

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on Monday 18 July 2015 at 7 p.m.

In Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar

Present: S. Bunyan (Chair); J. Bell (Vice-chair); S. Anderson; W. Collin; H. Coutts;
A. Massimo; P. Swan; A. Swan (co-opted);

Councillors present: N. Hampshire

Others present: K. Darrah and Adrian Girling, The Ridge; W Dodd (AHSS/Public)

Apologies: Cllr Veitch, G. Wilson

Stephen Bunyan opened the meeting by paying respects to the following deceased:

Ex Councillor Peter Crichton who died on 6 July and had served office as a District Councillor, Community Councillor and Deputy Lieutenant.

Mrs Betty McLeod who died on 10 July was the wife of former Community Councillor, David McLeod.

William Sanderson, War Veteran.

1.Presentation – Planning Application: The Ridge:

Kate Darrah, Managing Director of The Ridge, explained that they were a community based social enterprise formed to provide training and skills development opportunities to young people and others seeking employment through working in partnership with schools, Job Centre Plus and others. She also gave a resume of the work achieved to date including the café at the Bleachingfield Centre and the training partnerships with Dunbar Community Woodland Group and Belhaven Community Garden. They are affiliated to training and other organisations like SQA.

The Ridge had been successful in its bid to the Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) and had received the sum of £200,000.

The Ridge were seeking the support of the Community Council in their planning application to develop and improve the Backlands of Dunbar High Street. Adrian Girling outlined the details of the application which will relate to the area between The Co-op at Friarsbank and the High Street. It was hoped to develop this area as a community based space with opportunities for horticultural and other vocational training as well as a site for an

occasional market.. Discussions had been entered into with the Co-op, neighbouring residents and Dunbar Traders.

In response to questions about the historical nature of the area including the old walls and archaeological potential Kate Darrah was clear that there would not be intensive digging at the site and that some training could include repair of the walls.

Kate also responded to a question from Will Collin about the long term sustainability of the venture. She said that capital funding had come from the Coastal Communities Fund but it was hoped that there would be generation of income into the longer term. The Ridge is currently negotiating a 5 year lease for the area from ELC. She said that they are closely monitored by CCF and that they have been given good reports. The 2nd year of funding is due to end in April but as there has been an underspend to date the project's funding will be allowed to continue for a longer period.

Stephen thanked Kate and Adrian for their presentation and advised that the Community Council would discuss the application later in the meeting.

2.Resignations/Thanks: Mary Young and Kilvert Croft (Co-opted Treasurer) had submitted their resignations.

Thanks were expressed to them both for their services over the years and particularly to Mary for her dedication to "Dunbar in Bloom".

Replacements were required for Kilvert's duties as Community Council representative at the annual Torness meeting (March) and also at John Muir Country Park meetings. Alberto Massimo agreed to attend at Torness. Will Collin will be the John Muir representative.

3.Minutes of meeting held on 18 May 2015 –approval: Approved – Alberto Massimo; seconded - Pippa Swan.

4. Minutes of Sub-committees:

Civic Week – Sue Anderson: Sue had circulated her report earlier and she spoke to it. This year's celebrations had once again been very successful with great support from both local businesses and the public. The Committee was currently financially sound.

It was with great regret that Sue announced that she was standing down from the Civic Week Committee. Other committee members would also be resigning due to other commitments. The Community Council expressed thanks to her for having taken over the

organisation of this Committee, for her dedication and also for leaving it in such a healthy state. It was agreed that she would continue as the Community Council link.

Arrangements will be made to seek her replacement towards the end of August.

5. Police Report:

No Police Officer was in attendance and no written report was available. PC Ross is on holiday.

Jacquie had circulated the CAPP Agenda and Priorities. The next CAPP meeting will be held on 26 August 2015.

Jacquie noted that via Kilvert information had come that there had been another attempted break in to the Corn Exchange. Jacquie had contacted ELC Emergency Repairs to ask that the building be made secure and reported the incident to the Police. (Incident number 2303 17/7/15).

Pippa expressed concern about the continued deterioration of the Corn Exchange building. Cllr Hampshire noted that ELC keeps it wind and water tight. Aside from the Christmas Lights it has been closed to public use since November 2002.

6. Treasurer's Report: Alasdair Swan was welcomed as Kilvert's replacement and was formally co-opted as a member of the Community Council. Proposed by Stephen Bunyan and seconded by Will Collin. Stephen reported on the few cheques that had been issued in the interim. Arrangements were made for Jacquie to be reimbursed £10 for RAGES membership.

7. Matters arising (Not on Agenda):

a) Planning Matters:

i) East Lothian Local Development Plan Main issues Report – had been approved by ELC

ii) Developments in Conservation Areas (various)

Castellau – door painting was given consent on 9 June.

Advertisements on Lauderdale House and Royal Mackintosh railings – ELC have been asked if these have planning consent for adverts in Conservation areas and David Taylor at ELC Enforcement will follow up.

iii) Beveridge Row – no further information.

iv) 1 Shore Road (Cuckoo Wrasse)- Jacquie had submitted the Community Council views to ELC with a further letter of support favouring a change of use to residential. There was considerable discussion on this issue. Community Councillors are anxious that this building

is preserved. SEPA is concerned about flooding but the owner understands the risk. SEPA have not accepted the owner's offer to get an independent flood risk assessment. It was noted that the owner is still trying to come to a resolution.

v) Robertson Homes – information session 20 May. No further information. The issues of access to the schools were raised.

vi) Planning at Lawson Place – Jacquie had submitted the Community Council views submitted to ELC. No further information.

vii) Planning application by The Ridge. This was discussed. It was felt to be a positive option for the derelict land offering opportunities for vocational training as well as a community asset. Jacquie will submit a letter positively supporting the application. JB

viii) Proposal for 9 flats and parking at Church Street. Jacquie, Pippa and Isobel had attended a site meeting. An objection had been circulated and submitted by Jacquie. It was agreed to reinforce objection on the grounds of the quality and style of the proposed building as being inappropriate for the middle of a Conservation area.

JB

ix) SESPLAN Main Issues 2 – Meeting on 4 August. Pippa to attend.

b) Twinning Links:

36 people from Lignieres are coming from 30 July – 5 August. A programme has been put together for the visitors. They will have opportunity to see the site of Lignieres Way.

A Quiz Night will be held at the British Legion on 27th August.

Correspondence has been received from Belhaven, North Carolina where the community is interested in forming Sister City links. Jacquie will respond to inform them that this will be discussed at a future meeting of the Community Council JB

Meaford – Will forward a reference to a press article following the recent visit.

WC

John Muir Association. –The Martinez visit had been very successful and the hope was to sustain closer links.

c)A1 Safety: There has still been no response to Jacquie's letter. She has written back to the Civil Servant following the December A1 Safety Forum convened by Cllr Veitch to note that concerns are about safety South of Dunbar. A Sign near Thistley Cross remains damaged after more than a year. Jacquie attended the Safety Forum on 30 June and chased this up. There has been no further consideration of a bridge at Innerwick. Alberto noted that there is still a large pot hole in the A1 surface near the weather station.

d) Flags Policy: Stephen had previously circulated the ELC protocol. It was agreed to adopt the ELC policy that is now in place for the similar 2 flag pole situation at Brunton Hall i.e. that both the Union flag and the Saltire should fly simultaneously and that the Saltire will give way when another flag is required to be flown.

e) East Beach: Pippa reported that ELC have produced a design for a stone groin to replace the timber one and a planning application is to be made. A Forth Forum is to be held with other coastal towns. It seems that places like Crail have an issue with too much sand. MASTS will give advice on technical issues.

f) Community Resilience Planning: Pippa will contact Jo McNamara to make arrangements for the proposed Autumn "Information Day". **PS**

g) Portrait of Earl of Dunbar: Stephen has in touch with David Platt at Paxton House and he hopes to make progress soon. He proposed to arrange for a picture that will match that of Provost Middlemass in size and framing.

h) Street names: Further suggestions are required due to increased house building.

i) Dementia Friendly Dunbar: Thanks were given to Pippa and Team for organising the successful Information Day on 30 May. A report will be forthcoming.

PS

j) East Lothian Community Hospital: Several members attended the event held on 26 May which was relatively useful although poorly managed.

k) Rail services: The start of the increased local service due in 2016 is likely to be delayed until December 2018 which is near the end of the current franchise. Abellio blame lack of rolling stock for the delay. Jacquie had contacted the Transport Minister with concerns and the response had been circulated by her.

l) Toilets: Pippa will write to Stephen Hill, Chair of Dunbar Trades asking businesses to consider making premises available to the public. The general shortage of toilets in the town was discussed. **PS**

m) Waterloo Anniversary: Stephen, Pippa, Jacquie, Kilvert and Gill had attended the commemoration at the Anderson family mausoleum in the Parish Churchyard. The Royal Artillery were also represented as well as pupils from Belhaven Hill school. A wreath was laid by Stephen on behalf of the Community Council.

n) Licensing –Dunbar Castle Social Club: Jacquie had sent a positive response on behalf of the Community Council to ELC Licensing with regard to the request to vary the licence.

o) Community Council Awards: These had been made as agreed in the Minute of 18 May.

p) High Street Issues: This subject is on the Local Area Partnership Agenda. Anti social behaviour has been discussed at CAPP meetings. A meeting to discuss further will be considered for the Autumn.

“Dunbar in Bloom” will be assessed on 27 July. Issues facing the group were discussed. Will noted that other towns have hanging baskets on display. Cllr Hampshire advised that these are no longer provided and maintained by ELC. Groups need to purchase planted baskets from ELC and water them themselves.

q) 20s Plenty: Herbert will arrange an initial meeting. Interested Community Council members should note interest to him as per .It was agreed to invite Morag Hadow to be involved given her interest in this matter. The Police can provide statistics.

HC

8. Local Priorities: 2014-15 Budget.

a) Updates

Information Boards – Parish Church : Planning application lodged.

Harbour and Pool & Gun – updating completed.

Letham Gardens Summerhouse- Jack Wilson has withdrawn the application

Traditional Music Festival – funding given as agreed in May

Primary School Collage Book – funding given as agreed in May

Dementia Friendly Dunbar – funding given as agreed in May

Dunbar Flying Club – J. Bell and Pippa had written to the Club to ask to what use they would put the laptop. A reply had now been received. It was agreed to confirm a grant of £200

Dunbar Harbour Trust – “Sparkling Dunbar” – funding had been given.

b) New applications

First Responders – a form has been sent but not returned.

Benches at the Yeomanry Memorial. Information had been circulated by Stephen. It was agreed that a grant should be requested from the Civic Pride Fund to restore and possibly resite the existing Swan necked benches. A shortfall might be met by Local Priorities.

Dunbar Kilbungo Partnership Group. A team will be visiting Dunbar from Rwanda. It was agreed to give £150. Kilvert will be asked if a Rwandan flag can be provided to fly during their visit.

c) 2015-16 Budget. Stephen had circulated information.

9. Local Area Partnership: Meetings had been held on 3 and 22 June. Pippa Swan had been elected as Chair. Congratulations were expressed

The next meeting will be on 31 August. Pippa has circulated a draft LAP Plan for Community Council members to make comments.

Alasdair requested that 2 areas should be included in the plan. Firstly litter, particularly where the problem is compounded by seagull activity e.g. at the Harbour. He noted that use of a compactor combined with ELC collection could alleviate the problem. Secondly, the lack of toilets in the Harbour area. A combination of ELC and local resources could alleviate the problem. He said that the 2 projects were deliverable and could demonstrate how LAP could provide worthwhile outcomes for local communities. Will asked if toilet facilities were part of the Lamer Island project. Alasdair advised that they are not. The Harbour Trust will treat toilets as a separate project. It was agreed to refer the 2 subjects for further discussion at LAP.

10. Scottish Heritage Angels: Will had circulated information to Community Councillors. He has submitted a nomination for Dunbar and District History Society.

11. Casual Vacancies – Process: There are 2 vacancies to be filled. A decision on how to proceed was deferred until the next meeting. Jacquie had had contact via the website from John Robertson who is interested in joining. She will advise him of the delay

12. Local Councillors' Reports: N. Hampshire:

1. Housing – The development at Rotary Court is now completed and all let (ELC).

Hart Builders will start next week on the next phase of affordable housing at Hallhill. This will include homes for Castle Rock Edinvar Association and a smaller site for ELC houses.

2. SESPLAN 2 - The strategic plan for the area is going out for public consultation. It was agreed that a public meeting should be arranged as for MIR.

M Veitch – no report

P McLennan – no report

13. Reports from Committees/Meetings attended:

Day Centre – The AGM has been held. The Centre is moving towards Registration. However, some issues have arisen to comply with Care Inspectorate requirements.

Viridor Liaison (now called Dunbar Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) & Landfill Restoration Stakeholder Liaison Group). The first meeting had been held. Stephen circulated information.

The new Viridor Credits steering group was launched on 26th June. Jacquie and Stephen remain on the Panel along with PC Ross, Cllr Veitch and a Rep from Asda.

John Lockwood the Chief Executive had outlined the new guidelines. Less money will be made available with a maximum of £50,000 being available at one time.

14. Correspondence – previously circulated:

Via website – further correspondence from Belhaven, North Carolina – see above.

Via website – John Robertson interested in joining the Community Council. Information on the application process for casual vacancies and the 4 yearly election cycle had been sent by Jacquie.

Via website – Tom Hares, resident of Castle Rock Housing Association in High Street had expressed concerns about renovation work. Jacquie had passed this on to Paul Zochowski at ELC . Paul had contacted Castle Rock. Jacquie had circulated the Castle Rock response and advised Mr Hares.

Via website – Madara Wild – seeking information for a University project on tourism. Jacquie had sent contact information.

Sue Guy – Zero Waste Dunbar –activity at Civic Week.

Scott Kennedy (ELC) – Minutes of Torness Emergency Planning Committee.

Sandy Baptie (ELC) – Severe weather warning for 1 June.

Sandy Baptie – Community Resuscitation Conference.

Dunbar Film Society – Civic Week – short film competition.

Annouska Woods – new Be Green Co-ordinator – willing to come to update on works at Aikengall Wind Farm. Members felt an update was not required at this time as the works mostly affect the East Lammermuir Community Council area.

Stuart Gibb (ELC) – Activities for the “Tour of Britain” Cycle Race.

20s Plenty Campaign – updates including Queen’s Honours to campaigners.

Scottish Community Alliance – post election analysis.

Torness – Community newsletters.

Via ELC – Tree Kits.

Brake – newsletters

West Barns Hall – Hall downtime for repairs in July.

ELC Planning – Community Council Event on SESPLAN Main Issues 2 – Haddington 4 August.

Scottish Government – Consultation on Creating a Fairer Society.

Via website – Spanish family seeking accommodation – information sent to them by Jacquie.

North Light Arts – Artists being sought for Growing Arts Seeds Project

Crown Estates - Report

NHS Lothian - 2015 Annual review on 3rd August. Stephen has been invited but thought Gill might like to attend.

Pippa expressed thanks to Jacquie & Stephen for dealing with mail/website contacts over the Summer.

14. Date of next meeting: This will take place on **Monday 17 August 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar.** (Apologies from A. Massimo).

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.