

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting held on 15th October 2018 in the Council Chambers, Dunbar Town House

AGENDA

1) Sederunt – Stephen Bunyan (SB) (Outgoing Chair), Pippa Swan (PS) (Incoming Chair), George Robertson (GR) (Outgoing Vice-Chair), Graham Adams (GA) (Incoming Vice Chair), Alasdair Swan (AS) (Treasurer), Jacquie Bell (JB) (Secretary), Will Collin (WC), Herbert Coutts (HC), Ian Hamilton (IH), Gill Wilson (GW)

Councillors in Attendance – Cllr Hampshire

Others Present – Lynne Lewis (Interested in membership), Cameron Ritchie (Press), Romie Blair (Dunbar Against Litter), Mike Shaw (Member of the Public)

Apologies – PC Ross, Catherine Finlayson (Member of the Public – interested in joining)

CONGRATULATIONS – *Maria Lyle* – Winner of the Gold Medal in T35 100 metres at the European Championships in Berlin. Maria has also been awarded the title of Scottish Disability Sportsperson of the Year.

The Ridge Backlands Garden and Dunbar in Bloom for winning the Young People Award at the Beautiful Scotland Awards.

The Ridge have been given an Award by the Royal Horticultural Society for their work on the Backlands, particularly the wall repairs.

Dunbar in Bloom for winning a silver gilt medal in the Coastal Town category of the Beautiful Scotland Awards.

Dunbar Harbour Trust for their Award for the restoration of the Battery.

Dunbar Primary School staff for winning the Excellence in Public Learning Award for Schools and Learning Communities given by the General Teaching Council of Scotland – only 1 of 5 Scottish schools to receive the award.

Kieran Fairbairn – for becoming the youngest member of the Dunbar Lifeboat crew. He is following other members of his family.

CONDOLENCES – Jacquie following the death of her cousin, Beryl, in August.

OBITUARY – Jeanne-Pierre Bordeaux – longstanding member of the Lignieres twinning organisation who had visited Dunbar on a number of occasions and whom many Dunbar twidders had met when visiting Lignieres. He was a very interesting teacher of English.

2) Minutes of Meeting of August 20th 2018 - Approved *Proposed PS, Seconded GW*

3) Annual Meeting Business

Chairman's Report – circulated. SB noted that this was longer than usual as it was his final report as Chair. The report told of the history of the Community Council which SB had joined on its formation in 1976. It also recalled events of 2017-18.

SB noted that although standing down as Chair he would be continuing as an ordinary Community Councillor.

The full report is presented, with the agreement of SB, as an Appendix to the minutes.

SB was thanked for his many years of service to Dunbar CC. Members and others present gave him a round of applause.

Treasurer's Annual Accounts

AS advised that the draft accounts are with the Independent Examiner (John Sparksman). They will be circulated once ready.

Election of Office Bearers

Chair – Pippa Swan (Proposed SB, Seconded GW)

Vice Chair – George Robertson stood down as he had been elected as Chair of the Area Partnership. He was thanked for all his hard work.

Elected – Graham Adams (Proposed AS, Seconded GW)

Treasurer – Alasdair Swan (Proposed JB, Seconded GA)

Secretary – Jacquie Bell (Proposed PS, Seconded AS) GR commended JB for her diligent work on behalf of Dunbar Community Council and the wider community.

Appointments to Outside Bodies

Torness – Alasdair Swan

Viridor - Jacquie Bell and Stephen Bunyan

Tarmac -George Robertson

John Muir Birthplace Trust – Will Collin

John Muir Country Park – Stephen Bunyan and Will Collin

Dunbar Community Development Company – Stephen Bunyan. Gill Wilson and Herbert Coutts represent other groups in the town.

Dunbar and East Linton Local Area Partnership – George is now Chair and has voting rights in that capacity.

Gill Wilson is a member as rep of day centres for older people.

Jacquie Bell is Vice Chair and a rep of Dunbar CC. Stephen Bunyan will continue as her substitute.

Pippa Swan (past DELAP Chair) has replaced George Robertson as an ordinary member. Her substitute will be Alasdair Swan.

Town House Working Group – Stephen Bunyan and Will Collin

4)Police Report – Circulated

PC Ross and PC Stewart were unable to attend. They sent a message of thanks to SB for his many years of work for the Dunbar community and the calm yet authoritative manner of his Chairmanship of the Community Council.

Road Safety

Numerous calls to the A1 but nothing of note.

Antisocial Behaviour

It is hare coursing season. Any incidents should be reported to the Police immediately. The public should keep at a distance and pass on details of descriptions (people and dogs) as well as vehicle registration numbers.

After a period of few complaints about youth anti-social behaviour the last 2 weekends had seen large numbers of youths congregating at Lochend near the Ashfield playpark. There was evidence of alcohol consumption and damage to a park bench. There have also been fire raising incidents in Lochend Woods. Police and the Community Warden are giving the area as much attention as possible.

Theft

In the last week there had been about 15 reports of milk thefts from the area of new housing at the West end of Brodie Road. On Sunday 14th October a male had been arrested and charged with all thefts.

At around 19.40 on October 14th an attempted robbery had taken place at the Rigg petrol station. The culprit had fled empty handed. Enquiries are ongoing. Members noted the bravery of the female cashier at the garage who had refused to hand over money and had raised the alarm by the panic button. It was agreed that a message of commendation would be sent to her. **JB**

CAPP Priorities from 12th September
Youths and adults cycling on pavements
Speeding in 20mph trial zones
Parking complaints in East Linton
Next Capp –22nd October

20mph – The experimental Scheme has continued.. Many people are unhappy with the extent of it. The limit is being widely ignored. It is an 18 month trial. Changes could be made sooner but ELC have limited manpower to monitor. In the meantime speed checks are being carried out by Police.

The reactive signs at Queens Road and Bayswell Road have been altered to allow for the new limit. There had been some issues with the Queens Road sign defaulting to thanking those driving at 30. Following contact from JB, ELC engineers repaired it. JB has asked if a reactive sign can be moved back to Belhaven Road.

Belhaven issues – Residents of the village are happy with the 20 mph on side streets. Local Reps have had a meeting with Alan Stubbs and Marshall Greenshields of ELC to discuss some local issues e.g. traffic on Duke Street, Back Road Safety, Shore Road junction and safe crossing points across Belhaven High Street. These will be looked at. Jacquie had noted to ELC that there are also other issues on the other side of the village e.g. Beveridge Row, Brewery Lane junction, localised flooding. A Eweford resident had raised concerns about potential alterations to the road network between the hamlet and Belhaven

Children on Lauderdale Park wall – a member of the public had raised concerns via the DCC website about children climbing on the wall. ELC aware and police informed by JB.

Travellers – various issues – passed to Police and ELC. Travellers have been in the area for a couple of months and moving between Skateraw, the Cement works junction, Newtonlees and Beltonford. ELC Legal services have been involved with a large camp at Newtonlees. Residents there have been disappointed by the slow progress of legal action due a backlog of work at Edinburgh Sheriff Court. A resident has also noted unpaid Vehicle Tax on some vehicles at the camp. Cllr Hampshire noted the complications of legal actions needed to move travellers on. The situation has been made more difficult by court action needing to be taken in Edinburgh instead of Haddington following the closure of Haddington Sheriff Court.

Cameras around Spott Road area – Cllr Hampshire noted that these had been erected by Robertson Homes to conduct a traffic flow survey.

Cut Out Cops – PC Ross had sent information on this initiative which had been discussed at the recent CAPP. He was seeking support from the 4 Community Councils in the ward to obtain these to assist with speed issues. There was general support for the idea from members although there was a keenness that the cut outs must be supplemented by real Police officers. JB will advise PC Ross. **JB**

Community Speedwatch – PC Ross had circulated information on this initiative which allows communities opportunity to address speeding concerns in their own area. It depends on volunteers. PC Ross had sent an indication of the costs involved and suggested local community councils may share equipment. It was felt this may be something to be raised at Area Partnership level given the costs and manpower required.

5) Dunbar Against Litter (DAL) Report

PS had contacted Romie Blair about preferred bin sites.

Romie noted progress since the last meeting. There had been a meeting with DAL, Cllr Hampshire and Tom Reid (ELC Head of Infrastructure which includes Waste Services). They had discussed bin sites.

There have been discussions with private companies, particularly ASDA and McDonalds who will trial bins and if successful will buy their own.

There have been discussions about rubbish at St Andrews House which seem to be related to change over of residents.

DAL have an increasing number of volunteers covering areas around the town.

It was agreed that a DAL Report would be a standing item for Community Council meetings so that Romie can update on progress of the initiative.

6) Sub-Committee Reports

Christmas Lights - GA had circulated his report. A successful ceilidh had been held which had raised around £800.

ELC had given permission for the lights to be erected.

Volunteers would be needed for manning road barriers and moving the display from the Corn Exchange on 4th November.

An annual competition is to be arranged to involve local children with the lights. The subject of the competition will be arranged annually. There will be a new Thelma Band Trophy which will reflect the work of Thelma Band with the school and the lights.

Switch On will be on 25th November. Full details will be shared when finalised.

Civic Week – No report.

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7) Vacancies

Minute Secretary – Still vacant. JB is covering meantime.

Members –A number of people had expressed an interest via Facebook and e mail. They had been invited to observe this meeting. One person had given apologies but remains interested.

Lynne Lewis noted her interest in joining. She spoke of her involvement with the area.

Having previously been a teacher at Dunbar Primary School she had moved to the town in June 2018. She had been a member of the Preston Seton Gosford Local Area Partnership and had been Chair of the Preston Lodge Parent Council.

It was agreed that Lynne would observe the meeting and liaise with JB if she wished to join.

Members could then consider her application prior to the next meeting. **JB/LL**

8) Treasurer's report – circulated

a) General

General Fund – The bank balance is £1159.63 (£165.43 in August).

The Civic Pride Fund of £1000 had been received.

Since the last bank statement £500 had been received from Viridor Communities Fund for Remembrance Day events and £20 had been received from Dunbar Probus Club.

Christmas Lights Account – The bank balance is £14763.99 (August £15085.05). Four donations of £250 each had been received from businesses advertising through the Christmas Lights.

Civic Week Account – The bank balance is £5661.74 (August £5695.66).

b) Local Priorities

New Applications

Dunbar Basics Foodbank - £100 agreed by e mail towards request of £175 for outing on September 17th. A note of thanks had been received.

St Anne's Peace Garden - £500 requested for a public garden area. This was approved subject to other funding being obtained.

Halhill - £500 for the 2018 Pipe Band competition held in May. Also a query if DCC could help with funding of CCTV for the centre. There were concerns about the late application for an event that had happened a number of months previously. It was noted that concerns had been raised about a previous late application. It was agreed that SB and Cllr Hampshire would discuss with the applicant and report back to the next meeting. **SB/NH**

Dunbar Parkrun - £500 for set up costs. Lynne Lewis gave more information. It was agreed to fund subject to monies being available from other sources.

9) Secretary's Report – circulated

Town Maintenance Issues

- 1) Queens Road wall. Still to be repaired. Gordon Paterson of Four Seasons had said that surveyors had looked at the wall in 2017 and 2018 and had noted remedial work to be done. However, they did not feel it to be in danger of imminent collapse or a risk to the public. He has offered to meet Andy, The Ridge stonemason, re works. In the meantime, on the advice of Paul Zochowski JB contacted Frank Fairgrieve at Building Control who had been to look at the wall. He has written to Mr Paterson to request that repairs are carried out before the wall deteriorates further and does become at risk of collapse.
- 2) Condition of Fairfield, Beveridge Row – still to be sorted. Getting worse.
- 3) Hospital Road – still needs repair. Getting worse. Dangerous for cyclists.
- 4) Bus time information at bus stops. Borders information has appeared at some stops. Unfortunately in places they obscure other timetables
- 5) Broken Street Lights - reported to ELC – new website has an interactive map to mark faults.
- 6) Overgrown trees in Beveridge Row – reported to ELC
- 7) Pot holes – still too many to record. All passed to ELC. Some have been repaired. New ELC site wants individual mapping of potholes!!
- 8) Lack of street name signs at Gospatrick Grange – Taylor Wimpey still to provide and are to look at this.
- 9) Faded signs at Countess Crescent, Belhaven Road (near Grahame Place and The Sycamores) and Westgate – repaired.
- 10) Via member of the public – damaged Give Way sign at junction of Spott Road with Queens Road – passed to ELC. Repaired.
- 11) Via member of the public – sign post to John Muir Country Park near Winterfield Park seems to be pointing in the wrong direction – has led to some confusion for tourists. Passed to ELC It is meant to indicate the footway but the sign is unclear as the picture of a walker is on the spine of the post and hard to see. It is not certain how to improve it.
- 12) Via member of the public. Request for a bench on the Promenade near Dunbar Golf Course. Passed to ELC.

- 13) Bridge to Nowhere – steps badly eroded and crumbling. Passed to ELC.
- 14) Via Member of the Public- broken Give Way sign at Junction of West Port and High Street – passed to ELC. There is a roundabout sign and now a 20 roundel on the broken triangle!
- 16) Large pole marking the out of bounds area at Winterfield golf course – ELC asked if it needs to be so high.
- 18) Via member of public – dog fouling in Gospatrick Grange area – wishing warning signs – passed to ELC
- 21) Collapsing walls along Hospital Road – passed to ELC. Building Control will follow up.
- 22) Via member of public – damage to pavement, wall and road due to erosion by water/debris from Cala site. Passed to ELC, Scottish Water and Cala. There are problems with blocked drainage around the site. Building control will follow this up.
- 23) Problems of speed bumps with pot holes near Bleachingfield – passed to ELC
- 24) Via member of public Dangerous bus stop in Belhaven Road – passed to ELC.
- 25) Via Facebook -Flooding in wet weather near Lethendry, North Road. Seems to be due to blocked drains. Passed to ELC
- 26) Continued Issues at One Way System with people driving the wrong way e.g. turning right out of the station. . Some signs are facing the wrong way or badly faded. Passed to ELC. They are not keen to erect new signage but faded signs will be replaced.
- 27) Blocked drain at Castle Street near Dolphin Hotel – passed to ELC
- 28) Large hole near Welcome to Dunbar sign at Robertson Homes. Planting was to have been provided by the developer but it has not been done. The plastic fencing is falling down. Passed to ELC.
- 29) Damaged wall in Edinburgh Road , Belhaven – passed to ELC. Building Control will follow up.

Meetings

Dunbar Trades Association 11th September

Efforts are being made to recruit new members.

Discover Dunbar leaflets had been widely distributed. There has also been publicity via storeies in the press and also TV coverage of the stonestacking championships.

Lothian Buses had put information about Dunbar on some of their fleet. In the future the successful open top bus trips to East Lothian may be extended to Dunbar.

Concerns were raised that the DTA banners had not been erected on the High Street.

The Town Catalyst project has been delayed . This is planned to use the old Lothian Computer shop as a pop up shop where potential traders can be based for around 6 months.

After this time , if their business is doing OK, they can be helped to find a High Street property for use on a permanent basis. The project has a Board who will select tenants for the shop – a condition is that they must not displace existing businesses.

It is thought that somebody will be taking over the RBS building.

Members were concerned about the extent of the 20 mph limit.

There was concern that the outcome of the Transport Strategy/Parking Consultation was not yet available.

Members were unhappy about the prospect of Back Road being closed off, There was support for a pavement along the road to make it safer for pedestrians.

There will be no Shop Local Programme this year. Instead their will be an East Lothian Gift Card.

Be Green will be producing an annual newsletter – DTA members may have a free advert in the publication which is widely distributed around the area.

There was discussion about a possible project to provide information boards at the historic closes

Dunbar Trades Association 9th October

Richard Baty had attended from ELC Economic Development. He noted that the Gift Card Scheme had been delayed.

ELC will no longer give funding to DTA. They will need to apply to DCC or DELAP for funding of specific projects.

DTA would like to explore ways to encourage people into the High Street and Town Centre. A Quiz was suggested about Dunbar and local businesses.

CARS was discussed. Local owners and businesses had had letter from ELC about this. It was noted that this may be a way to help fund information at the Historic closes.

Members were concerned about S75 monies from new housing in the town e.g. a recently approved development at Halhill being used for improvements in Tranent and Musselburgh town centres rather than in Dunbar.

DTA would still like a Town Centre Manager to promote the town. They would like improved Tourist information facilities.

DTA remain opposed to Town Centre Parking Charges. It was understood that this issue would be discussed as part of the wider Transport Strategy at ELC on 30/10.

East Lothian Housing Association AGM – 21st September

ELHA is now 30 years old. It has expanded greatly over the years. Turnover in the last year was 8.3 million.

New properties continue to be built including at Garrison Green in Dunbar. Altogether ELHA has 1297 properties. There is a very high level of tenant satisfaction with the homes provided – 100% in some communities.

Universal Credit is proving an issue- slow claim processes are leading to rent arrears.

Climate Change Consultation 24th September

This was a drop in event. There were boards with summaries of ELC achievements to date and areas currently being tackled. There were opportunities for the public to give their ideas (via post it notes) on other actions that could be made locally to reduce waste and carbon emissions in East Lothian e.g. recycling, active transport.

Services

Lack of Post Boxes south of the railway line. Raised by a member of the public. As new houses have been built no additional post boxes have been installed. There only seems to be one at Kellie Road. JB asked Royal Mail to see if further boxes could be installed. They state that no box should be more than half a mile of a delivery point (letter box). They have surveyed and agreed to install a new box on Brodie Road near Moray Avenue.

Via member of public Out of Order Car Charging Points at Bleachingfield and Station – passed to ELC. They advised that ELC is changing its contractor who will repair/replace broken charge points and install new ones. There is a scheme by which people without private parking can request an on street charging point. From ELC. Funds are available to help with this from the Energy Savings Trust.

Via member of the public – Lack of public transport along Brodie Road etc. Raised at Planning Committee on 3rd October. Cllr Hampshire noted that operators are willing to

deliver a service and this needs further discussion as to how it can be delivered. A full turning circle will only be possible once the whole development is completed.

Via member of the public. Request for further bike racks in Dunbar High Street. Passed to ELC Active Travel Officer (Iain Reid) and ELC Sustainability and Climate Change Officer (Jennifer Lothian). Ian Reid advises that ELC have no plans to install further racks but if there is a feeling they are needed they could be funded by DELAP or DCC. An number of people have responded to say they would like more provision.

Via Member of the Public – concerns about not being able to recycle some compostable materials locally – passed to ELC.

Other

Cycle paths around housing south of the railway line This is still being looked at. It is part of discussions with Sustrans on a number of safe routes.

Safe footway Beveridge Row to Brewery Lane – This will be a route between Cala and Belhaven/DGS. However, not part of the works done by Cala for safety. It was a condition of the Planning Permission in February 2017. Cala say they paid ELC for the work to be done. Ian McFarlane is asking for a timescale from Grant Talac.

Blocked route from Newtonlees to ASDA – still to be completed at the expense of Robertson/Avant.

Idling vehicle engines (particularly taxis) at Station – Raised by a member of the Public who is concerned about fumes at Kings Court. I had contact with Harry Barker of the Community Rail Partnership and Morag Haddow of ELC Transportation. Kirstie McNeill at ELC Licensing said that the issue was not really their responsibility but passed the concerns on to Environmental Health. Lesley Stevenson at Scotrail said that it was for ELC to enforce what is an offence. Jennifer Lothian, ELC Sustainability and Climate Change officer has also passed to Environmental Health.

Crossing at Middlemass Road near to Moray Avenue and playpark. A member of the public has suggested a crossing in this area. JB has passed to ELC.

Travellers. Raised by a member of the public concerned about the rubbish left behind and wishing ELC to seek ways to prevent incursions at places like Skateraw and Broxburn. There has been an encampment near the entrance to the Cement Works/Viridor. Mentioned to Cllr Hampshire and passed to ELC. Residents at Broxburn/Newtonlees have noted a further encampment which ELC are dealing with. Residents are concerned by the slow progress of legal action and are wanting preventative measures put into place.

Co-working. Sustaining Dunbar are running pop up co-working sessions from 9.30-12.30 on Thursday mornings. They have been at the Rocks and Dunmuir Hotel. There has been good attendance. In the meantime a Feasibility Study is being carried out as to the viability of the old ELC Housing Office as a Co-working space.

BBC Question Time – JB was in the audience on October 11th. I noted local issues of Universal Credit benefit.

10) Matters Arising

a) Planning Matters

Updates

i) Local Plan – JB had responded to the ELC Action Plan. The LDP had been approved by Scottish Ministers. It will be ratified by ELC on October 30th.

.ii) 17/00313/PPBattleblent House – Had been refused by ELC.

iii) *17/00488/PM* – Erection of 68 houses on land south of Brodie Road, Dunbar. JB had attended Planning Committee on 3rd October and noted that although supportive of the scheme within the LDP there were some concerns e.g. limited number of social housing properties for rent., no single storey properties (flats had been removed from the proposal), need for robust monitoring of factoring of green space, need for public transport and active travel networks, S75 contributions being used to support town centre improvements in Tranent and Musselburgh rather than Dunbar.. The topics of need for bungalows and public transport had been supported by ELC members.

iv) *17/00292/P, 17/00011/LRB = Bear*. Still to be decided. Still with Scottish Ministers who have asked for more time to determine. JB had circulated information from Iain McFarlane, v) *Golf Club* – GR had circulated an update from the Club. Plan development is still ongoing.

vi) *NNG Windfarm* – The new Marine Licence application has been submitted to Scottish Ministers and advertised in the local press. Further information had been requested by Ministers on the effects of the turbines on ornithology. This had been the subject of a further Public Notice in the press. JB had circulated the report. The matter is now with Marine Scotland.

vii) *Viridor ERF* – JB had circulated an update on the hot commissioning process which had begun. There had been some comments about the work on social media. Some residents of the Pinkertons had expressed concern that they were not regularly contacted on developments by Viridor or the Cement works. Jacquie had passed on their contact details to Viridor public affairs for this to be rectified.

Sarah Mietzitis at SEPA had confirmed that no radioactive medical waste will be incinerated at the plant. This had also been confirmed by Viridor staff at the September Liaison meeting.

viii) *Playparks./Open Spaces* JB had circulated information from the planners in response to questions from Cllr Kempson about the issues. In the meantime 2 open areas at Middlemass Road had been advertised for sale at Auction as investment opportunities on September 12th by Future Property Auctions. JB had contacted them for more information and noted the restrictions on the use of the areas within ELC planning rules. She had been sent information on the plots including title deeds which show that home owners are responsible for maintenance of the open spaces; The plots had not sold and will be auctioned again on 23rd October although offers can be made at any time. GA noted continued concerns by residents about lack of engagement by Greenbelt. JB will liaise with GA on this matter. **JB/GA**

ix) *Cala* – Some concerns had been raised about the new access road onto Beveridge Row. Some residents have expressed concern about the volume of traffic along Beveridge Row. JB had contacted ELC and clarified that as yet there are no plans for a TRO to change vehicle access on Beveridge Row. Cllr Hampshire noted possible options for traffic movements around the area e.g. being directed around a new road around the Cala estate. A local resident had noted concerns about muddy debris from the site eroding the edge of Edinburgh Road. A hole was undermining the wall at one point when heavy rain overwhelmed silted up gutters and flooded the grassy area behind the wall. A repair to the pavement following sewer works is collapsing. ELC, Scottish Water and Cala had been informed by JB.

A Planning condition had been a pavement between Beveridge Row and Brewery Lane. JB had made enquiries about this. Cala say they paid a contribution for the work to be done by ELC. Iain McFarlane has contacted Grant Talac at ELC to find out the timescale.

x) *Gladman* – The concerns of local residents continue

xi) *18/00739/P, 18/000738/LBC – Works at Belhaven Brewery*. JB had submitted DCC views to ELC. The application had been approved.

- xii) *Surf Centre* – some residents have continued concerns
- xiii) *18/00846/P – Extension to 1a Duke Street, Belhaven.* JB had circulated proposals for this extension to an infill property on garden ground in the conservation area. The application was withdrawn by the applicants on 9th October.
- xiv) *18/00004/OBC – Modification of numbers of property types* on a development West of Brodie Road approved in 2009. Agreed provided the total number of units does not exceed the agreed 525.
- xv) *Alterations to Seagreen,- Bravo and Alpha and Inch Cape offshore Windfarms.* These are off the Angus coastline. JB had circulated information. They do not directly affect Dunbar. As with NNG the developments were held up by the RSPB Court Action. Again the developers are seeking fewer but larger turbines. They have had to provide habitat reports.
- xvi) *Extension to Crystal Rigg Windfarm.* JB had circulated information. The extension is in Scottish Borders jurisdiction. It does not affect Dunbar.
- xvii) *18/00981/P – Change of use from office and public open space to a children’s nursery at 56 Warrender Crescent.* JB had circulated information. It seems that permission had been given in 2008 to change a shop to an office. In 2015 permission had been given to change the office including open space to a nursery. Work had been about to start in September 2018 but the permission needed renewal.
- xviii) *Proposals for Murals by James Page at Knox Newsagent and Victoria Street.* DCC members had general concerns about this proposal which had been circulated by GR. There were concerns that the murals would need planning permission as they would be in a conservation area. There were also questions about the designs that might be proposed. It was felt that other sites in the town might be more appropriate. It was agreed that GR would feed back to Mr Page. **GR**

Planning will be the main theme of the AELCC meeting on October 30th. Iain McFarlane will be in attendance to answer questions.

JB will be attending a seminar on Planning in Edinburgh on October 23rd.

b) East Beach – PS had circulated an update from the September meeting of the Regeneration Group.
PS had circulated updated information on groyne design.

c) Cemetery Issues –

Parish Church – Wild flower planting is still desired from the DELAP Amenities Budget but there has been no progress as spending reductions would be needed elsewhere.
Newtonlees – A Planning application is still to be submitted by ELC.

d) Parks

Winterfield – An article in The Courier on 24/8 had said that ELC were still consulting on proposals. John Hutchison (member of the public) had written to Stuart Gibb to raise concerns about the consultation process. PS had met with Bruce Allison who is still to collate feedback from the consultation.

Lauderdale- The café tenant has vacated. Thus there are thus no toilet facilities. WC raised concerns about this which were shared by other members. Cllr Hampshire noted that efforts were being made to find another tenant.

e) Common Good Buildings -Corn Exchange

It had been suggested at the DELAP meeting that the CARS bid (see below) may include repairs. JB had passed on more information to Paul Zochowski with a suggestion that he should liaise with GA and PS. PS had advised Paul that work to make the building wind and watertight was to go ahead and that the building was intended to be a long term home for the Christmas Lights Team as well as a base for Amenity Services staff.

GA noted that roof repairs were to commence at the end of the month. This would take about 6 weeks.

GA advised that the costs of upgrading electrics, toilet and kitchen facilities were being explored. This would need ELC permission but the labour would be free for the majority of the work.

f) Health and Social Care Services

JB had circulated an update Newsletter on the re-provisioning of hospitals and ELC care services for older people including Belhaven. The report expected at the August IJB meeting had been delayed. Jane Ogden-Smith has advised that another newsletter is in preparation.

JB had followed up information that patients are being moved to a previously closed ward at Belhaven without response from ELHSCP.

Volunteers from Belhaven Community Garden had visited patients at Belhaven Hospital and Lammermuir House to share sensory experiences from plants in the gardens e.g. flower pressing and scents.

A recent survey and report for the IJB had shown a reduction in people's confidence in provision of health and social care services.

JB and GW had attended a meeting on October 4th at The Bleachingfield Centre. From press information it was thought to be linked to the survey and report. However, it proved to be part of a consultation on future provision for adults with complex needs and mental health support needs. There had been a discussion on what people valued about current services and what they would like in the future. Other meetings are being held around East Lothian along with an on line consultation for a report to be produced for the IJB.

g)War Commemoration

i) *War Memorial* – A further meeting of the Working Group had been held on September 28th. HC had circulated a report.

Members had been pleased to view the completed phase 1 of the work to clean the monument, restore the bronze cross etc.

The 2nd phase is in hand. It will include new paving, the carving of "We Will Remember Them," in front of the monument and the addition of GWR Griffin to the names.

The investigation of possible other names is continuing.

ii) *Armistice Centenary* – update. Will had circulated a programme of events.

It was agreed that donations from events would go to BLESMA and the Mark Wright Centre (for recovery of younger service personnel) at Erskine in Gilmerton. JB agreed to get more information on the latter. **JB**

iii) SB will arrange wreaths for 11th November. **SB**

h) Dunbar High Street

Further painting work had been done and well received.

The wrong paint had been delivered for the last batch of painting. If temperatures and weather allow further painting will be done commencing with the Community Bakery building. Paint has been secured for the West Port and only machine hire costs need to be found. PPG will partly fund this for supplying the wrong paint.

Dunbar had not been shortlisted for the Great British High Street Competition in the Rising Star category.

The Area Partnership had heard from Paul Zochowski and Jamie Baker of the proposed CARS Scheme (see below) for funding to upgrade conservation area buildings.

Sustaining Dunbar have been granted funding for a Feasibility Study to consider the use of the old Housing Office as a co-working space.

A member of the public has asked if further bike racks could be provided. JB had contacted ELC staff about this. ELC are not considering further racks but they could be provided by DCC/DELAP if there is interest. Social Media responses do indicate an interest. At present funds are not available.

i)Town Maintenance

Information Board about the Lochend Arch at the Community Woodland – in hand.

j) Restoration of Provost Portraits – in hand. Museum Service involved.

k) Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust – JB was still waiting on a response from Mr Bannerman who has been unwell.

East Lammern CC will be unveiling a memorial at Skateraw. PS and AS will attend.

West Barns CC are placing their memorial in the Remembrance Garden.

l) Dust fall – JB had circulated information from Sarah Mietzitis at SEPA. Tarmac have been given a warning by SEPA following the Autumn dust falls. A report is still ongoing into the May events.

GR had circulated a letter from Tarmac regarding the incidents.

m) Resilience Sandy Baptie. still wished names for the resilience event in Musselburgh on October 27th. Transport would now be provided. JB would be attending.

JB had advised Sandy Baptie that DCC has opted to only have one contact person.

n) Community Council Chair Nameboard / Installation of Stephen's Portrait at Town House

JB had fed back to Jo Moulin DCC views on this. SB and GR had also had discussion on the requirements.

Space had been made for SBs portrait in the Council chamber. This was presented to him.

However, HC was concerned that some vellum documents had been placed near heat sources.

This was said to be a temporary arrangement. Further discussion will be needed. **SB/WC**

o) Bleachingfield

Staffing Helen Harper has now replaced Jo McNamara as Manager of the Bleachingfield and Dunbar Community Development Worker. She had attended DELAP.

Notices and Leaflets - SB had taken up the issue of information leaflets being removed and all posters having to be laminated. It seems paper notices are considered to be a fire hazard. It had been discussed by members of the Bleachingfield Management Committee at a meeting on September 3rd attended by SB and GW. JB had raised the issue with Jennifer Lothian the ELC Climate Change Officer at the Climate Change consultation session on September 24th. She had not been aware of the new ruling.

p) Back Road – IH had contacted ELC. Alan Stubbs had advised that there were no current plans to block the road up. Any proposals would need public consultation and a TRO

procedure. Some Belhaven residents had met with Alan Stubbs and Marshall Greenshields of ELC PS had circulated a note of the meeting from Alan Stubbs.. JB had spoken to Iain Reid of ELC at the Climate Change Consultation. He was preparing a brief for consideration by Sustrans to look at this amongst a number of areas in Dunbar and wider East Lothian. A meeting was to be held on September 26th. A resident of Kirk Park has been in contact with concerns about the possibility of the road being closed off and JB had responded.

.11)Local Area Partnership

A meeting had been held on October 1st. George Robertson is now Chair with Jacquie Bell and Barry Craighead of Dunpender CC as Vice Chairs.

Paul Zochowski and Jamie Baker (Town Centre Regeneration Officer) had given a presentation on CARS (Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme) for which ELC are proposing to make a bid to Historic Environment Scotland.. This could include repairs to prominent buildings like the Abbey Church as well as to other properties in common ownership. Funds could also be available for educational projects e.g. for information boards on the historic closes as proposed by DTA.

George reported on the final funding decisions of the Education Sub Group – to give monies to Relax Kids, Support from the Start and The Ridge.

The Summer School had been well received and a report will be prepared. 134 children had taken part over the summer holiday period.

The Education budget will be reduced in the next financial year. It will be moved to the auspices of the Education Department. A mechanism for the operation of this is being considered.

There was further discussion about the Back Road pavement project. It may be possible to deliver part of this. A wider project is being considered by Sustrans.

Suez Landfill Trust has given an award towards the costs of upgrading the Promenade. An application to Wren is still outstanding. Match funding from DELAP will be needed to allow for further work to go ahead. GR was thanked for his work on this project.

Standing Orders for Area Partnerships have been changed. Mandatory Training for members will now be expected.

GW had updated on the slow progress of the re-provisioning discussions for Belhaven and other Health and Social Care resources. It was agreed to establish a Health and Social Care sub group. This will be led by Gill.

Jacquie, Barry and George had met with Stuart Gibb for an induction session on October 9th. There will be a meeting of the East Lothian Partnership Forum on 8th November in Musselburgh.

DELAP has been invited to send reps to a Centenary Remembrance service in Haddington on November 10th. Jacquie and Barry will attend. **JB**

12)Local Councillors Reports

Cllr Hampshire - Cllr Hampshire noted that Scottish Ministers had agreed the LDP. Considerable infrastructure will be needed to deliver it.

Cllr Hampshire noted issues with travellers (See Police Report).

Cllr Kempson – no report

Cllr McLennan – no report

13) Meetings Attended

Anniversary of Battle of Dunbar 1650 Parade- SB had attended on September 3rd

Soldier Ride 2018 – A number of members had waved off the fundraising cycle ride by BLESMA on October 5th. A piper had been in attendance. Alastair Cope of BLESMA had sent a note of thanks with a Video. GR had asked how Dunbar CC might make a contribution to the group.

Day Centre

The AGM had been held on August 22nd. GW continues as Chair and JB as Vice Chair. Some new Committee members have joined.

New staff have been appointed. Deputy Manager, Erica, gave birth to a little girl called Willow in early September.

Some service users have sadly died or moved into care. New referrals are being picked up. The boiler is needing attention.

A coffee morning was held on October 6th.

Viridor

JB had attended on September 26th

Landfill – Work progresses The plant had appeared in a TV documentary. The longevity of the plant is not certain. An incinerator is being built by another company at Millerhill. This will take waste from Edinburgh and Midlothian.

ERF -Development continues. Drone footage of the development was shown. Information will continue to be given on the commissioning work. It was noted that some residents at the Pinkertons have not been kept informed and Jacquie had passed on their details.

IH had previously asked about the incineration of radioactive medical waste. Sarah Mietzitis of SEPA had indicated that this was not part of the licence for Oxwellmains. Viridor staff confirmed that low grade medical waste would not be incinerated at the plant. It was noted that a plant in London has a special licence to deal with medical Iodine. HES deals with Scottish medical waste. There are no concerns regarding HES operations in Scotland following the recent medical waste problems affecting the company in England.

Heat Plan – There is still no definite heat plan. Discussions with potential users continue. It may be necessary to seek users to develop facilities to use the heat near the facility on Viridor land rather than find users outwith the perimeter.

14) Promoting Our Town

Dunbar had entered the Great British High Street competition but not been shortlisted.(See above).

DTA members would like improved Tourist information services.

.15)Correspondence – previously circulated

Via e mail – Linda Fibinger – interested in membership

Via e mail – Lesley Stocks – interested in membership

Via Facebook – Catherine Finlayson – interested in membership

Via Facebook – Lynne Lewis – interested in membership

RAGES Rag – newsletter and information on AGM

Sandy Baptie – Chase up of Resilience Survey

Scottish Community Alliance – Local People Leading newsletters

Via Facebook – Shiona Liddle, Dunbar Parish Church – Funding for Foodbank outing.

Jacquie had advised to apply to Local Priorities.

Via e mail – Alistair Cope- Soldier Ride send off 5th October – George and Jacquie had responded to request for help with arrangements and publicity.

Via Facebook – Rob McDougall – support for the 20mph

Brake – Newsletters

Via e mail – Lilian Pryde -- Scottish Government Making Places Initiative

Via E Mail – PAS via Lilian Pryde – Offering to assist communities with Making Places initiatives

Via email – Lilian Pryde – Scottish Community Councils newsletter

Via e mail – Claire Goodwin – Creating Carer Friendly Communities – 7-9pm on 17/9 at Brunton Hall

John Hutchinson – concerns about DELAP consultation on Winterfield Park

Via e mail Helen McNeil – interested in joining

Jane Ogden-Smith, ELHSC Partnership – Update on the Growing Older project to redevelop services

Via e mail – Morag Haddow ELC – ELC/Energy Savings Trust Consultation on Electric Vehicles

Via E mail – Lilian Pryde – Improvement Service – Uncovering the Environment Project at University of Dundee

Via Facebook – Fred Bassett – faulty electric car charging points – passed to ELC

Via Facebook – Rosemary Wake – dangerous bus stop in Belhaven Road – passed to ELC

Jennifer Lothian, ELC – Climate Change Strategy Consultation. Dunbar Event on September 24th

Lilian Pryde, ELC – ELC 2018 Guide to Community Participation

Henry Weaver, RNLI – Meeting on plans to improve Dunbar Lifeboat Station – 10 am on October 20th

Jean Squires, ELC Planning – Consultation on Inch Cape Windfarm proposals.(variation)

Jean Squires, ELC Planning – Consultation on Crystal Rigg Windfarm

Alison Cosgrove, Community Rail Partnership – AGM at 6 pm on October 16th at QMU.

Ralph Averbuch, AELCC Meeting – 6.30 on October 30th in Haddington

Jo Moulin, ELC – Use of Town House Chamber/Provost Nameboard and Pictures

Sandy Baptie, ELC – Weather Warnings

Via Lilian Pryde – North Berwick CC- query about Remembrance arrangements – Jacquie had responded

Alison Cosgrove, East Lothian Community Rail Partnership – Unveiling of planter at North Berwick Station on 30/10

Via website – Matt Marshall – Concerns about Travellers– passed to ELC

Sue Northrop- Dementia Friendly East Lothian - Gathering on 10th and 11th October and Newsletter

Planning Democracy – Demonstration at Holyrood on September 26th

Royal Mail – Tackling Scam Mail

Seagreen Wind Energy Ltd -CD on Wind farm proposals

Via website – Tom Dickson – Concerns about proposals for Back Road, Belhaven – effects on Kirk Park residents. Jacquie had responded.

Kirstie McNeill, ELC – Newsletter for ELC Community Councils

AELCC- Meeting with Iain McFarlane of ELC Planning on 30th October

Shiona Liddle, Dunbar Parish Church – Thanks for the grant

Via Facebook- Nick Mailer – query about the access route from the Cala site. Jacquie had responded

Via Website- Julie Wilson – Children Climbing on Lauderdale Park wall – passed to ELC and Police

Via Facebook – Louise Burnett – Concerns about lack of public transport to new housing. Jacquie had responded

Via Facebook – Herman Flat. Concerns about fire raising in Lochend Woods near Leslie way. Passed to DCWG and Police.

Lilian Pryde – Training Activities

Via Website – Lesley Stocks – Traveller issues at Newtonlees. Also concerns from other residents at Newtonlees and Broxburn.

Twinning Association – newsletter. They have a fundraising tea at Belhaven Church – 3pm on November 24th.

Lilian Pryde – Training events in October and November – all held in Musselburgh Education Centre.

Via website -Louise Hardy – Requesting further bike racks in the High Street. Passed to ELC

Via Facebook – Lynne Lewis- Asking how to apply for funds. Jacquie had advised of the Local Priority application process.

Via Facebook – Anne Trodden – query about building work in Warrender Crescent. Jacquie had advised that this is the conversion from office to nursery.

Sandy Baptie – Weather Warning

Claire Goodwin, ELC – East Lothian Partnership Forum on 8/11

Alastair Cope, BLESMA – Thanks for the support and send off

Sue Northrop, DFEL – Friendship Group with information about Meeting Support Centres, December 21st at Royal McIntosh Hotel.

Via Facebook- Claire Berwick – Request for a crossing in Middlemass Road. Passed to ELC

David Wight – issues with recycling facilities – passed to ELC

Ian Affleck – Query about Cameras in Spott Road area. Passed to ELC and Police

John Robertson/Newtonlees residents -concerns about Gladman development

Pauline Jaffray – DTA minutes and priorities

16) AOB

a) GR again noted thanks to SB for his years of service. A portrait was presented and hung in the chamber.

b) HC suggested that the names of poets with local connections might be considered for future street names e.g. Robert Burns had visited the town.

17) Date of Next Meeting November 19th

Angela Leitch will attend

DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF OCTOBER 15th, 2018

APPENDIX

Chairman's Report 2018

I have, normally, at this stage in the year looked at the highlights of our year that has passed.

This time, as I am standing down from the chair, I feel that should look further back to our beginning and perhaps, if not saying 'vale atque vale' on my own account, point to some other people who played a part over the years.

I am not writing a history. If anyone wants to do so we have a full archive at the John Gray Centre.

The act of 1973 provided for the creation of Regional and District councils and in part 4 of the act it provided for the creation of Community Councils where they were wanted.

The new system came into operation in May 1975.

The loss of the Burgh Councils was keenly felt.

In Dunbar's case the status of the Burgh had been confirmed in the Burgh charter of David II in 1370 and Royal Burgh status was granted in the charter of James II in 1445.

There was a realisation at the time that efforts would have to be made to safeguard a sense of identity and community.

Provost James proposed that we should establish a Civic Week. This was done, and it and it still continues.

A group of people, but with no former councillors, met and formed an interim community council.

This was initially chaired by Rennie Weatherhead. A vigorous proponent was Molly Keith who took on the role of secretary a role which she fulfilled till shortly before her death in October 1991.

We placed a plaque in her memory in the Leisure Pool in 2014 and named a street, Molly Keith Place, after her. Molly was largely responsible for the founding of the Day centre and I have been on its committee since it was founded.

The first meeting of the Community Council was held on 20th July 1976 in the presence of Malcolm Duncan, Director of Administration, at East Lothian Council, who took the chair and of Dr Russell Welsh, District councillor.

Mr. Duncan intimated that seven people had been elected for six areas.

Area 1, David Bertram

2, two vacancies

3, Sylvia Elliot and one vacancy

4, John Burke

5, W. Alan French and two vacancies "

6, Molly Keith and Stephen Bunyan

Mr Duncan said these seven people were now Dunbar Community Council approved under the 1973 Act. They could, but did not need to, fill the vacancies. This led straight away to discussion about changing the system because some willing candidates had not been elected.

This was accomplished in two stages and there is now only one ward.

David Bertram was chairman from 1976-1979.

I was chairman from 1979-1982. I demitted office while I was a District Councillor but remained a member of the Community Council during that period.

Daniel Cairney was chair from 1992-97 when he left the council. I was reappointed and have served as chair until now.

The Community Council has played an important part in the life of the Community and I have represented the Community Council in many aspects of local life.

I do not propose to give a complete resume of 42 years but will mention some key points.

The Community Council supported the Civic week and I chaired the committee until recently when Sue Anderson took over and reinvigorated it. I am honoured to be its Hon president.

The Community Council supported the Twinning Link with Lignieres. I was District Councillor when it was inaugurated and signed the documents. I chaired the twinning committee until recently and have been made Hon President. I have enjoyed the contacts with Lignieres and am delighted that we are able to arrange useful contacts particularly for the young people of both communities.

In May 1979, improvements were made to the Victoria Ballroom but shortly afterwards the barracks, including the ballroom, were demolished. An important archaeological dig was undertaken, and the new leisure Pool replaced Dunbar's outdoor pool which was demolished in 1984. Dunbar has also developed the Healthy Living centre and The Bleaching field centre and I represent the Community council on the both.

I was a member of the Dunbar Initiative committee and am glad that we were able to accomplish a regeneration of the Town centre.

I am glad that there is increased awareness of the importance of our history and environment and in particular of the part played by John Muir. His birthplace is now an important point of pilgrimage as is the John Muir walk.

The last year has been important.

Obituary- Dan Cairney, former chairman, died on 9th May 2018 at Muirfield Nursing Home His wife died on August 1st.

At the meeting in October 2017 the officers and members of council were confirmed in their positions and attempts were made to fill vacancies. Sarah Beattie Smith joined us for a time but had to resign. Sarah Covey was adopted as a member and helped with Civic Week. She has since resigned. Rowena Halliday joined in February, but her husband's work took her out of Dunbar and she has resigned. We still have vacancies.

At the October meeting congratulations were offered to various pupils of the Grammar School for a series of important achievements and we are delighted that there have been further developments of this kind.

The problem of the continuation of Civic Week was discussed. George Robertson and Alasdair Swan agreed to work to make it possible at least for this year and they were very successful.

There was some discussion about the Bowe cup and other awards and the need for an award which made it necessary to recognise a team effort and taking account of groups which included non-residents in the burgh area. In the course of the year new guidelines were agreed and I was delighted that a new award in my name should be instituted. It was agreed that it should be awarded to a group.

There was important discussion about the way forward for Belhaven hospital and at a meeting of the integrated joint board on 21st December it was agreed that ward 2 should close. There was considerable opposition to this proposal. It has now come to pass, and new work is in hand. A new forum is to consider provision for the elderly in Dunbar.

On 31st May the Royal Bank of Scotland closed its branch in Dunbar. This was felt to be a great blow by many in the community.

The Community Council has made contributions from the Civic Pride to a wide range of groups and this support has been greatly appreciated.

We are particularly grateful to Graham Adams and his team, for their marvellous lighting displays and also for his wonderful painting enterprise in the High Street. This has received wide acclaim.

We were delighted that Pippa and Alasdair Swann were joint recipients of the Rotary award for their great contribution to life in Dunbar.

Jo. MacNamara retired on 25th June after twenty years' service as Community Education officer. She gave service to the community beyond the call of duty.

During the year a subcommittee, led by Herbert Coutts, has looked at the need to upgrade the War memorial. This work is largely completed and phase one should be complete by 11th November 2018.

Will Collin and Alasdair Swan have made a plan in line with the national proposal 'Battle's Over' to commemorate the centenary of the end of the Great War. In line with the national proposals we are to have the last post at the Beacon site at 6.55 pm, the beacon at 7pm and local bells at 7.05. These will ring along with those of at least a 1000 other churches and cathedrals in the UK and others throughout the commonwealth at local time.

In June An exhibition was held to commemorate 60 years of the Sea Cadets. Sadly Chris Jamieson, a founder member died just short of the anniversary.

The Community council Awards night was held in Civic Week. It was a most enjoyable evening.

Our policy of awarding certificates to a range of citizens is appreciated.

Awards were as follows

Bowe Cup

Ryan Marshall for his contribution to the Boys Brigade

Certificates

Edward Alsop for his achievements in swimming.

Abigail and Lauren Everard for their success in ballet.

Alex Gibb for his proficiency in cycling.

Struan Young for his skill playing the piano accordion.

Zosia Kuczok for her part in the great success in the Mock Court competition.

Community Award

James Thompson for his contribution to Probus, Rotary DDHS and the JMB

Certificates

Sue Anderson for her great contribution to Civic Week.

Alexandra Davey for her efforts for the disabled access Campaign.

Veronica Davies for long term service to the RNLI.

Julia Friar Dunbar for her huge input to the Dunbar School of dancing.

Hannah Lavery for establishing Coast Word which has gone from strength to strength.

Richard Taylor for his Work with children in his capacity as the Christian Youth Worker.

Stephen Bunyan Award

Dunbar Grammar School Debating Team success in Debating which has won national acclaim.

Certificate

Belhaven community garden group which has created this important therapeutic initiative.

Area Partnership.

Dunbar Community council works closely with Dunbar Area Partnership which has been successfully chaired by Pippa Swan. Many important projects have been completed in Dunbar.

Pippa Swan has now resigned from the chair and has been succeeded by George Robertson
Jacquie Bell is Vice Chair together with Barry Craighead from East Linton .

Conclusion

I realise that this is not a complete account but is long enough. It gives a flavour of what we do ...

We are hearing reactions to our 20mph scheme and we are still looking for a way forward with our discussions on the state of the graveyards.

PS Volunteer I note that Kieran Fairbairn [17 and still at school] has been accepted as a member of the crew of Dunbar Lifeboat. He is following in the steps of his father and other family members who have made an enormous contribution to the work of the RNLI in Dunbar. We wish him well.

Finally

I would like to thank the Community Council for its support and encouragement over the years and for its patience when I have ridden hobby horses. I wish it well for the years to come but I am not quitting just yet.

Stephen Bunyan 15.10.18