

# **ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of Meeting Held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar**

### **1) Sederunt/Apologies**

**Present** - Stephen Bunyan (SB) (Chair), George Robertson (GR) (Vice-Chair), Alasdair Swan (AS) (Treasurer), Jacquie Bell (JB) (Secretary), Pippa Swan (PS), Will Collin (WC), Graham Adams (GA), Gill Wilson (GW), Herbert Coutts (HC)

**Councillors Present** – Cllr Sue Kempson, Cllr Norman Hampshire

**Others Present** – Cameron Ritchie (Press), Jill Taylor (Minutes), Diana Green (Member of Public)

*For Belhaven Hospital Item* -Alison MacDonald (NHS– Head of Service/Chief Nurse), Peter Murray (Chair of East Lothian IJB), Eveline James, Marie Saunders, Fraser Hepburn, Lauren Hepburn, John Fyall, Helen Fyall (members of public)

**Apologies** – Ian Hamilton (IH), Sarah Beattie-Smith (SBS)

### ***Congratulations – Dunbar Grammar School students***

Conor Gibson, Euan Campbell, Sandy Purves and Rowan Daff who had come 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Edinburgh and Lothian Maths Enterprise Competition on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Alex Gibb – Winner of the Scottish U14 Road Cycling Championship and Bronze Medal Winner at the Scottish Youth Track Championships.

Aimee Watson and her team – Gold Medallists at the Saltire Open Championships.

Murdo Watson – Under 14 Gold Medal winner at the Hillend Slalom Ski Championships.

Alex Love-Rodgers – Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award through the Boys Brigade

### **2) Minutes of Meeting of September 25<sup>th</sup> 2017**

Agreed with no amendments required. Proposed by AS and seconded by GR.

### **3) Presentation/Discussion, Belhaven Hospital – Peter Murray (Chair of East Lothian IJB) and Alison MacDonald (Chief Nurse/Head of Service -NHS)**

Peter Murray and Alison MacDonald updated on plans for the Hospital. There is a commitment to build a new facility in the long term. A project team has been set up to look at the re-provisioning of assets in Dunbar, North Berwick and Musselburgh. The Belhaven Forum had been re-established in 2017 and Fori are being set up in the other communities.

In the shorter-term options have to be considered for the services provided in Ward 2. Alison MacDonald explained the issues of the current building which does not meet modern standards. It is agreed that the quality of care given by the staff is excellent. A Working Group has drawn up some possible options which are being costed. These will be presented to the Belhaven Forum and subsequently to the IJB.

Mr Fyall expressed concerns that there had been no progress on previous promises to upgrade Belhaven. Mr Murray said that this time there was a Project Team in place and a commitment by the agencies involved to deliver an appropriate modern model of care. This may include current care services but also other ideas like very sheltered housing. It was noted that the coming together of NHS and ELC Adult Social Care budgets should enable joint project working as should the creation of the Integrated Joint Board in April 2016.

PS expressed positivity about the potential provision.

Mr Fyall expressed concerns about the suitability of the current site and suggested building any new facility on land near Asda. It was noted that ELC/NHS do not own that land whereas they do own the land at Belhaven.

The importance of Ward 2 for patients awaiting post hospital care provision in care homes and in the community, was discussed. It was felt important to have a provision close to home as stays can be lengthy. Mrs James and Mrs Saunders noted their own family situations. SB said that he had had contact with David Small about this. He agreed to send information to Alison MacDonald and Peter Murray. **SB**

Mr Murray noted that recommendations from the Belhaven Forum will go to the IJB meeting in December.

#### **4) Police Report**

No police report had been received.

#### **CAPP Priorities from 29<sup>th</sup> August**

*Youths congregating on Lamer Island*

*Speeding in East Linton*

*Misuse of Blue Badge Parking in Countess Crescent*

Next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017

#### **5) Annual General Meeting Business 2017**

##### *a) Chairman's Report*

This had been circulated and was accepted.

##### *b) Confirmation of Office Bearers*

Chair – SB agreed to Chair for one more year -CONFIRMED

Vice-Chair – GR was happy to stay as Vice-Chair -CONFIRMED

Secretary – JB was happy to stay on as Secretary - CONFIRMED

Treasurer – AS was happy to stay as Treasurer – CONFIRMED

*c) Annual Financial Statement for year end March 2017* – This had previously been circulated by AS. Adoption was proposed by JB and seconded by HS. Thanks were given to John Sparksman for his work on checking the accounts. It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Mr Sparksman by the Chair. **SB**

#### **6) Sub-committee Reports**

##### **Christmas Lights**

GA had circulated his report.

The month had been busy and frustrating with technical and admin challenges. EPOG and the paperwork and licenses needed have been an issue.

Road closures have been agreed.

Pull tests have been completed.

Work on the winter lights with timers is nearly complete.

2 new signs are being made – one from DPS and the other from Love Sweets and Ices.

New junction boxes are being installed.

A new tree has been bought for the Town House. Cabling work is to be done to the trees on the island near the Abbey Church.

5<sup>th</sup> Nov – put up date. 26<sup>th</sup> Nov – switch on date.

### **Civic Week**

A Co-ordinator is still required for Civic Week. GR had advertised the vacancy on social media, the website and put up notices with no response. The vacancy had been featured in the Courier. It was agreed that somebody would need to be in place by January 2018. SB had not yet spoken to Sue Anderson about the availability of the existing committee. HC suggested advertising in the Courier but it was not certain if this would bring any response. GR asked if the Co-ordinator should be paid and use of a professional events company like Rogue Village was suggested although this would cost money. It was suggested that the School Parent Councils might be approached. It was suggested by AS and agreed that the remaining members of the Civic Week group (SB, AS and GR) should meet to consider the timescale and tasks involved and determine a way forward with regard to the type of person needed, ways to recruit them and whether or not they should be paid. Contact could also be made with Rogue Village. **SB, GR, AS**

There was a general discussion about EPOG and the potential impact on small community events like the Christmas Lights and Civic Week. It was suggested to Cllrs Hampshire and Kempson that there should be more help with the paperwork and other requirements for smaller groups and that there should be a sliding scale of fees.

### **7) Vacancy**

The Casual Community Council vacancy had been advertised on the website and social media without any response. All agreed that making progress with the Civic Week Co-ordinator vacancy was more urgent than the Community Councillor vacancy. Publicity will continue on social media and the website. Cameron Ritchie will also promote the vacancy in the Courier.

### **8) Treasurer's report**

**a) Monthly Report** - This had been circulated by AS

#### **General Fund:**

- The bank balance is **£1,297.27**
- The annual financial statement was approved (see above)

#### **Christmas Lights Account:**

- The bank balance currently stands at £23,722.99 (last report in August - £22,726.71)
- The financial statement is ready for sign off at this meeting if approved by the Community Council. APPROVED.
- We are approaching the period of high spend when we will activate the winter lights and then the Christmas lights. This work will be co-ordinated with East Lothian Council.
- The next stage of the capital project will be included in the Christmas lights report

#### **Civic Week Account:**

- The bank balance currently stands at £5,771.62
- There has been no recent activity on this account.
- The financial statement is ready for sign off at this meeting if approved by the Community Council. APPROVED.

## b) Local Priorities

The LPF uncommitted Budget for 2017/18 is £9,681.38 (including a small carry over from 2016/17)

Local Priority Grant applications	Amount	Review	Decision
Dunbar Traditional Music Festival	£500	May	Awarded
Civic Week	£2,000	May	Awarded
Christmas Lights Revenue Grant	£2,000	May	Awarded
Hallhill - Pipe Band	£500	May	Awarded
The Reaching Out Group	£500	May	Awarded
Coast to Coast		May	Deferred
Dunbar Rugby Football Club	£500	May	Awarded
Dunbar Traders' Association	£500	May	Awarded
Dunbar Bowling Club	£300	July	Awarded
Woodland Group	£750	August	Awarded
Ist Belhaven Brownies	£200	August	Awarded
Dunbar Primary School - Riding	£900	Sep	Awarded

£8,650

There is just over £1000 left to allocate in the current year.

### Updates

JB had circulated a card of thanks from 1<sup>st</sup> Belhaven Brownies.

AS had written to Mrs Gillanders (Head) at Dunbar Primary School to advise of the grant for Riding for the Disabled transport.

Will Collin had met with Mrs Gillanders and Mrs Albano (Principal Teacher for Support and Inclusion) to discuss funding and other options to support the activity.

### New Applications: -

**Countess Youth Club** – request for £300 equipment to fit out a “chill out” area for young people. JB had advised of other funding sources.

**Dunbar Community Bakery** – £500 requested for equipment and alterations required to meet ELC Environmental Health standards. JB had advised of other funding sources and some funding has already been requested/provided from elsewhere.

SB suggested that these applications, received on the day of the meeting, should be held over so that all members can read and consider them. AS will write to the Youth Club and the Bakery to advise that DCC will consider their applications at the November meeting. AS

It was agreed that all applications should be received at least a week before the monthly meeting. All applications should be submitted via Alasdair Swan for recording and circulation to Community Councillors.

JB and WC both noted that some applicants have had problems with the on- line application form. GR agreed to look at the form and tweak it. **GR**

### **9) Secretary's Report**

This had been circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **Town Maintenance Issues**

- 1) Bollard in Queens Road - still to be replaced
- 2) Queens Road wall - still to be repaired. The Four Seasons Estates Manager is getting quotes to seek budget for repair next year. The Ridge would be willing to give a quote for the work and he has been advised of this.
- 3) Condition of Fairfield, Beveridge Row – still to be sorted.
- 4) Overgrown hedge in Lammermuir Crescent. Still to be cut back. Housing and Jimmy Wilson involved.
- 5) Hospital Road – still needs repair
- 6) Broken light near in Countess Crescent reported and new lamp head fitted. However, it and a nearby light broken and reported for repair. Other lights also reported for repair.
- 7) Bus timetables – still being chased as missing at most stops, particularly Borders Buses.
- 8) Broken street sign – East Links Lane – reported to ELC – still to be replaced.
- 9) Overgrown ransom strips near Cala development – reported to ELC and Cala
- 10) Overgrown hedgerow in Spott Road – reported to ELC
- 11) Water supply issues around Belhaven related to Cala and a burst pipe – reported to Scottish Water

#### **Other**

*Street naming* - some streets e.g. Crowbill Road on the Halhill site seem to have been named without consultation with Dunbar CC. ELC have been contacted about this as street naming strategy specifically notes the role of Community Councils. ELC had advised that the suggestion had come from Dunbar CC in 2012 to honour Bill Crow. SB will follow this up with ELC. **SB**

*Cycle path around housing at Halhill.* JB is following up a contact from Gavin Howat regarding this. Once she has more information, she will contact local cycling contacts e.g. Morag Haddow (Dunbar Cycling Group) and Suzanne Forup (Cycling UK Scotland). **JB**

*Bus Forum* – JB will attend the next meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>, where JB will again raise the bus stop information issue. Borders buses to provide timetables at bus stops. **JB**

### **10) Matters Arising**

#### **a) Planning Matters**

##### ***Updates***

*i) Local Plan* – The Reporter has asked for further information from ELC on some matters. There is still no date set for a Public Inquiry. If an Inquiry is held it may only consider some of the many submissions received.

*ii) Assembly Rooms/Church Street* – JB had fed back to the Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood Group about the DCC discussion with Paul Zochowski of ELC at the September

meeting. The onus is now on the property owners of the Assembly Rooms and associated garden ground to progress ideas with ELC Planning.

iii) *Application at Newtonlees Farm* – This application is due to come to Planning Committee on November 7<sup>th</sup>. JB will attend and speak on behalf of Dunbar Community Council. JB had circulated documents about Gladman who are a UK wide company.

iv) *Robertson/Avant Homes* - Bill Elliot of Scottish Water had advised that temporary permission to link to the existing sewer had been given for the houses that are currently occupied. A permanent pipe route is still to be agreed but he had indicated that it will 100% not utilise the beach. In the meantime, JB had noted DCC objection to application 17/00014/OAP to remove the S75 education contribution for the affordable homes. This request for removal was rejected by ELC Planners on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

There followed a discussion with Cllr Hampshire regarding the types of available affordable homes and the allocation of these in Dunbar. Concern was expressed that some “affordable homes” are still too expensive for some households to consider.

v) *Battleblent House* – no further information. Still to be determined.

vi) *Cala Development, Belhaven* - There had continued to be problems with the roadworks and with safe pedestrian routes between West Barns and Belhaven. There are some concerns that the new path is too close to the main road. Lights had been moved to accommodate it. It may have been possible to leave the lights and place the path further from the road. Water had been again cut off due a burst main in early October. The inappropriate style of a new wall to replace the historic red sandstone one had been reported to ELC without any response. The show home may be ready by November.

vii) *Planning in Conservation Areas*– An application has been submitted in retrospect for the works at McColls (17/00713/LBC, 17/00714/ADV, 17/00715/P). Concerns had been noted to ELC by JB.

17/00804/LBC, 17/00472/P. Concerns had been noted to ELC by JB that the materials used for windows would be better to be in keeping with those in a neighbouring flat in the tenement.

JB had contacted Paul Zochowski at ELC for updated information for property owners/tenants in conservation areas regarding property alterations/advertising consent etc. There had not been a response. JB will chase this. **JB**

viii) *17/00516/P / 1700659/LBC– 8 Seafield Crescent*, SB had written to Angela Leitch with concerns about the planning process with regard to listed buildings. No response had been received. This will be chased. **SB**.

ix) *17/00488/PM* – Erection of 73 houses and 8 flats on land south of Brodie Road, Dunbar. JB had submitted the views of the Community Council. Still to be determined.

#### **New**

*17/00830/P – Extension to Hillside Hotel*. Information had been circulated by JB. Concerns about the development had been received and circulated from the Massimo family who live in the neighbouring property, Rockmount, which will be affected. DCC had previously objected. Concerns continue e.g. development by The Hillside on the property of Rockmount. JB will advise ELC of the continued objection by DCC. **JB**

### **Forthcoming**

*NNG Offshore Windfarm* – a pre-application consultation event had been held on 26<sup>th</sup> September. invitations to local Community Councils had not been circulated by the company and an apology had been received for this omission. JB had attended the event and had circulated information. NNG intend to submit an amended application for a Marine Licence to erect wind turbines in the Firth of Forth. Reps from NNG will attend the DCC meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December. JB will invite members from other Community Councils to attend. **JB**

*Network Rail, New Station Platform* - A formal application is still to be submitted following the recent pre-application consultation.

**b) East Beach** – PS will circulate notes from the recent East Beach Regeneration Group meeting. **PS**

### **c) Cemetery Issues**

**Parish Churchyard.** WC reported that there had been *an* excellent report in the Courier. The public have preferred wildflowers to toppling headstones. WC said that he believes that ELC Amenities are supportive of continuing the pilot initiative. He had e mailed ELC about future plans e.g. will wildflowers be reseeded every year? Will the experiment be extended to the rest of the cemetery? He had not had a response. Cllr Hampshire agreed to take this up. It was noted that staff in some ELC Departments can be slow to respond to Community Council queries. Cllr Hampshire said that ELC Officers should acknowledge receipt of e mails even if they do not have an immediate answer. He suggested that ELC Councillors should be copied in to e mails by Community Councillors so that they can follow matters up if required. **NH**

**New Cemetery Options.** The Group is to have a further meeting. **JB/HC/IH**

### **d) Parks**

*Winterfield* – JB had had no further contact from Bruce Allison, ELC. Friends of Winterfield meet on 17/10 and JB will attend. **JB**

*Lauderdale* – There had been no response to concerns raised to ELC about the need for toilets.

**e) Common Good Properties (Corn Exchange and St Margaret's)** – Maintenance of these properties was discussed. They are the responsibility of ELC. It was felt that they should be kept wind and watertight as a minimum. Cllr Hampshire noted that the Dunbar Common Good fund is insufficient to pay for their maintenance. AS will contact Liz McLean at ELC to discuss. **AS**

HC noted that the Scottish Government are considering the role of Community Councils. Responsibility for Common Good assets may be passed to them. Concern was expressed about the financial and other responsibilities this would involve.

### **f) Belhaven Hospital.**

See item 3.

JB, GW and SB had attended a Belhaven Forum meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup>

There are 2 aspects of the discussions: -

- a) Future re-provisioning of the NHS/ELC facilities at Belhaven, Edington, The Abbey and Esk Green. There is a project team for this. Forums are to be set up in North Berwick and Musselburgh.

- b) The future of Ward 2. JB and GW attended a meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup> of a working group to look at options for the services provided in Ward 2 until a new facility is available on the Belhaven site.

There is agreement that NHS/Care facilities will continue to be provided at the Belhaven site. There is no intention of there not being a facility in Dunbar.

The Belhaven Forum will meet again on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

It is planned to take a paper to the IJB meeting in December 2017.

**g) War Memorial**

HC will write to Angela Leitch, ELC Chief Executive, for approval for works to go ahead. He will update the War Memorial Trust. The extent of the work done will depend on the amount of money that can be raised. **HC**

**h) Dunbar High Street**

Resurfacing work had been carried out.

A High Street upgrade subgroup of DELAP had met. They are planning to do some guerrilla painting. SB noted the colour restrictions for painting in the Conservation Area.

**i) Town Maintenance**

i) Information Boards at the Jubilee Fountain, Brownie Garden, The Glebe need repair. SB had discussed by phone with Stuart Pryde ELC and he will follow up with an email. **SB**

ii) Town House Flags renewal – SB reported that this is in progress. **SB**

iii) Information Board about the Lochend Arch at the Community Woodland. This is being progressed with DCWG and Pauline Smeed. **JB/SB.**

**j) Restoration of Provost Portraits** – SB reported that this is in hand. **SB**

**k) Town House Picture** – PS had written to ELC Museums Service and asked for the picture, which is still available for purchase, to be part of the permanent/semi-permanent display. This picture will be given to the Townhouse Museum once PS has clarification about how it will be displayed. **PS**

**l) Dunbar In Bloom** – a letter of congratulation had been sent by SB.

**11) Local Area Partnership**

DELAP had met on October 2nd

JB had circulated the Review Report of LAPs.

A report on the Summer School Project is to be finalised.

Discussions had been held on future projects for funding including the upgrade of Westgate and the Coastal Pathway/Promenade.

Next meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup>

**12) Local Councillors Reports**

*Cllr Hampshire*

He is still covering for Cllr Innes, Council Leader who is on sick leave. SB had sent a letter to wish Cllr Innes a speedy recovery on behalf of DCC.



ELC officers and Administration councillors continue to work on budget setting. The budget will be tight.

There has been much coverage of Adult Social Care issues in the media, particularly regarding the shortage of care at home packages.

East Lothian Council is the preferred bidder by Scottish Power to buy the Cockenzie Power Station site. A draft master plan is being put together and it will go out for public consultation. There is potential to create a number of jobs. The project is part of the Edinburgh City Region deal.

HC raised the problem of graffiti around the town by DYT. – Cllr Hampshire was aware of this and said that it would be removed by ELC as soon as possible.

*Cllr Kempson*

She is getting to grips with the ELC budget setting process.

She is supporting the DELAP Educational Attainment funding group.

*Cllr McLennan* – no report

### **13) Reports from Committees/Meetings Attended**

#### **a) Day Centre**

GW, JB and SB had attended the Management Committee on September 27<sup>th</sup>. This was the first meeting attended by the new Manager, Jamie McNeil. He had outlined some of his ideas for taking the Centre forward, including ways to involve the community in the work of the Centre.

The new Deputy Manager, Erica, began on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and she is settling well into her new role.

Volunteers for the Management Committee and to help during the day are still required.

Those staff members, Management Committee members and volunteers who had completed the Stirling University Dementia Course had recently received their certificates.

GW reported that the cleaner had resigned.

Next Meeting November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **b) Viridor**

JB and SB had attended. Minutes will be circulated when available.

*Landfill* – Work continues. Midlothian have now moved their contract elsewhere. There are current vacancies for plant operatives as some existing staff have moved to work at the ERF.

*ERF* – Building work progresses. Once complete, the plant will employ 55 people. All operatives are now employed and being trained. Many are local and others previously worked at Cockenzie Power Station.

There is still no Heat Plan. An update is required by January 2018.

An application is to be made to vary the SEPA licence to increase the tonnage that can be disposed of at the plant from 300,000 tonnes to 320,000 per annum. This waste will all come from the west of Scotland by road.

There was a long discussion about safety at the Cement Works junction where there have been further accidents/near misses. Concerns were raised about the cumulative impact of vehicular

movements including those from Viridor as well as from the many new homes being built in the area.

c) *John Muir Country Park* – WC and SB had attended. Work is going forward on improving the promenade to make public access easier, including those with disabilities. GR, on behalf of DELAP had applied to Viridor Credits for funding to upgrade the promenade further. A decision is awaited from Viridor Credits.

d) *Tarmac* – GR couldn't attend the last meeting. There had been concerns on social media about ash falling on cars around Halhill and the Walker Homes following a fire at the plant. GR agreed to find out more about this event and the notification process for incidents at the plant. JB will contact the SEPA Inspector linked to the Plant for further information on SEPAs response to the incident.

**JB/GR**

#### **14) Correspondence – previously circulated**

**NNG Offshore Wind** – A Pre -application consultation event had been held between 2-8 pm on 26<sup>th</sup> September at the Bleachingfield Centre. JB had attended. Following further contacts NNG Reps will attend the December meeting to give more information.

**RAGES** – eRAG

**Via website -Christine Symon** – Concerns about appearance of the High Street. JB had responded.

**Via website – Paul Beveridge, Ministry Design** – information about Gladman. JB had responded and passed the information on to Planning Democracy

**Via website – John Hutchison** – Concerns about off shore Windfarm. JB had responded

**Via website – John Hutchison** – concerns about the Bear and East Beach. JB and PS had responded.

**Christine Dora, ELC** – Community Fire and Rescue Plan for East Lothian – comments accepted until mid-December

**Via Website – Gavin Howat** – concerns about safe routes for pedestrians/cycling from new estates. JB had responded and passed to LAP. JB will follow up with Mr Howat and cycling reps.

**Planning Democracy** – information on Gladman

**Torness** – newsletter

**Local People Leading** – newsletter

**Via Website** – Lothian Buses – newsletter

**Lilian Pryde, ELC** – Community Training Calendar

**Louise Bluett, Strive** – Inspiring Volunteers Awards nominations – closing date October 11<sup>th</sup>

**1<sup>st</sup> Belhaven Brownies** – Thank you card for the £200 grant

**Christine Dora, ELC** – ELC Consultation on Eligibility Strategy for Carers – for individual on-line responses by 31<sup>st</sup> December

**Christine Dora, ELC** – EL Health Inequalities Alliance, seminar on closing the Gap in Inequalities, 5-7pm at Brunton Hall, Musselburgh on October 25<sup>th</sup>

**Christine Dora, ELC** – East Lothian Plan 2017-27

**Sue Northrop** – Dementia Friendly East Lothian Newsletter

**Mark Beattie** – Thanks for the DCC support for the Jimmy Bain Memorial Project. A statue has now been created and plaques will be installed in the town.

**Via Facebook** – Karen Bell-Jenkins, Countess Youth Club. Request for funding. JB had sent a Local Priorities application form and advised of other funding sources.

**ELC** – Request for nominations for the annual Star Awards

**Lilian Pryde** – Edinburgh Airport Airspace Change Programme – update

**Will Colin** – Geology talk at John Muir Birthplace. 7 pm at the Townhouse on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**ELHA** – Newsletter

**DSHNG** – Minutes of October meeting

#### **15) AOCB**

**ELC Star Awards – nominations.** Nominations are requested for exceptional service from ELC employees. There was discussion about nominations from DCC. It was agreed to nominate Stuart Gibb, Lorna McLennan, Lilian Pryde and a staff member staff at Dunbar Recycling Centre whose name will be checked. PS will process the nominations. **PS**

#### **16) Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7pm

Mike Wilson will attend to discuss Gala Day with a Paintbrush.

Apologies submitted by AS and PS.