

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 16th November 2015 in

Council Chambers, Town House, Dunbar at 7 p.m.

Present: S, Bunyan (Chair); J. Bell (Vice-Chair); S. Anderson; W. Collin; H. Coutts;
P Morriss; G. Robertson; P. Swan; G. Wilson

Councillors in attendance: M. Veitch

Others in attendance: A. Woods, BeGreen; R. Fryer & M. Williams, Community Windpower; S. Hood, Environment Officer, East Lothian Council. (M. Brown, Minutes)

CONGRATULATIONS -Stephen Bunyan opened the meeting with **Congratulations to Maria Lyle**, triple medallist in T35 athletics races at the World Championships in Doha - Silver in 100 & 200 metres and Gold in the relay.

REFORMATION – Representatives of the Northern Irish & Scottish Yeomanry E (Lothian & Borders Horse) Squadron attended Remembrance in Dunbar and laid a wreath at the memorial. Stephen & Jacquie spoke to them.

CLOSURE – The East Lothian News is closing. Thanks were given to their reporter, Avril Campbell, for her many years of reporting on Dunbar events.

SYMPATHY – Sympathy and condolences were expressed to the residents of Lignieres (Dunbar's Twin Town in France) in respect of the recent tragic events in Paris. Stephen Bunyan will write on behalf of the CC.

SB

It was also agreed to fly the French Tricolore and the Union flags at half-mast until Friday 19 November as a mark of respect. (Isobel Knox suggested that the Saltire be flown in place of the Union flag but this was not in keeping with the flag policy.)

1. Apologies: - Cllr. N. Hampshire; G. Kerevan MP; A. Swan (Treasurer)

2.Presentation by Anouska Woods, Be Green:

Anouska introduced herself as the Community Co-ordinator for Be Green since February. She explained that Be Green was a non-profit making organisation which offered energy advice and grants to eligible applicants. They also liaised with Changeworks which specialised in fuel poverty. Since moving from the West Port to new premises in the High

Street footfall had trebled and 130 referrals had been made since May. The local schools had also benefitted from talks on energy saving.

Rob Fryer from Community Windpower also spoke to the meeting about the work taking place at Aikengall II where 19 turbines are being installed with an anticipated operational start-up time of December 2016. Phase IIa with a further 19 turbines is currently with Scottish Ministers for consideration.

Stephen Bunyan thanked Anouska and Community Windpower for coming to the meeting. During his presentation Rob Fryer had referred to grants totalling around £100,000. These were administered by Community Windpower but Herbert Coutts proposed that the Community Council should write to them again suggesting a closer relationship with them and also some mutual control of monies. Will Collin seconded this proposal. It was noted that East Lammermuir Community Council receive £70,000 a year from Fred Olsen Renewables who run Crystal Rigg Windfarm which they can disburse for community projects. Stephen Bunyan will write to Community Windpower. **SB**

3. Discussion on Birds: Scott Hood from ELC explained how the Council tried to control the seagull populations in East Lothian by slowing down their breeding process through oiling eggs so that they cannot be hatched. Gulls are particularly an issue in Dunbar and Musselburgh. Members of the public feeding the gulls is a problem and attempts are being made to educate school children as well as adults to prevent this happening. Scott said there was little that could be done with regard to the increased magpie population as these birds were not considered to be a public health hazard. Stephen Bunyan thanked Scott for his input.

4. Minutes of Meeting of October 19th 2015

These were approved by Pippa Swan and seconded by Herbert Coutts.

5. Minutes of Sub-Committees (Civic Week & Christmas Lights):

Sue Anderson reported that active fund raising was taking place for the Lights. Leaflets were ready for distribution to all households. Thanks were expressed to the Rotary Club for their contribution to cover half of the printing costs.

It was anticipated that the Community Council will award supplementary funding to the Lights Committee in January 2016.

Sue has made an application to Community Windpower for financial assistance with the lights and the Community Council offered their strong support for this.

Sue noted that water was coming into the Corn Exchange. The roof is leaking and part of the guttering is missing. Cllr Veitch agreed to look into this.

Stephen intimated that the Christmas Lights photography exhibition will be held at the John Muir Birthplace from 21 November 2015 to January 5th 2016.

6. Police Report:-

Road Safety –

- 3 Traffic tickets were issued.
- At the beginning of November a team of dedicated officers conducted speed checks across East Lothian as well as giving attention to problem areas in Dunbar. One traffic ticket was issued and several motorists were warned and given suitable advice.
- There were several calls regarding 2 males riding a motor bike around the town with no helmets or lights. Officers are following a positive line of enquiry and expect to charge the individuals in the near future.
- A dangerously parked trailer with no registration or reflectors was reported on Countess Road. Police attended and found that the trailer was not in a roadworthy state and therefore had the trailer removed.
- Motorists continue to use the disabled parking area at Countess Crescent. Police will continue to patrol this area and issue penalty notices where appropriate.
- The Scottish Fire Service have also reported to police that persons are using the fire station car park during school pick up and drop off. This may delay the fire service exiting the car park in an emergency. Police are monitoring the situation closely.

Litter: No issues.

Theft: An incident was reported at Dunbar Post Office whereby a male had been involved in a “ringing the changes” fraud incident. Enquiries are ongoing.

There have been a number of thefts from the Co-ops in Dunbar. All suspects are local and again enquiries are ongoing.

Anti-Social Behaviour:

- There were a number of calls to the High Street regarding an ongoing neighbour dispute. Both parties have been involved in ASB and minor vandalisms. Advice has been given to both parties where appropriate and other agencies are aware.
- There have been fewer calls to the High St this month than last. However, there have been a couple to the Friarscroft/Countess Crescent area. Police are aware that the ongoing project by The Ridge between the Co-op car park, Countess Crescent and the vennel heading to the High Street had been attracting some youths. However, the shelter that had been built there has now been taken down and activity in that area seems to have settled down.
- A report of a quad bike at Belhaven Bay was received but on police attending there was no trace of it.

- Related to the previously mentioned males on a motor bike, there were a couple of calls regarding this same bike causing a nuisance at Dunbar Leisure Pool.
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The Dunbar CAPP meeting took place on 14 October 2015 with the following priorities being set:

Dog fouling – the Community Warden is making patrols

Visibility of cyclists – Contact was made with newsagents in the area and advice was given regarding the safety of their paperboys. They were also asked to inform them to stop using the pavements to cycle.

Speeding – Traffic tickets were issued.

The next CAPP meeting will take place on November 25th.

Pippa Swan had been contacted by Stephen Hill of Dunbar Trades Association with regard to the vandalism taking place in the Backlands. Jacquie Bell will raise this at the next CAPP meeting.

It was agreed that the Community Council will assist the Trades Association to produce a leaflet for all High Street residents on how to report problems.

7. Treasurer's Report: This had been circulated by Alasdair Swan

General Fund – The bank balance currently stands at £2047. There has been no income since the last meeting. A £25 standing order has been paid to the Friends of John Muir Birthplace and the Minute Secretary's fees have been paid up to and including the October meeting.

The Christmas Lights Committee has submitted its Risk Assessments to ELC to fulfil its insurance obligations.

Christmas Lights Account – November meeting minutes indicated that progress is being made along the lines of the submitted financial forecast.

Civic Week Account – No update.

Local Priorities Fund – 12 projects have been supported this year with grants totalling £6672.56.

The Local Priorities Budget left for the CC to spend on future projects is £7204.92.

Hippo Fund - Enjoy Leisure has been invited to suggest a project (costing not more than £1300) that would meet the aspirations of Molly Keith.

8. Matters arising (Not on Agenda):

a) Planning Matters:

1) SESPLAN – Main Issues 2 update. A special meeting of ELC to discuss the Local Plan is being held on Tuesday 17 November 2015 at Brunton Hall, Musselburgh.

ii) Development in Conservation areas –

Adverts on Royal Mackintosh railings – the advertisers have been asked to remove them by ELC without success. David Taylor has contacted the hotel directly to ask for their removal as they are in breach of planning regulations in a Conservation area.

Advert on Pick 'N Choose railings – reported to Enforcement.

Sign in Town House window This had been reported to Enforcement. It does not need planning permission.

Cog Art Graffiti – Jimmy Wilson, Community Warden has looked at this. If the graffiti is on private property, without permission, the individual is committing an offence.

iii) Development at 52 High St. (Lothian Hotel) – Dunbar Community Council views were submitted by Jacquie Bell.

iv) Beveridge Row – no further information.

v) 1 Shore Road (Cuckoo Wrasse) – A meeting had been held with ELC planners. 2 areas of work have been requested. The application will go to Scottish Ministers for review which should take about 28 days

vi) Robertson Homes – Dunbar Community Council's views were submitted by Jacquie Bell.

vii) Proposal for 9 flats and parking at Church Street –. This has met with considerable local objection. Dunbar Community Council's objection had been submitted by Jacquie Bell. Pippa Swan has objected on behalf of Dunbar Shore & Harbour Group. The application is linked to development of the Assembly Rooms. Keith Dingwall, ELC planner, has advised that his report is still in preparation and he does not know when the application will come to Planning Committee.

viii) Proposal for 9 flats and 1 house at High Street (Smith's bakery) – Dunbar Community Council views had been submitted by Jacquie Bell.

b) Twinning Links:

Correspondence from Belhaven, North Carolina who are interested in forming Sister City links. Jacquie Bell had advised that we will consider this and is linking with them.

Lignieres – Sue Anderson reported that it has not been possible to erect the Twinning Christmas Light display this year.

Narni have been in contact with Richard Smeed at Dunbar Twinning Association .A response will be given to them.

Martinez. Will Collin gave an update. A Sister City sign has been erected there.

Pippa Swan suggested that there should be a protocol on how to proceed when approaches are made to Dunbar regarding twinning/sister city relationships.

c) A1 Safety: The next Forum meeting is on 4 December 2015. Jacquie Bell will attend.

d) East Beach: Pippa Swan reported that during the recent storm a large hole had appeared in the ramp near the seating area.

e) Community Resilience Planning: The event which took place on 24 October was a great success. Thanks were expressed to Pippa Swan for organising it.

f) Portrait of the Earl of Dunbar: Progress is being made. A different picture has been located at Paxton House and printing will be arranged by Pauline Smeed. Framing is expected to cost in the region of £150. It was agreed to pay this from Local Priorities.

g) Street names: Further suggestions are still required.

h) High Street issues: A special Area Partnership meeting will be held on 8 February 2016.

i) 20s Plenty: A meeting with ELC Officers is to be held in Town House at 9 am on 1 December 2016. The Community Council supports the proposed 20mph areas in the town centre. Other areas could be added.

j) Winterfield Pavilion: Cllr Veitch reported that there has been little progress. A meeting is to be organised. With regret Dunbar Community Council supports the ELC proposals to demolish the structure as it has fallen into dangerous disrepair.

k) Saltire purchase - A new Saltire flag and a new Union Flag have been gifted by Major Tam Fowler. Stephen Bunyan will check the ELC protocol for St Andrew's Day following an e mail from a member of the public. If 2 Saltires are required to fly from the 2 poles he will seek a second one from Major Fowler. **SB**

l) Station Car Park - Cllr Veitch is in discussion with ELC and Scotrail.

9. Local Priorities: 2014-15 Budget.

a) Updates:

Information Board – Parish Church. This has been delivered and will hopefully be erected by Christmas.

Rugby Club – no action yet.

Benches at Yeomanry Memorial – Civic Pride application – nothing further has been heard.

b) New Applications:

The Ridge – polytunnel etc. An application form is still to be received. The application can be discussed once it is received.

Susie Goodwin – seeking £400 for a North Lights Arts Project at the Backlands. Susie is coming to the December meeting. An application form has been sent to her.

RAGES – A request for funding had been made (letter circulated). It was agreed that Stephen Bunyan will advise them to approach the Local Area Partnership as their remit covers a wider area than Dunbar.

10. Local Area Partnership:

Report on meeting on 9 November – Pippa Swan will circulate the minutes in due course.

PS

East Lothian on the Move – Jacquie Bell had attended a meeting last week. Only 13 members of the public had been there. Those present had looked at a list of ideas produced by the Consultants from the feedback from the drop-in session and previous workshop to draw up priorities for the area.

Public meeting – 11 January

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High Street meeting – 8 January.

11. Dunbar Harbour Bylaws: Nothing further.

12. Local Councillor's Reports:

M. Veitch.

a. Local Development Plan

A special meeting is to be held at Brunton Hall on Tuesday 17 November at 10.a.m.

Once agreed by ELC Councillors it will go to the Scottish Government for approval.

There is concern about increase in housing at Newtonlees. There are demands for a new link road to relieve Spott Road and Queens Road.

b. Area Partnership

Funding for projects to develop a garden area behind the Town House and to improve Lighting in Corn Exchange Close and Craig's Close will be taken forward.

c) Closes Leaflet

This has been amended. Cllr Veitch showed a draft. It was noted that the colour contrast used was not good for people with a visual impairment.

d) Cross Country Train Timetable

A new timetable will be issued soon. It may be possible to see improvements once a second platform is erected at Dunbar.

Cllr Hampshire – no report

Cllr McLennan – no report

13. Reports from Committees/Meetings attended:

Day Centre: Gill Wilson reported that the Care Commission is wishing several changes for Registration. The centre has resulted in fewer “drop-ins”. The Centre is seeking more referrals. Jacquie noted that there is an issue with delayed discharge from hospitals which means that some people are unable to attend until they have a package of care to come home. An advertisement for a replacement Depute Manager had produced 1 applicant.

Education Committee: Stephen had attended meeting about Attainment which had proved very interesting and positive.

Dunbar for Syrians: Jacquie Bell had attended. Money is being raised for local UNICEF. Some people are offering to host Syrian families. Jacquie had also attended a cross party meeting in Haddington on 24 October held by East Lothian Welcomes Refugees . ELC is to take 7 families from early 2016. However, it is not known where they will be settled.

The Big Conversation: Gill Wilson, Stephen Bunyan and Jacquie Bell had attended meeting at Brunton Hall on 30 October to discuss Health & Social Care integration. It is likely that decisions on the future of Belhaven and Edington Hospitals and future care home provision in the town will be postponed for some time due to the large scale change in structure and management.

14 Correspondence:

Via website – Keith Rouxel, Australia. Praise for Dunbar toilets near the pool. Passed to toilet cleaner Supervisor via Cllr Veitch. Via website – Glenda Linton. Wanting advice on Planning. Passed to Cllr. Veitch.

Via website – Major Tam Fowler. Offer of Saltire.

Via website – Susie Goodwin, North Lights Arts – wishing to speak to DCC re Backlands community garden project.

Sandy Baptie, ELC – East Lothian forthcoming weather – reassurance.

ELC – Ready for Winter Campaign Briefing.

Be Green re-launch – 3 November at the shop from 2 – 6p.m.

ELC (various) – East Lothian on the Move Workshop.

Avril Campbell – East Lothian News/Musselburgh News closing.

Association of East Lothian Community Councils – Special Event in Haddington Town House on 28 January from 7 – 8.30 p.m.

Brake newsletters.

ELC – 20mph zone in Hallhill area to become permanent.

ELC – following query to DCC from a resident. Beveridge Row/Hospital Road is due to re-open by 7 November. There are no plans to build a road across from the new housing area to West Barns School.

John Muir Day – Working Group meeting 10 December at Silvan House, Corstorphine from 2-4 p.m.

Via website – From Ellen Spinney – Dog fouling. Jacquie had noted that CAPP is aware of this issue and Jimmy Wilson, Community Warden and Community Police will follow up. Dog fouling is a current CAPP priority.

ELC – Sandy Baptie – information on Torness Community Safety.

RELBUS AGM – 24 November in Haddington Town House at 7 p.m.

Via website – ELC Family Hogmanay at The Brunton Theatre.

RAGES RAG.

RAGES – request for funding.

15. Any other competent business:

- Jacquie Bell has reported a number of road and lighting faults to ELC.

- Molly Keith – Framed information is to be displayed at Leisure Pool and also the Day Centre.
- Website - George Robertson is working on this. He aims to make it more visible.
- Pippa Swan noted that the Coat of Arms on signs coming into the town are worn Jacqui Bel will contact Cllr Veitch about this.

JB

- Herbert Coutts suggested that a letter should be written to Enjoy Leisure congratulating them on the upgrade of the Leisure Pool. He also suggested that the litter bins situated in front of the Pool should have some form of camouflage. It was agreed that Stephen Bunyan would do this.

SB

16. Date of Next meeting:

The next meeting will take place on **MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2015** at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Town House.