappropriately. Jacquie Bell noted the lack of clear signage and road markings in this area. Cllr. Hampshire agreed to investigate/arrange for suitable signage.

NH

M Veitch:

- The 90 mins parking signs have now been erected in the High Street. New lines will be painted.
- Abbeylands Car Park – A time limit on parking may be considered. This will require a formal consultation to take place. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- As of 23 January 2017 ELC funded Traffic Wardens will be issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for illegal parking. These will also apply at all Coastal Car Parks.

*Pippa Swan drew attention to the subsidence in the stairwell of the Town House. Cllr Veitch will contact Liz McLean at ELC. He will also report that the front door of the Town House has not been working properly since last October. **MV**

Cllr McLennan – no report

12.Town Structures at Risk - Horse Mill – Nothing further to report at present.

13. Reports from Committees/Meetings attended: None

14. Correspondence – previously circulated:

Martin Grey – Seasonal Greetings from Viridor

Sandy Baptie ELC – Winter weather updates.

Sandy Baptie ELC - Citizen AID app for Smartphones. Giving advice on what to do in the event of a terrorist attack.

RAGES – Festive greetings.

Sarah Mietzitis, SEPA – update on Viridor ERF

RAGES – update

West Coast Motors (Perrymans) – news update

Lilian Pryde – Online survey for Community Councillors on Diversity from ELREG (Edinburgh & Lothians Regional Equity Council)

Lilian Pryde – Reminder of Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards.

Lilian Pryde – Consultation on the Future of the Scottish Planning System

Agency for Legal Deposit Libraries – Seeking copies of “Dunbar Connect”. Jacquie had phoned them to advise that Dunbar Community Council is not involved in the publication of this advertising booklet.

Angela Wrapson/George Kerevan MP – Report of contacts with John Muir connections.

Pauline Jaffray (via e-mail) – Advising of surveyors looking for cables at Beveridge Row site.

Brake – newsletter.

15. Any other competent business:-

- **Congratulations to Barrie Forrest** of RAGES and Reston Community Council who was awarded BEM in the New Year's Honours. Jacquie had sent a message on behalf of Dunbar CC.
- **Good Wishes to Rev. Laurence Twaddle** – Stephen had sent best wishes as he moves from Belhaven Parish Church to the Church of Scotland in Geneva on 21 January.
- **Great Railway Journeys** – Dunbar had featured in Michael Portillo's programme on BBC2 on January 5.

16. Date of next meeting: This will take place on **Monday 20 February 2017** in the Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar at 7 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.