

# **Community Council Open Meeting MINUTES**

# Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

7pm Council Chambers, Town House, Dunbar

Ref	Item			
1.00	SEDERUNT – Pippa Swan (PS)(Chair), Graham Adams (GA)(Vice Chair) (from 7.30),			
	Alasdair Swan (AS)(Treasurer), Jacquie Bell (JB)(Secretary), Sanchita Patjoshi (SP), Kevin			
	Searle (KS), Mark James (MJ), Terry Prior (TP), Cllr Norman Hampshire (NH), Cameron			
	Ritchie (Press)			
1.01	Welcome – PS welcomed all to the meeting, the first of 2023.			
1.02	Analogica Chamban Bunan (CD) Cill Wilson (CW) Bou Keith Mills Clls Lun Iardina			
1.02	Apologies - Stephen Bunyan (SB), Gill Wilson (GW), Rev Keith Mills, Cllr Lyn Jardine,			
3.00	Fiona O'Donnell (VCEL), Catherine Dunning  DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST			
3.01	Councillors declaring an interest in matters to be discussed: - None			
4.00	MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – November 21st 2022			
4.01	Amendments - None			
4.02	Adoption - ADOPTED			
	Proposed - AS			
	Seconded - TP			
4.03	DCC Action Review			
	All action items had been attended to or had been overtaken by events			
	AS and JB had made various payments			
	<ul> <li>JB and SB had visited the Scouts on November 22<sup>nd</sup></li> </ul>			
	PS had followed up actions on the Changing Places Changing Room			
4.04	Matters arising not covered in agenda –			
	1. Changing Places Changing Room - PS and PMcL had exchanged emails re			
	funding. PS is awaiting replies from Paul McLennan and from Cross Party subject			
	leader, Paul O'Kane, seeking confirmation that the £10m of funding for			
	Changing Places rooms is still available and for confirmation on how to access			
	this. Multiple approaches to Mr O'Kane have been met with silence. PS had	PS		
	written to Minister Kevin Stewart, John Swinney, Craig Hoy MSP and Cllr			
	Jardine. Craig Hoy was offering to ask questions at Holyrood. PS was			
	disappointed that although the promise to fund Changing Places facilities had			
	been in the Scottish Government programme funding did not seem to have			
	been made available. PS will be attending a meeting of the Cross Party Group.			
	2. Your Town Audit - ELC had confirmed that there was no funding available to			
	support a Your Town Audit. ELC are planning to undertake county wide town			
	audits over the coming year. PS noted that the information might have been			

	helpful in production of a Local Place Plan. It was hoped that the information from the ELC audit may be available in time to be considered as part of that process. (See Item 8.03).	
5.00	ELC COUNCILLOR REPORTS	
5.01	<ul> <li>Cllr Norman Hampshire -</li> <li>1. Action - Update and Matters Arising  a. Stench at Station/ Wider drainage matters – NH said that issues seemed to have been resolved. He had not detected odours recently. JB advised that there were still regular problems. The most affected local resident was keeping a log of incidents for Scottish Water. Scottish Water were trying to contact Robertson Homes as the problem had started when their system was connected to the main system in Countess Road in Summer 2021. KS suggested that the problem was closer to the source of the smell than Robertson Homes. It was agreed that residents should pass any further incidents to Scottish Water.</li> <li>b. Beveridge Row to Brewery Lane Pavement- NH said that ELC had appointed Stantec as consultants to draw up proposals for the roads network around Belhaven. JB noted that local residents group, Friends of Belhaven, wished to be involved in the drawing up of ideas as had been discussed at previous meetings with ELC Officers. They had submitted a Participation request to ELC in 2021 indicating their wish to be included in matters affecting the community. It was agreed that NH would request a meeting with Stantec, DCC, ELC, DELAP and Friends of Belhaven</li> </ul>	NH
	<ul> <li>c. U194 Closure- JB noted that the road had been found to be closed after the DCC meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> November. There had been no public information. There have been numerous concerns about public safety, particularly of school children using the route to get to DGS. There is still no signage from the A1 or from Edinburgh Road to indicate that the road is closed despite messages to ELC Roads, Bear and Transport Scotland. NH agreed to raise this with ELC Officers.</li> </ul>	
	2. Report  ELC Finances. NH spoke of ELC's tight financial situation as the budget setting meeting approaches on February 28 <sup>th</sup> . The deficit expected for the year is around £18 million. New responsibilities have been given by Scottish Government that need to be covered. East Lothian is expanding and new schools have been built which need to be staffed and maintained. Some tough choices will need to be made. Some council buildings will need to be closed. JB noted the recently announced closure of Esk Green the ELC run care home at Musselburgh. NH said that residents would be moved to other care homes and arrangements made for staff.	
5.02	<u>Cllr Donna Collins</u> – Not present	
5.03	<u>Cllr Lyn Jardine</u> – Not present	
5.04	Questions/Concerns to Councillors (See Community Report)  1. Cliff Top Trail- Following contact with DCC by a member of the public the path above the Eye Cave had been closed by ELC on grounds of safety on 3 <sup>rd</sup> January.  NH advised that extensive cracks had been found in the cliff below the path.	200 2 of 3

There were also shifts in the strata further along the cliffs. Work will be conducted by AG Thomson to remedy the situation so that the path, which is part of the John Muir Way, may be reopened to the public. JB noted thanks to ELC Officers for their prompt action to make the path safe over the holiday period. 2. Building Site at DunBear Park a) The fencing had fallen down frequently due to wind over the last couple of weeks. JB had had contact with the landowner, construction company and ELC regarding it being re- erected. ELC officers had queried if a more robust fencing may be put into place. In the meantime the fence will be monitored. b) On 16<sup>th</sup> January KS had noted lorries crossing the path to the DunBear statue. This had been raised with ELC Officers, the landowner and construction company and the path had been blocked off in the interests of safety. The construction company had said they would be using the current site entrance from near ASDA until they could agree an access point from the Old A1. JB had noted that this route may raise objection from the residents of Broxburn and Newtonlees Steading. 3. <u>Building Site Debris- This continues to be an issue, especially at the Robertson</u> Homes Site. There are frequent concerns from residents of Broxburn and Newtonlees. Rubbish clearance has tended to fall to DAL volunteers. JB had raised with ELC officers. Use of covered skips was questioned. NH said that the NH problem had come up at Planning Committee discussions for other sites in the county. However, developers were not keen to have such a planning condition as the covering of the skip took time. NH agreed to raise with ELC officers. **4.** <u>CAPP</u> – The meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December had been cancelled. Members requested a new date to discuss community concerns. NH noted issues in arranging a meeting with Police available to attend. He agreed to arrange a meeting as soon as possible. SP suggested an online meeting which NH thought may be possible NH although JB said that this would mean that some community reps would not be able to attend as they had no digital access. 5. Overnight Parking at Coastal Car Parks – This was due to be discussed at the ELC Cabinet meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January. There is a proposal to introduce a TRO to prevent overnight parking. This followed issues at coastal sites around the county including Belhaven Bay e.g. from wild campers who did not keep to countryside rules. NH confirmed that there was a proposal to allow pre booked campervan parking at Shore Road and Whitesands. This might work like the NH popular Aire system in France. JB noted that Belhaven residents had concerns about such a proposal for Shore Road e.g. about chemiloo waste disposal, noise near residential properties and road safety. They wished to be consulted. NH said that consultation would take place with residents as part of the process of introducing the new measures.

# 6.00 TREASURER'S REPORT – See Community Report 1.00 6.01 Matters arising/questions 1. Sub Committee Finances AS asked the Sub Committee Chairs for updates on potential spending. a) Christmas Lights – GA noted the significant cost of vandalism to the tree at the Town House which necessitates repair. GA agreed to update AS on costings for other proposed purchases.

	b) <u>Civic Week - SP noted some of the proposals for Civic Week which will need to be funded.</u> The Committee would be meeting on 23 <sup>rd</sup> January. She agreed to update AS after that meeting.	PS/AS
<b>7.00</b>	Requests for Support for consideration:   Local Priorities Fund     Surf Centre defibrillator battery replacement - AS had circulated information. He had had contact with John Montgomery of First Responders who had added the machine to their maintenance list. Thus there would be no cost to the Surf Centre and a DCC grant would not be required.   Community Benefits Fund     Dunbar Day Centre Boiler   £8431-70 approved by e mail and paid. A note of thanks had been received. Boiler being fitted 12 and 13 January.   Covid Fund     The Ridge - Emergency support funding - £6316-79 approved by e mail. Paid 6th January. This payment cleared the Covid Fund account.   COMMUNITY REPORT - circulated by email in advance of DCC Meeting and addended The Community Report provides information and updates on:   DCC Finances   Health and Social Care Provision   Roads and Infrastructure maintenance   Record of meetings attended   Record of meetings attended   Correspondence received   Correspondence received	
7.01	<ol> <li>Matters arising/questions other than Planning and Licensing Matters:         <ol> <li>Concerns raised with Councillors at 5.04.</li> <li>Bike Parking – Dunbar High Street. Requests for ELC funded sites for additional cycle racks had been submitted to ELC in 2022 via DELAP. PS and MJ had been discussing sites further. There was discussion about the type of cycle racks that would be most appropriate.</li> <li>Anderson Monument – SB not present. No further information.</li> <li>Dunbar Christmas Lights Report (See 5.01) – Members commended GA and his team on another successful display. Photos had appeared on the BBC News weather. GA noted the vandalism to the tree at the Town House which would cost at least £500 to rectify.</li></ol></li></ol>	
8.00	PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS - circulated by email in advance of DCC Meeting as part of COMMUNITY REPORT (JB)	
8.01	Planning Applications for consideration/Discussion – None	
8.02	<u>Licensing Applications for Consideration/Discussion</u> - None	

8.03	Local Place Plan 2025- 2035  PS gave background on the concept of Local Place Plans which local authorities may take into account when preparing their Local Development Plans (LDP). The next ELC LDP will be developed over the next couple of years. Community bodies including community councils may develop plans. However, ELC Officers have indicated that funding is not available to support local groups.  DCC reps and DTA reps had met in December (minutes circulated by PS) to consider how best to manage public consultation on the formation of a Local Place Plan for Dunbar and West Barns. Jo Waddell of DTA has taken an active lead and DCC will work with DTA to support a consultation event that will form part of the DTA 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations on 17 <sup>th</sup> January. Further community engagement e/g. by consultations events and surveys will be considered.	
9.00	<ul> <li>DCC – Communicating with our Community</li> <li>Questions for discussion: <ul> <li>Are our meetings adequately advertised?</li> <li>Is our agenda sufficiently broad?</li> <li>Does the Community Report have value in its current form?</li> <li>Are we getting our comms right on Facebook?</li> <li>Do we need to revisit the layout and management of our website?</li> </ul> </li> <li>GW who had raised the topic at the November 2022 meeting was not present. Other members were also not present. It was therefore agreed to defer discussion to the February meeting. In the meantime, PS asked members to consider the denoted topics in preparation for that meeting.</li> </ul>	
10.00	Any Other Business	
10.01	Vacancies – There are still 2 vacancies. JB noted that she promoted the vacancies on Facebook when advising of the upcoming meetings. Cameron Ritchie was again asked to promote the vacancies on Facebook. Members were asked to encourage anyone they knew to join.	ALL
10.02		
10.02	Sustaining Dunbar Event  Creating a Wellbeing Economy – 7.30pm on 31st January at Dunbar Parish Church Hall.  There will be a presentation from the economist Dr Katherine Trebeck on how community action can create wellbeing economies that put people and planet first. Also present will be a number of students from the global south who are studying at the University of Flensburg in Germany. They are coming on placement to Dunbar where they will be looking at various community energy projects. They will be staying at the Dolphin Inn.  Booking for the event is via Eventbrite.	
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# **COMMUNITY REPORT January 2023**

This report is compiled by DCC Secretary, Jacquie Bell, and is updated monthly in advance of DCC Open Meetings. Questions or queries may be addressed to: <a href="mailto:dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com">dunbarcommunitycouncil@gmail.com</a>

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1.00	DCC FINANCE REPORT				
1.01	DCC and Sub-Committee Accounts				
	General Account:				
	The bank statement balance at the	e end of December was £ <b>145,032.84</b>			
	• The restricted funds held within the month –	the General Account were, at the end of			
		£			
	Community Windpower F	und 129,953.45			
	Covid Fund	£6,316.79			
	Access for All Fund	£759.00			
	Local Priorities Fund	£7,510.89			
	TOTAL RESTRICTED FUND	£144,540.13			
	<ul> <li>The unrestricted funds held within the General Account were, at the month end-</li> </ul>				
	Balance in the General Fu	nd £ 492.71			
	TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FU	NDS £492.71			
	TOTAL FUNDS				
	£145,032.84				
	The Covid Fund was trans	ferred to			
	The Ridge in January 2023				
	contribute towards the co				
	support workers to meet				
	those referred by a range	of support			

agencies to The Ridge, Post Covid who are suffering from the combined effects of the Pandemic and increasing price/cost of living costs.

# **Christmas Lights Account:**

- The bank balance at the month end stood at £ 10,737.92
- During November and December fundraising gave an income of £3197
- Donations at Swich On came to £962
- All of the above costs were needed to cover the costs of running the Christmas Lights event and the costs of maintaining the lights.

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

• The bank balance at the month end was £7,688.07

# **Dunbar against Litter Account:**

• The bank balance at the month end was £2,670.89

# 1.02 **Local Priorities Fund**

The Current Year Fund £10,200 Brought forward fund £3,477

Committed or under review £6,658
Local Priorities Fund available £7,019
Maximum Budget Total £13,677

To Be Paid – Battery Plants £491

# 1.03 **Dunbar Community Benefit Fund**

#### **Applications**

European Stone Stacking Competition 2023- Initial Enquiry

Dunbar Day Centre - £8431-70 towards new boiler- Approved by e mail. Paid 30<sup>th</sup> December.

#### 2.00 COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

2.01 <u>Police Report</u> - The report is based on incidents between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

#### Road Safety

4 damage only road traffic collisions. 2 were hit and runs. 3 drivers involved charged with serious offences.

1 vehicle seized for no insurance

Several reports of youths riding an off road motorbike on local roads and through Lochend Woods without lights or helmets. Suspects not traced.

Violence and Anti Social Behaviour

Several calls regarding youth ASB. 3 relating to eggs being thrown at windows and 2 regarding youths throwing stones. 1 youth charged with assault.. 3 relating to eggs being thrown at windows and 2 regarding youths throwing stones. 1 youth charged with assault.

3 calls regarding fireworks being lit in public places. No trace of suspects.

16 noise complaints. ELC ASB Team involved.

7 incidents of vandalism.

#### Serious and Organised Crime

No incidents of note

#### **Theft**

2 unrelated housebreakings reported.

2 unrelated incidents of shoplifting. Known suspect for one.

Theft of milk from a doorstep. 2 suspects traced and charged.

1 theft of cooking oil from a hotel. Enquiries ongoing.

4 thefts of unattended property - bike/scooter/wallets. Enquiries ongoing.

#### Other

Several calls received regarding ex prisoners selling household items as part of their rehabilitation and integration back into society. Anecdotal evidence that they are selling cleaning products at inflated prices. From a police perspective there may be licensing offences e.g. no peddlers certificate. Householders are encouraged to see such a certificate.

#### 2.02 Community and Police Partnership (CAPP) –

# Meeting on October 13th

#### **PRIORITIES SET**

- 1) Speeding
- 2) Youth Issues at the Jampot
- 3) Visibility including bike lights

**Date of Next Meeting** – The Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December had been cancelled by Cllr Hampshire. Future Date to be arranged.

# 2.03 **Police Staffing**

Local Area Commander, Jocelyn O'Connor, will be moving to West Lothian at the start of April. Her post will be advertised. Police Inspector Dougie Wardell will remain as Deputy Area Commander for East Lothian.

#### 3.00 PLANNING MATTERS

3.01 <u>Particular Planning/Licensing Matters</u> – None

.

#### 3.02 Other Planning Matters to Note

- 1 **08/00369/FUL-** Request by applicant to extend Condition 1 by 1 year. (Broxmouth Estate) This is to allow an extra year, 4 years rather than 3, to commence works from the time of consent. Consent was granted in 2009 but ratified in December 2018 on completion of a S75. It is noted that to date the applicant has not met condition 4 (to submit plans for an archaeological study prior to work commencing) or Condition 5 (to submit a scheme of landscaping). To be determined. JB contacted Planning on 29/12/22 to see if the application had lapsed as work had not commenced. Planning had advised that work must start before the end of July 2024. However, Conditions 4 and 5 are still to be met.
- 2 **21/00676/P- Broxmouth Estate.** Erection of 9 holiday lodges. JB had submitted DCC views. To be determined. ELC are waiting on information from the applicant.
- **21/01392/P** Broxmouth Park S42 request to remove condition 2 of Application 20/00554/P which had been consented on July 28<sup>th</sup> 2021. This relates to the operation of the wedding accommodation. JB had responded. To be determined.
- 22/00277/P Dunbar Tennis Club. Section 42 request to vary Condition 1 of 19/00141/P. This will increase the level of floodlighting. Views submitted to ELC. Nearby residents and

- Friends of Winterfield concerned and objections have been submitted. To be determined.
- 5 **22/00279/P** Broxmouth House, South Lodge- Formation of decked area and erection of gates. JB had submitted DCC Views. To be determined.
- 6 **22/00278/LBC Broxmouth House, South Lodge** Alteration to building and erection of gates. (Related to 5). JB had submitted DCC views.
- 7 **22/00852/PPM** Scottish Power Energy Network Eastern Link Project. Converter Station and associated works. JB had submitted DCC views. To be determined.
- 8 **22/01164/P, 22/01011/LBC, 22/01010/ADV** Castle Hotel -Repainting, new lighting and external adverts. JB had submitted DCC Views. |Approved 2<sup>nd</sup> December.
- 9 **22/01158/P** Shore Road Snack Van- Request to extend the permission granted by 21/01195/P by a further 3 years. JB had submitted Views to ELC. To be determined.
- 10 **22/01196/P** Scottish Water bottle top up point near Bayswell Road toilets. JB had circulated information. DCC Views sent to ELC. To be determined.
- 22/01255/P, 22/01251/ADV, 22/01221/LBC. Repainting and new Sign at Sue Ryder shop (61 High Street) JB had circulated information. DCC Views sent to ELC. Approved 15<sup>th</sup> December.
- 12 **22/01336/ADV** Advertising hoarding at the Area Z housing site (Lochford Gardens). JB had circulated information. DCC views submitted to ELC. To be determined.
- 22/01357/ADV Advertising sign at Spott Road for Lochford Gardens. JB had circulated information. DCC objections submitted to ELC (Concerns that the sign with detailed information would be distracting in a busy area). In the meantime, the sign appeared on 14<sup>th</sup> December. JB had advised ELC .On expedited list 22/12 with recommendation of refusal. Transport Scotland and ELC Roads had both objected. The sign had been removed. However, the support poles are still to be removed.
- 14 **22/01320/P** Foxlake New lake with aquapark equipment. JB had circulated information and submitted views to ELC.

<u>Broxmouth Estate Applications</u> –ELC have advised that they still need information from the applicant in order to progress the various applications.

<u>Local Development Plan/Local Place Plans</u> – An initial meeting had been held on 13<sup>th</sup> December to consider an approach to a Local Place Plan for Dunbar. AS, PS, JB, TP had attended along with Jo Waddell and Philip Mellor of DTA and Stevie McKinlay (Connected Communities Manager). It is hoped to draw up some ideas for public consultation events in 2023. The DTA are arranging an initial event on 17<sup>th</sup> January at the Strawberry Barn..

<u>SP Energy Networks – Eastern Link</u> – Fresh public consultation is to be held on revised proposals for a substation at Branxton near Innerwick. Display panels will be at Innerwick Hall from 31<sup>st</sup> January until 14<sup>th</sup> February. There will be opportunities fo0r face to face discussions on 31<sup>st</sup> January. 1<sup>st</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February.

# 3.03 <u>Licensing Matters to Note</u> -

**Bear & Bull. Application for Major variation of Premises Lic**ence. JB had submitted DCC Views to ELC Licensing. Approved at November 2022 Licensing Board.

# 4.00 **DUNBAR AND EAST LINTON AREA PARTNERSHIP**

4.01 <u>Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November</u> – JB, PS, SB, GW had attended. The meeting had focussed on budget allocations.

**General Budget** <u>9</u> applications for General Fund monies were considered. Voting had been held by e mail. All applications had been part or fully funded. Recipients were Sustaining Dunbar (Belhaven Buddies, Pledgehog, Insulate Innerwick), Dunbar Craft Centre, Dunbar Community Woodland Group, West Barns Village Hall Bite and Blether, West Barns Primary Parent Council and The Ridge (Empire Close and Fleshers Close).

	Roads Budget – 2022-23 – A number of suggestions were discussed and an e mail vote held. Carriageway Repairs on Stenton Main Street		
	Car Charging point for McCall Gardens, East Linton (match funded by ELC)		
	Cycle Lane markings		
	(Post meeting all these proposals were approved).		
	2023-24- A number of possible projects had been suggested including the DSHNG pilot for the		
	East Beach area, Preston Road at East Linton and improved road safety around West Barns		
	Primary School).		
	Amenities Budget – Suggestions are sought.		
	Local Area Plan- This needs to be updated. It is linked to the recently approved ELC Plan for		
	Priority setting. Initial discussion meetings had been held in December. There will be further		
	consideration in the New Year.		
4.02	Date of Next Meeting – AGM 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023		
4.02	Date of Next Meeting - Admi 22.11 February 2025		
5.00	DCC INITIATIVES UPDATE		
	Dunbar Community Council manages a number of projects and initiatives throughout the		
	year.		
5.01	Christmas Lights and High Street Team		
3.01	A successful switch on was held on 27 <sup>th</sup> November.		
	The best dressed street competition was won by Salisbury Walk.		
	A competition is being held to decide a design for the 2023 Christmas Card.		
	Members had attended the DCC social evening on December 19 <sup>th</sup>		
	The lights were taken down on January 8 <sup>th</sup> . There were many positive comments about the		
	display.		
5.02	Dunbar Civic Week –		
	Members had attended the DCC social evening on December 19th		
5.03	<u>Dunbar Against Litter</u> –		
	Litter picking continues, weather permitting.		
	Weekly table top sales at Dunbar British Legion ended for the season on November 27 <sup>th</sup> .		
	Members had attended the DCC Social gathering on December 19 <sup>th</sup> .		
	DAL now has a base at the Be Green shop. Items like bags and litter pickers can be collected.		
5.04	It will also be possible to hold DAL team meetings at the office.  Platinum Jubilee		
3.04	Queens Green Canopy - Further information awaited from Mike Foy on Dunbar tree orders.		
	Ken Ross is still to arrange planting at DunBear Park.		
5.05	Remembering Together-Barbara Taylor Rowell had produced an initial report on the first		
	phase of consultation. This had been delayed by the death of the Queen. Response to the		
	process had been mixed. JB will attend a meeting on the next stage of the process when		
	arranged.		
6.00	DCC/ELC/COMMUNITY INITIATIAVES		
6.01	Dunbar High Street		
	<b>SOLE-</b> No further information on the external evaluation that JB had taken part in. The site		
	content remains limited.		
	Our Dunbar – Work is ongoing to expand the material on the site.		
	<b>Shop Local.</b> This initiative had proved popular with Traders and the public alike.		
	Your Town Audit- A letter from DCC, DELAP and DTA had been sent to ELC Economic		
	Development Unit requesting funding support to progress this. Jamie Baker had replied that		
	ELC would not fund a stand alone survey at this time. He advised that ELC were procuring a		
	consultant to take forward development of a new Economic Strategy for the County. This		
	would include similar data gathering and analysis to the YTA for the main towns. Information		

would be used to help develop the Strategy but also be of assistance in the development of the Local Development Plan, Local Place Plans and Area Partnership plans. It was hoped to start the work in the New Year with completion by July 2023. ELC would liaise with DCC on this process.

**CARS**- Colin Gilmour had advised on 9/1 that he hoped to launch CARS in January. A date is to be confirmed. It would be hoped to receive initial applications by late February for awards in March. A local Steering Group will be set up.

#### 6.02 **A1**.

# A1 Action Group 15th December – JB had attended

This was the first meeting since October 2021. The lead ELC Officer had changed from Peter Forsyth to Ian Lennock and the Chair from Cllr Hampshire to Cllr MacMillan following a change in the Transport Convenorship.

The Focus had been changed to East Lothian from a remit that had covered East Lothian, Berwickshire and into Northumberland.

Vision Statement . This was revisited.

There was an update on improvements, particularly resurfacing and other works by Bear and the new junction near QMU. JB noted the number of new developments near Dunbar that impacted on junction safety in particular but that the 2018 Local Development Plan Developer Contribution Framework took money from developments in the East to help fund those in the West. She hoped this may be redressed in the forthcoming LDP, particularly given the number of energy connected developments that were proposed South of Dunbar.

It was noted that there were no current plans for major structural interventions in the East of the county.

**Police** – The number of fatal accidents during the year (4) was noted. There was also discussion about other accidents and near misses. JB noted points of concern e.g. the cement works junction where Viridor propose to increase the number of lorry movements bringing waste to the ERF, Belhaven junction which is to be used by construction lorries for Taylor Wimpey and Spott Road Roundabout which will see increased traffic from the development at DunBear Park and due to the closure of the U194, Skateraw and Thortonloch. Although previous Action Group meetings had featured discussions on concerns regarding the safety and performance of junctions in East Lothian and Berwickshire it was suggested by Mr Lennock and Cllr MacMillan that the issue would be better discussed at the Road Safety Working Group. Area Partnership Chairs would be invited to the next meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>. **Noise** – JB noted the concerns of Hallhill TRA which had previously been raised at the Group. This was again thought to be a local rather than a strategic A1 issue.

**Frequency of Meetings**- It was agreed to hold meetings approximately 3 times per year.

6.03 Connecting Dunbar Paths Project - The SUSTRANS funding award had been accepted. An initial meeting with SUSTRANS will be held on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### 7.00 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

# 7.01 Health and Well Being Sub Group-

**Communities Day**  $-3^{rd}$  **December**- Around 30 groups had taken part. All thought it had been a valuable networking experience and that it should be repeated.

#### **Meeting Centres For People With Dementia**

Sue Northrop of DFEL will be holding drop in sessions at Belhaven Church Stables on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, subject to interest. It is hoped to use the sessions to further explore development of a Meeting Centre.

#### **Dunbar Day Centre** -

*Meeting on November 30th* – JB, SB and GW had attended.

Andrew Brown had stood down as Co Chair but he will remain a Trustee.

A number of new referrals had been received for Outreach and centre based services. More referrals would be welcome at any time.

A number of service users had moved into care homes.

Fund raising continues for a minibus. In the meantime, taxi fares take a significant sum of money.

The boiler had failed and needed urgent replacement to enable service to continue in the building. It was agreed to apply to Dunbar Community Council for assistance to replace it.

Plans continue to renovate the kitchen in the New Year. ELC and the Care Inspectorate had agreed to the work being done.

Staff were commended on the excellent Inspection – the full report was awaited.

Plans continue to convert to a SCIO. Fiona O'Donnell had agreed to meet with Trustees to help progress this.

Next meeting January 11th

# Meeting on January 11th- JB and GW had attended

*Staffing-* It was agreed to appoint an Interim Deputy Manager and an Outreach Co-ordinator. The manager position will be ratified internally.

*Inspection*- The Report had been received. Grading had been 3 5s(Very Good) and a 4 (Good) *Boiler*- Being installed on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> January

Kitchen- Being fitted -12th and 13th January

Transport – Remains a big issue- Leasing a bus to be considered

SCIO-4 Trustees meeting with Fiona O Donnell on 12<sup>th</sup> January. Special Meeting on this topic to be arranged.

Next meeting – February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Special Meeting Regarding SCIO -will be held on January 24th.

<u>Belhaven Hospital-</u> JB had circulated updates. Services remain suspended at the site. Work has been ongoing on Ward 1 (Blossom House Care Home). Significant works had been done including installation of a new water tank and a new bathroom with easilift bath.

It is now hoped that residents will return home on 18th January 2023. Work is yet to start on Ward 3, the Community Hub of Ward 2 and the outdoor buildings that are the source of water for Belhaven Community Garden.

JB has queried the cost of the works, given that in 2018 request for monies to upgrade Ward 2 were rejected on the grounds that new facilities were proposed at the site. Response from ELHSCP has been that the costs will not be known until the works are completed. NHS Lothian Media have advised that once works are completed an FOI should be submitted.

# Carers of East Lothian- AGM on November 28th JB had attended.

This was the first in person AGM since 2019.

2022 had seen the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Carers of East Lothian. The organisation continues to provide valuable supports to carers of all ages across the County. In the year 2021-22 they had supported 1652 individual carers with a variety of issues, particular carer wellbeing and finances/benefits. COEL gives a mixture of one to one and group support as well as information sessions on financial planning, Power of Attorney and understanding dementia. COEL regularly responds to national consultations.

Paul McLennan MSP had spoken of the important role of carers. He noted the challenges they may face in providing support to loved ones. He spoke of the new Community Windpower funded support for those in fuel poverty.

There was discussion about the recruitment and retention of care staff, particularly in more rural parts of the county.

Maria Burton, ELHSCP Carer Strategy Officer had spoken on the development of the ELC Carer's Strategy and the Planning for an Ageing Population consultation.

JB had noted some of the issues faced by carers including access to care package and other supports in the more rural parts of the county. She had noted the need for wider consultation with those without internet access e.g. an in person Dunbar consultation event had been cancelled at short notice. She had noted that people may enter care homes because of the lack of overnight support. She had noted the limited options for nursing home care in the Dunbar area which meant that people were being placed in care homes at a distance from family members.

JB had spoken of the work being done of Great Expectations and the need for co-production between ELHSCP and communities in particular with relation to the lived experience of carers. COEL had set up new services e.g. a befriending service.

The COEL website was being updated.

As turnover is now greater than £500K a full audit of accounts is now required. The Accounts are on the COEL website.

Jim Conway had been re-elected as Chair. New Trustees would be welcome.

<u>Planning for an Ageing Population Consultation</u> – JB had circulated the Report from the consultation in the summer. The Report will be presented to the IJB in early 2023.

<u>Community Hospitals and Care Homes Change Board and Working Groups.</u> JB had been advised by IJB member Marilyn McNeill (who attends DELAP) that the Groups work was drawing to a close. Attention will turn to considering models of care and thus new groups will be set up with potential change of membership. JB had noted concern that models had been discussed in relation to the Belhaven site over a decade ago.

<u>Shifting the Balance of Care Change Board Presentation</u> This had been due to take place on 14<sup>th</sup> December but it had been cancelled. Rescheduled to 7<sup>th</sup> February 4-6 pm (Online)

<u>IJB Annual Report 2021-22</u>- JB had circulated this Report which had been issued on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Expectations 2**- TP has continued to work on the draft.

<u>East Lothian Rehabilitation Service – A Better Life in East Lothian Workshop</u> –  $8^{th}$  February at VCEL, Tranent. Booking via Eventbrite

# 8.00 ROADS, REPAIRS AND INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

# 8.01 Roads, Pavements and Pathways

Hospital Road —The road closed without prior warning on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Issues regarding the limited signage raised with Taylor Wimpey, ELC, Bear and Transport Scotland. There is still no signage about the closure from the A1 or from Edinburgh Road. There have been concerns that pedestrians and cyclists have continued to use the road. The closure has led to pressure on other routes e.g Spott Road and through West Barns. Taylor Wimpey had advised that they would look to examine some of the issues raised by JB and other members of the community.

Dropped kerbs prone to flooding due to subsidence Areas at Pine Street, Shore Road and elsewhere will require more significant work. Shore Road work also depends on any future changes to the junction area.

*Uneven slopes to crossings in West Port and High Street*. ELC still to programme works. *Belhaven High Street* — Resurfacing work completed. White and yellow linin still to be completed and cycle lanes need renewal. JB chasing ELC.

Belhaven Road- Resurfacing required. Cycle lanes need the red blaze to be renewed. Condition of West Port. Residents of Friarsbank Terrace report continued issues of vibration sue to the condition of the road surface/passing vehicles. JB had passed to ELC.

Cycle/pedestrian paths around housing south of the railway line. Still required. Linked to the work being done by Mike Naysmith and also the Connecting Dunbar Project. Access to the south platform has been delayed by negotiations with a landowner and the availability of ELC legal staff.

Safe footway Beveridge Row to Brewery Lane –. DCC and West Barns CC still wish for completion of this important safe route. Local residents wish community engagement on proposals.

Lack of dropped kerbs between Robertson/Avant Homes and the new SUSTRANS funded path at Deerpark. Crossing the road difficult for pushchairs/wheelchairs etc. Passed to ELC. There is also a shortage of dropped kerbs at other new estates e.g. Persimmon and Taylor Wimpey where the roads and pavements are still to be adopted by ELC. JB had passed to ELC and Mike Naysmith. This will be a consideration for the Connecting Dunbar Project if funding is approved by SUSTRANS,

Pedestrian safety in Bayswell Road- A member of the public had expressed concerns about the safety of those trying to cross the road between the swimming pool and Our Lady of the Waves. Passed by JB to ELC. In addition, a resident had requested provision of a crossing between The Glebe and Lauderdale Park. JB had contacted ELC. Beveridge Row/Hospital Road/Bayview Circus pavements and Access. Signage to designate the Give Way and change of road priority still to be put into place by Cala. Planning Enforcement involved.

Pavement in Poplar Street-Being damaged by vehicles mounting the pavement on the narrow street. The vehicles are also a pedestrian hazard. Passed to ELC May 2022. Chased September 2022.

Proposed traffic Lights/crossings at Spott Road/Queens Road junction. These have been funded by S75 from Taylor Wimpey as a Planning condition for Hallhill North. Further monies had been a condition of the Golf Club Planning consent. Much concern from nearby residents about the lack of consultation. Contact made with Ian Lennock requesting meeting. No further information.

Quality of Installation Works for new High Street bus stops. Remedial works still required.

*New pavement by cemetery extension*- Hearse and vehicular access still needed across the pavement.

Pavement at Parsonspool. This was damaged by an uprooted tree during Storm Arwen. The tree root still needs to be removed and the pavement repaired. JB chasing. Hallhill North-Various — Concerns continue about impact on local roads of construction work.

Pavement at South Street. Vegetation had been removed leaving large roots as trip hazards. Mike Foy's Forestry team have treated the roots to prevent regrowth but large sections remain.

*Eweford Underpass*- Closed without warning for repairs over 3 days on 4<sup>th</sup> January. No signage. JB had raised concerns with ELC and Bear.

Pot Holes at Entrance of Winterfield Car Park – passed to ELC 16/1

Footpaths at DunBear Park. There are issues related to the construction site e.g. insecure Herres fencing. (see Structures)

# 8.02 Signage

Signage to ASDA from Spott Roundabout — A member of the public had raised concerns. JB had passed to ELC/Transport Scotland. Will be needed once retail outlets at DunBear Park in place. In the meantime, a large advertising board for housing was erected on the roundabout in December without consent. Planning Enforcement involved.

Dunbar Gateway Sign- Planning Enforcement involved regarding removal of the sign and demolition of the decorative planter (a planning condition) by Robertsons.

Taylor Wimpey Advertising Hoarding for Belhaven Way at Brodie Road. This does not have planning permission. Planning Enforcement involved. DCC will be advised once an application is submitted.

# 8.03 **Structures**

Queens Road Wall (Four Seasons). Still to be repaired. The Ridge had decided not to proceed with making a quotation as the work required had become increasingly complex as the wall had continued to deteriorate. There were issues in gaining suitable insurance cover for the workers. JB had advised Lee Jenkins at Four Seasons, Frank Fairgrieve at Building Control and Tom Reid, Head of Infrastructure at ELC. Lee Jenkins had advised that he was having difficulty in gaining quotes from other contractors due to insurance/workforce issues. ELC have given information on possible contractors to contact.

Ruins of Lochend House Laundry (DCDHT). Work still needed to make it safe. Building Control involved. The Ridge had looked into some funding options previously on behalf of DCDHT. Herbert Coutts had been involved but no formal applications had been made. DCDHT need to progress any applications e.g. to Architectural Heritage Fund. DCDHT need to discuss further with DCWG. Kate Darrah of the Ridge has suggested that an initial stage would be to gain funding for a feasibility study. Kate may be able to assist DCDHT in drawing up an application e.g. To Architectural Heritage Fund..

Unsafe wall alongside path between Home Avenue and A1- Passed to ELC 17/3/22. Frank Fairgrieve of Building Control involved. He is trying to determine ownership although it is thought to be Persimmon or Hallhill Developments.

Storm Damaged Council House/damaged pavement in Parsonspool. The house roof had been repaired in October. Pavement still to be repaired.

Storm damaged fence at Floors Terrace/Park Avenue. The metal fence will be repaired once the bus shelter is restored in the next financial year.

Portacabin at Hallhill (DCDHT property)- This structure remains incomplete and the rear is vulnerable to vandalism following the removal of Herres fencing. The Radio Station which had been going to use it had moved out. It had a temporary approval status (for a maximum of 5 years) and so ELC may now wish it to be removed and the land restored before the end of the consented period. JB had updated Planning / Building Control.

Wall Along Cement Road. This belongs to Hallhill Developments /Taylor Wimpey. It is part of the land transfer discussions with DCDHT. Parts of it have collapsed. Members of the public are concerned about safety. Passed to ELC Building Control.

Structure at Hallhill (Running Club)- Members of the Community had raised concerns about a large structure which had appeared in November. Planning Enforcement involved. Retrospective planning application required. An application had been received on 14/12 but it had been invalid and further information needed to process. Fencing at DunBear Park had been blown onto the foot/cycle path by strong winds multiple times during the festive period and again on January 15th. Passed to Ken Ross, Construction firm (ACScotland) and ELC. Construction team are to try and make the fencing more secure. Tom Reid of ELC asking if any Planning enforcement can be used. On 16<sup>th</sup> January KS saw lorries crossing the path to the DunBear. ELC, Landowner and construction firm informed. Construction firm Rep, Alan Reid, advised on 16/1 that the path to the statue is now closed and that its hoped to get access from the haul road. Abby Kelman of Taylor Wimpey has said she will look into the wider issues at the site.

#### 8.04 **Drainage**

A drain near 105 Summerfield Road is still causing problems in rain. Flooding erodes the pavement. A temporary repair has eroded causing trip hazards for pedestrians. ELC still to follow up.

Flooding near Lethendry, North Road. Issues have exacerbated in recent heavy rains. Flooding now crosses the pavement and enters the driveway. On a list of ELC works. JB liaising with resident. It seems that the drain is only a soakaway and thus not sufficient to cope in heavy rain.

Drainage/Sewage for Robertson Newton Manor Estate and wider area Issues continue between Newtonlees Steading and the Station/Kings Court. JB still chasing.

Flooding at Old Eden Hotel – Issues continue. On a list of ELC works. JB liaising with resident.

Damaged sewer following flooding at Elder Street green space- Manhole Cover had dislodged, area had subsided and foul water had escaped. Reported to Scottish Water 17/9. Repair still needed. JB chasing Scottish Water.

# 8.05 **Vegetation**

Condition of Woodland between James Court and Spott Road Wall. JB had chased Mike Foy, Tree Officer, The woods are to be inspected as part of a survey of ash health.

.Overgrown vegetation at Hospital Road obscuring the traffic lights heading South and the 20 mph sign heading North. JB chasing Roads.

Overgrown vegetation on path between Queens Road and East Links Road- Gordon Whitelaw has added it to his list for cutting.

Overgrown path at South Street, Belhaven- This had become impassable. Cleared by ELC Amenities October 22. ELC Forestry will need to remove large roots which are trip hazards on the pavement.

Tree Planting at Yosemite Park. This is a planning condition. The tree guards have been neglected and are a danger due to the failed lighting. Planning Enforcement involved.

# 8.06 Coastal

Steep Slope to beach view benches at Lamer Street. Would benefit from a handrail. Eamonn John was exploring this. Improvement part of proposals for safer routes around East Beach.

Bridge to Nowhere- Public concerns about the new walkway continue. Storms and high tides in November had washed debris onto the footway leading to trip hazards. Rangers had tried to clear these. In addition, erosion had occurred meaning the Biel Burn was blocking pedestrian access. This was to be monitored by Rangers and if need be contractors would be asked to smooth out the area.

Access issues at Belhaven Bay-Works to deal with the erosion/access matters had been delayed due to the illness of a key staff member.

Restoration of the Gentleman's Bathing Pool-A small Working Group are working on the Project. They are considering how a management agreement may be set up. They have been in contact with NatureScot who have asked a number of questions about the proposals. They have an active Facebook Group. They had been working with Neil Clark of ELC. He has now retired and been replaced by Jenny Hargreaves.

Collapsing path on clifftop trail near Dhu/Doo Rock. Passed to ELC 2/1. A structural engineer had visited on 3/5. The path has shifted further. ELC closed the path on 6/1. Further investigations to be made.

Overnight parking at coastal car parks. Agenda item for Cabinet on 17<sup>th</sup> January. Overnight parking to continue to be barred at all sites except for pilot areas where there will be a trial of re bookable campervan spaces. Report unclear on where these

will be. However, Appendix suggests pre bookable spaces at Shore Road and Whitesands. JB had contacted ELC for clarity.

# 8.07 **Lighting/Electrical**

Lighting within the Pool area —Lighting unit installation began in October 22. However, Paul lanetta of ELC has advised that, issues had arisen due to the corroded condition of the gantry. Alternatives now being considered e.g. wall mounted units.

High Street Lighting Some units had been installed but other lights remain broken e.g. outside St Anne's Church, outside the Post Office. ELC officers have advised that some units need replacement rather than repair and further work will be undertaken. Long term solution still to be sought and costed.

Storm Damaged substation at Countess Crescent- The Roof was blown off by Storm Arwen. Permanent repair still needed by First Mile. JB chasing First Mile..

Lighting on path between Dempster Place and ASDA. The path and lighting were planning conditions of the Robertson estates. It was to have been completed before the start of the Newton Manor development. Responsibility of Robertsons. Planning Enforcement involved. Ken Ross has advised that the matter is in hand.

Lighting at Yosemite Park. This is the responsibility of Persimmon. A number of lights have been out of order for several years. The area is very dark. ELC chasing Persimmon Lack of Lighting on Hospital Road- Concerns had been raised about pedestrian safety, particularly that of school pupils using the route from the Hallhill estates following the blocking off of access across the field by construction work and the closure of the route across the Belhaven Hospital site. JB had passed to Taylor Wimpey for their consideration. ELC also informed.

# 8.08 Litter/Graffiti/Vandalism/Abandoned vehicles

Wingate Crescent Playpark- Surface safety matting still to be repaired following vandalism.

Youth ASB. Issues in Rigg Park- passed to ASB Team.

Fly tipping at 36 High Street- DAL frequently report issues at the homeless unit. Romie Blair had suggested reinstatement of gates. JB contacted the housing provider. Response awaited.

Housing/flytipping Issues in Poplar Street- A non resident of a property had removed a fence and parked an old van in the garden of a property where the owner had died in 2021. Passed to ELC and Police. Craig Smith has established the legal status of the vehicle but needs permission from the legal firm dealing with the estate to remove it. JB linking with neighbours.

Overgrown garden with considerable rubbish/old van in Pine Street. The property remains in poor condition. Neighbours report that the property may be empty. Passed to ELC.

Dog activity at Winterfield Golf Course is damaging the greens, especially when the ground is wet. Green keepers are having to repair. JB had shared information on behalf of the greenkeepers.

Vandalism to fence on pathway between Dempster Place and railway underpass. KS had reported this to Robertson Homes. Reported to the Police. The situation is not helped by the lack of lighting in the area. JB had passed to Ken Ross and ELC.

Building Site litter- This remains a problem, particularly from the Robertson Homes site where a DAL volunteer clears regularly. They have suggested that covered skips are not in use. Passed to ELC 6/1.

# 8.09 Transport

#### **Trains**

#### Services

Strikes had continued in November, December and January

#### Community Rail Partnership(CRP)

CRP AGM – 23<sup>rd</sup> November. JB had attended

**Office Bearers** — Harry Barker was re-elected as Chair with Allison Cosgrove as Secretary/Treasurer and Jacquie Bell as Ordinary Board member. Other Board members would be welcome.

Constitution- An updated Constitution was agreed.

**Accounts**- Scotrail continue to fund although the amount given continues to be less than received by English CRPs from their funders. Cross Country and TransPennine Express also give funding which have helped to finance projects.

**Current Projects** *Prestonpans Murals* – Harry Barker had updated on the work. The murals should be completed early in 2023. Scotrail staff noted that they would wish Scotrail to arrange the erection at the station. It was proposed to have an event to unveil the Murals. *Line Guide* – Philip Immirzi had been working on this.

**Future Projects** – *Toilet at North Berwick Station*. There was discussion about the possibility of a toilet being developed in the unused kiosk building. This will need further discussion with Scotrail and Network Rail. JB had noted that toilet provision was a public health matter.

Active Travel Links- JB had noted ongoing discussion with DTA and others about promoting active travel opportunities. It was noted that John Lawson had been taken on by Scotrail to consider improved access to stations.

**Rail Reliability**- There was a general discussion about the reliability of rail services, particularly with the ongoing industrial action across the network. Scotrail staff noted that driver training was ongoing to boost numbers which had reduced over Covid.

**CRP Parliamentary Reception** – This will be held at Holyrood on May 24<sup>th</sup> for all Scottish CRPs.

**East Lothian CRP Meeting with Transport Ministe**r- This will be held on January 18<sup>th</sup>. JB and Allison Cosgrove will attend.

East Lothian Rail Forum – The meeting on November  $25^{th}$  had been cancelled. New Date January  $20^{th}$ . JB will attend.

#### **Buses**

*Bus Stops*—. JB regularly reports missing Perspex. Bus operators are still to provide fresh timetables where Perpex has been replaced.

Park Avenue the shelter is still to be repaired.

The flag on the High Street bus stop near Hector's is now missing. Repair still needed. Reinstatement of the pavement at the new High Street bus stops is still required.

# <u>Parking</u>

Abbeylands Car Park TRO consultation on a 90 minute limit approved by Cabinet in May 2021 is still to be progressed. A number of bays are out of use due to works on

the wall. Members of the public are asking how long the work will take given the effect on the capacity of the car parking. Grant Talac of ELC has advised that the permit for the works lasts until January 31<sup>st</sup>. It is not known if an extension will be needed. *Parking on Belhaven High Street*- continued issues opposite the Brig and Barrel. *Parking beside widened pavement beside Dunbar Primary school*. Cabinet on 27<sup>th</sup> September had approved a TRO process to restrict parking. Still to be advertised. Cars frequently park in the area, including on the pavement. *Station Car Park Extension*-still required.

# 8.10 **Other**

**Issues at New Robertson site** – Problems of sewage, drainage, mud, noise, dust, building site litter etc continue. Newtonlees residents remain unhappy. Broxburn residents have also raised concerns. Planning Enforcement involved with some issues. No response from Robertson Regional Manager, John Murphy, to concerns. JB supporting residents.

Issues at Albany Grange- A play pitch and playground which were Planning Conditions of the development are still to be completed. Residents of Brand Court still wish footpath completion and a street light at the path connection to Hospital Road. This will open onto the area of road closed for construction works.

Castle Bay (Cala) — Give Way and Change of Priority signage still needed at the top of Beveridge Row. Signage still needed to indicate playpark. 20mph roundels needed. Cala have been asked for a timescale. JB chasing Roads as the estate road is getting busier. DCC and West Barns CCs still wish the pavement between Beveridge Row and Brewery Lane (subject of Condition 14) to be constructed as a safe route. Residents wish ELC officers to consult with the community. TRO for Beveridge Row to be one way Southbound is still to be advertised. Bayview Circus residents will object to it

**Lauderdale Park** Field in Trust status. Further information awaited on the outcome of the application by ELC.

A member of the public had noted disability access issues- no disability parking and the paths are rough for those with poor mobility. JB had passed to Amenities/Stevie McKinlay as a possible option for use of the DELAP Amenities Budget.

The Space Multi Use /Skatepark/Pump Track facilities/Youth Hub. Further information awaited. There have been a number of public concerns about the proposals for a Pump Track at the greenspace near Lochend Primary which is currently used as an outdoor learning space and is a deer grazing area near the woods.

**Derelict Communal Area between East Links Road and Woodbush Court**. Complaints from members of the public about the unkempt area – broken fencing, weed infested, damaged wall etc. continue.

Further work awaited on fence and wall. ELC to tidy the planting. They say the fence and wall are the responsibility of ELHA who had mended part of the fence. However, ELHA Assets have stated on 6/1 that they are not responsible. JB chasing with ELHA Chair.

**Anderson Grave at Parish Kirkyard**- SB had discussed repair with The Ridge. Funding would be needed.

**Kingsmeadow Playparks**- 2 of the 3 playparks are now owned by the Residents Association. JB had given advice of funding options to upgrade the areas and the equipment. In December funding was granted by the Tyne Esk Leader Rural Communities Development Fund to upgrade the smaller playpark in Wilson Place. This will cover almost 100% of the costs. Taylor Wimpey (the original developer) had given a grant of £2500. It is hoped the work will be completed early in 2023.

# 9.00 MEETINGS ATTENDED

# **9.01** Scouts Visit- November 22<sup>nd</sup> – JB and SB had attended

SB had spoken of the long history of the Scouts in Dunbar. He noted the modern facilities at the Bleachingfield in contrast to the wooden hut which had stood on the site prior to the new centre being built.

JB and SB had spoken of the different areas of work carried out by the Community Council including Christmas Lights, Civic Week, Planning and town maintenance as well as the various funding assistance given to community groups.

There was a discussion about what the youngsters liked in Dunbar and what could be better. In general, they liked living by the sea and the range of shops on the High Street. There were various suggestions for more places to eat but also requests for safer places to cycle and fewer houses being built on green places.

# 9.02 <u>Viridor Liaison Group – November 23<sup>rd</sup>-</u> JB had attended

**Operation**- The Plant had had the annual Outage in August. There will not be an Outage in 2023

Since the outage there had been some issues with the system which had led to a slight reduction in processing.

A request had been made to SEPA to increase the license for waste processing to 395,000 tonnes per annum. This will mean an extra 5 to 6 lorries a day.

A new contract with Highland Council will begin in January. All waste will come to Oxwellmains by road (A9 and A1) from transfer stations in Caithness, Fort William, Inverness and Aviemore. *Litter*- This continues to be an issue on the A1, particularly going westward. Contractors are reminded to make covers secure when leaving the site. Further reminders will be issued.

**Road Safety**- This continues to be a concern, particularly across the junction as lorries pull out into the 70mph dual carriageway. Contractors will be reminded of safety precautions, especially when turning towards Edinburgh. There had been a number of near misses, most recently on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. JB noted that the A1 Action group would be reforming. Viridor would like to be involved in the meetings.

**Environment**. Sarah Mietzitis of SEPA was conducting an on site inspection on the day of the meeting. There had been an issue with Sodium Dioxide emissions soon after the Outage- This was found to be related to plasterboard being sent to the Plant by a supplier. Suppliers had bene reminded of what can/cannot be incinerated.

**Heat Plan** – There is still no clear end use for the heat which was a Planning Condition set by the Reporter in 2010. Discussions are taking place with Sunamp at Macmerry who are developing technology for heat batteries.

**Landfill**- The landfill is now owned by Valencia. The Manager had been invited to attend the meeting but he **had declined**. **No reason had been given**.

Community Matters- Sue Anderson had left in August. Her post was to be advertised.

The Plant has a small pot of money that can be distributed which is related to having good Health and safety records. Employees can decide on beneficiaries. Suggestions were made of local groups which may benefit from small grants.

Next Meeting- February 15<sup>th</sup> 2023

#### 9.03 **John Muir Birthplace Trust – November 24**th- JB had attended

**Management Report** – Opening days had been steady with no sudden closures due to staffing issues as in previous years. Winter opening hours are now in operation until 31<sup>st</sup> March. The public are welcome to visit the museums as warm places. Some workshops/activities will be held.

Visitor numbers are back to 77% of pre Covid levels. This is better than the national trend for Scottish visitor attractions.

Seasonal staff had continued as casual winter staff.

The shop range had been expanded.

There had been a number of popular exhibitions. Exhibitions for 2023 will be arranged on the theme Climate Call to Action.

An in person Quality Assurance visit by Visit Scotland will be expected in 2023. An Action Plan is being drawn up to ensure that the 5 star grading is maintained.

**Funding** – A letter has been drawn up to send to potential corporate funders. Donations by visitors had remained steady.

**Building Maintenance** – It was hoped to make an application to the CARS Scheme once it is live. A Building Condition survey was being carried out to determine the work that would be required e.g. to the roof.

What Next?- Plans for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (August 2023) and Beyond. There was further discussion as to how to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a lead up to the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary in 2024. A key aim is to refresh the exhibits on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. It was agreed to visit other museums etc for ideas with an initial visit to the COP26 display at the Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh. It was agreed to consult with local groups and others with an interest in climate challenges and other themes covered in the John Muir Earth Planet Universe exhibition of 2020.

**ELCAN (East Lothian Climate Action Network**)- It was agreed that JMBT should become a member.

**Next Meeting** – AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> February.

# 9.04 The Ridge AGM- November 24<sup>th</sup>- JB had attended

This was the first face to face AGM since 2019. It was also the first meeting in the new High Street base. The shop front space was welcomed. However, it also meant increased visibility and a demand on services, particularly for those in need of support.

The Ridge continues to work in a range of ways:-

Support and training for disadvantaged groups e.g. in traditional skills of joinery, stonemasonry etc. There are excellent links with Edinburgh College and others. Building work is done for a range of individuals and organisations through the trading subsidiary , The Ridge Foundation CIC.

Support for people with a range of issues including addiction/mental health needs or needing coaching in life skills like cooking or gardening. This includes benefits advice. There is a weekly recovery café and a weekday pantry has opened to supplement the Dunbar Foodshare. A successful Festival of Recovery had bene held in September.

Regeneration of the historic townscape. This includes major work at the Backlands, Empire Close, Black Bull Close and Fleshers Close. The regeneration will enable the creation of training spaces, office space for staff and residential accommodation.

*Membership*- There are now 350 Members. More would be welcome. There is no fee. *Annual Accounts*- These were approved and will be submitted to OSCR.

**Social Impact Report**- This was shared by Maggie McCole. It is published on the website. **Promotion**- There was discussion about expanding this e.g. by the website and social media.

Management Committee. Members were elected. That main Office Bearers are Steve Killeen (Chair), Danny Kelly (Treasurer) and Heather Blackwood (Secretary).

#### 9.05 **Food and Poverty Matters**

East Lothian Friendly Food Network- November 30th – JB had attended

Cost of Living Crisis Response – Lucy Higginson of ELC had updated on the work of the East Lothian Poverty Forum. There was discussion of the interface between this group and the Poverty meetings being arranged by Paul McLennan MSP e.g. in Dunbar.

The new Energy Fund (partnership between ELC, Advice Direct Scotland and ELC) to support households facing fuel poverty was about to be launched. Information would be available shortly. Households will be able to get assistance towards electricity bills. The ELC Cost of Living booklet will be updated to reflect the new fund.

All community pantries and foodbanks reported increased use. JB noted that The Ridge had begun a weekday pantry to supplement the Dunbar Foodshare.

Warm Zones- New venues were opening up across the county. JB had updated on facilities in Dunbar and East Linton Ward.

Festive Arrangements – Information will be gathered and circulated on foodbank opening times. Some areas were planning Christmas Lunches e.g. Dunbar.

Date of Next Meeting- January 20th

**Dunbar Foodshare** – Have teamed up with Graze, the Bear and Bull and Wishing Tree by the Sea to offer a voucher scheme for a drink and a warm place to go.

#### **Dunbar Community Bakery**

The Scottish Land Fund (SLF) had approved a grant in December 2022 to enable the purchase of the shop premises.

Volunteer bakers are currently producing bread during the week.

Manager, Stella McLellan, had given notice that she would be leaving in January. Acting Chair, Isobel Knox, will cover some tasks until a new Manager can be recruited. Other tasks will be covered by shop staff.

A trainee, Ryan, is currently working at the bakery with linkage to a college course.

#### Committee Meeting December 27th JB had attended

*SLF* – There was discussion about the purchase of the premises. Further paperwork is needed. The purchase will remove the rental costs from expenditure.

Bank Account – There have bene issues with access to the Royal Bank account. Alternative accounts will be investigated.

Prices- Production costs had risen greatly, particularly the costs of ingredients and electricity. The installation of a smart meter will enable the monitoring of electricity use. It was agreed that prices of products will need to increase. Volunteer bakers will be asked to log the meter readings at the start and end of their shifts. It was noted that ovens had accidentally been left on at cost to the bakery. The volunteers would be spoken to. Ingredients should only be ordered by the Manager.

*Production*- There was discussion about what was being produced in house and being bought in. There was discussion about what lines may be produced inhouse in the future. *Trainee*- There was discussion on the progress of apprentice, Ryan, and how his further training might be progressed.

Manager- It was agreed that Manager, Stella McLellan would leave in January to reduce costs. Isobel Knox will cover the post unpaid.

Deliveries – The Community Carrot are considering deliveries with the electric van to the new estates. It may be possible for other traders like the bakery to join in the delivery system. This was thought to be a good opportunity.

AGM- This will be arranged for 2023.

Next Meeting- To Be arranged.

#### 9.06 Friends of Winterfield – November 29<sup>th</sup> – JB had attended

*Membership*- stands at 152. All previous members had needed to rejoin due to changes in GDPR legislation. New members are always welcome.

**Promotion**- There was discussion about ways in which to increase membership. It was agreed to update the website and to make more regular post on social media. It was agreed to attend the DELAP Communities Day on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. A newsletter would be produced.

**Projects** – Ideas would be discussed with Gordon Whitelaw of ELC. It would be nice to develop a masterplan. JB suggested that the DELAP Amenities Budget may be an option to take things forward. Secretary, Esther Hughes had attended a couple of DELAP meetings as an observer which she had found useful.

The exercise equipment needed some repairs.

Rusty goalposts had been removed in the Spring and still needed replacement. A newspaper report had noted the limited bookings for matches. However, posts were needed in order for games to go ahead.

There was a general discussion about funding. JB noted that the Developer Contribution Framework linked to the 2018 Local Development Plan had apportioned monies from developers like Dunbar Golf Club/Cala to non Council Hallhill Sports Centre rather than ELC facilities like Winterfield.

*Memorial Benches*- Some benches had been lost. ELC had suggested replacement. Members would be consulted.

**Bulbs-** Further bulb planting had been suggested by Gordon Whitelaw. It was agreed to go ahead with this. Daffodils will be planted along the southern boundary to complement the 3 new silver birch trees. Further bed may be sited at the north east gate onto the Promenade, at the putting green and between the park and Winterfield Golf Course.

Trees- The trees planted in March 2022 by ELC remained of concern to nearby residents. Their growth would be monitored.

**Tennis Club Lighting**- This remained a concern to nearby residents. The Planning application submitted is March 2022 had seen a number of objections from those living nearby. It wa still to be determined by ELC.

**Park Bookings**- Members still wished more advance warning of event bookings and to be consulted on views/concerns e.g. about parking.

# 9.07 <u>Bleachingfield Centre Management Committee AGM- November 30<sup>th</sup> - JB, SB and GW had attended</u>

This was the first AGM since 2019. Reps were present from the Scouts, After School Club, Table Tennis Club and Countess Youth Club. Helen Harper from ELC was in attendance. She had been supporting the Committee since its formation. However, she noted that her role had changed since the last AGM and thus the Committee would need to be more self reliant.

Chairman Report- SB had given a history of the Centre.

Accounts – These were approved and will be submitted to OSCR.

**Bookings**- Concerns were discussed about the centralised booking system. There was also discussion about the increased costs of hiring the building.

*Café-* The closure of the café was of concern. Helen advised that it was to be put out for a new tender. In the meantime the library would have a tea/coffee machine.

Committee – Office Bearers were elected. SB would continue as Chair and GW as Vice Chair. Neil Paterson of the Tennis Club would become Treasurer. The Bank Mandate would need to be changed. It was hoped that Committee meetings may be more frequent in the future. More Committee members would be welcome.

Next Meeting - 7 pm on February 1st.

# 9.08 **Environmental Matters**

Sustaining Dunbar – December 5th- JB and MJ had attended

**Climate Change Officer- Hannah Lundstrom**- Hannah had spoken of the role in the Council. There was discussion as to how she and Sustaining Dunbar may work together.

**Belhaven Community Garden** – Naomi Barnes had updated on funding applications. The Amos Trust had just granted £10,000 per annum for 3 years. An application had been made to DELAP for funding to develop the Belhaven Buddy Scheme between DGS pupils and Hospital residents/patients.

A crop rotation system will be trialled on the community shared plots.

Regular volunteer sessions continue on gardening tasks. There is still no water supply due to the ongoing issues at the site and it is not known when this will be resolved.

The long term future of the site remains uncertain. JB had updated on the ELHSCP/IJB discussions.

Local Development Plan/Local Development Plan/Local Place Plans- JB had given an update. There was discussion of the importance of green/blue spaces for physical and mental wellbeing. The loss of open spaces and habitats as a result of recent planning decisions was of concern. It was noted that future planning proposals may further add to the pressures on green space.

**Renewable Projects/ Community Benefits**- JB had updated on discussions at AELCC and Paul McLennan's Energy Forum. She had noted the new Community Windpower Fund to alleviate fuel poverty.

Discussions are ongoing regarding a site for a Community Solar Farm. German students are to visit in January/February to look at this proposal.

**Connecting Dunbar**- An update had been given on the SUSTRANS funding and next steps. **ELCAN**- Members had attended the launch event and other meetings.

<u>ELCAN (East Lothian Climate Action Network)</u> This cross county network had launched in October. It is intended to raise awareness of Climate Change and its impact on East Lothian in particular. It is hoped to establish a Hub to act as an information/advice./support point for communities. A number of events had been held in November and December e.g. on COP 27. Further events will be held in the future.

Working Groups have been set up. One will look at the set up of the Hub. The other is looking at how meaningful links may be established with ELC Councillors and Officers. JB is part of the latter. It had met on December 14th for initial discussions. It was felt important for ELC to be aware of climate change in its processes and decision making e.g. in the planning process. It was thought awareness would be important as ELC develop the Local Development Plan and communities consider Local Place Plans and Local Area Plans. East Lothian Educational Trust 19th December – JB had attended a) Clerk/Administration arrangements – There was further discussion on the transfer from

9.09

ELC to Elaine Allsop the current accountant to the Trust. A draft contract had been drawn up by ELC Finance for Trustees to consider. Trustees were generally happy with the proposals but wording will be checked with CARLO Grilli at ELC Legal Services. It is hoped that the change will allow development of a new website to promote the Trust, an on line application process and other improvements to facilitate the Trust's work. Sarah Fortune of ELC Finance confirmed that ELC would remain involved in the transitional period.

b) Accounts had been submitted to OSCR

c) Transfer of footpath at Cockenzie. This is close to the former Power Station site much of which is now owned by ELC. Transfer would enable continuation of a footpath route between Cockenzie and Prestonpans. It was agreed to seek independent legal advice on the financial offer and also to see if the Trust has title to any other land in the area.

d)Membership- Followship a change in the SNP Group at ELC and the make up of the Education Committee Cllr Liz Allan (SNP) had been replaced as a Trustee by Cllr Colin Yorkston (Labour)

#### 10,00 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Various -Concerns re travellers at Skateraw. JB had responded

Various -Concerns re Closure of U194 – JB had responded

Via Facebook- Housing issues – JB had responded

**ELC -Various TROs and TTROs** 

Sue Anderson, Drainage issues in Marine Road area – JB had responded

Community Carrot – Newsletters

The Ridge – Newsletters

**RAGES- Newsletter** 

Kate Darrah, The Ridge – Queens Road wall issues- JB had responded – passed to ELC and Four Seasons

Sam McComb- Community Wealth Building - PS had responded

Allison Cosgrove – Community Benefit Funding – JB had responded

Esther Hughes – Defibrillator provision at The Rocks – JB had responded

Keith Dingwall, ELC – Local Place Planning Briefing on 14/12

Malcolm Payton, Kings Meadow Residents Association re playparks – JB had responded

Various- Concerns regarding pump track proposals

Catherine Dunning -Energy development proposals – JB had responded

**ELC- Consultation on Council Budget** 

Scottish Communities Alliance – Newsletters

Via Facebook- Romie Blair- Confusing road signage at Queens Road near the cemetery- JB had responded. Passed to ELC

Paul Crawford - Kingsmeadow Residents Association - re funding for playparks. JB had responded

Alex Stewart, Belhaven Church- Re funding opportunities. JB had responded

Various- concerns about lighting and fall hazards at Yosemite Park. JB had responded Various- concerns about proposed one way system at Beveridge Row- JB had responded

Via Facebook- Sarah McCulloch – seeking contact details for Community Police Officer. JB had responded

Improvement Service/Scottish Community Councils - Information on Social Media Council Tenant- Housing issue. JB had responded

Via Facebook- Kevin Searle- Vandalism of fence between Dempster Place and Railway tunnel. JB had responded

Via Facebook- Various- Concerns about unauthorized structure at Hallhill Sports Centre. JB had responded.

Dunbar Medical Centre Patient Participation Group - Newsletter

**Dunbar Community Bakery- Newsletter** 

Via Facebook-Various- gritting issues. JB and PS had responded.

Scottish Communities Alliance- Newsletters

East Lothian Police-Draft Police Plan document

East Lothian Friendly Food Network- Christmas arrangements for foodbanks etc.

Via Facebook- Housing issue. JB had responded. Passed to ELC

ELC Policy and Projects- Consultation on Local Development Plan process

Living Well East Lothian- Newsletter

Jon Fleetwood, ELC Emergency Planning – Festive arrangements

East Lothian IJB- Annual Report 2021-22

Greg Lowe- Pleasance Farm, Spott- Seeking information on windfarm benefits. JB had responded. Passed to East Lammermuir CC.

SP Energy Network- Public consultation events on Branxton Substation

Gary Donlin, SSE Renewables- Planning application for the Branxton substation has been submitted to ELC.

Bear - Newsletter

Various- seeking information on New Year Swims – PS and JB had responded

Planning Democracy- Newsletter

Scott Kennedy, ELC- Weather updates

Donna Schwartz, Fisherman's Mission- Seeking Information – JB had responded and met with her

Jo Waddell, DTA- DTA Publicity- JB had responded

Enjoy Leisure- Thanks for all the support from DCC in buying equipment etc. AS had responded.

Allison Cosgrove- Concerns re limited attendance invitations to A1 Action Group (wishing Dunpender CC to be able to attend)- JB had responded

Via Facebook- Kevin Searle- Wind damaged fence blown onto path between Robertson Homes and ASDA multiple times after 31/12. JB had responded.

Kenny Maule- collapsing path on clifftop trail. JB had responded. Passed to ELC.

Various- complaints about smell near station. JB had responded

Eric Brown- DunBear site at DunBear Park- JB had responded.

Philip Revell- Sustaining Dunbar- Invitation to presentation on Creating a Wellbeing Economy on 31st January

Bear- Survey- JB had responded

Ola Wojtkiewitcz- West Barns Hall AGM- JB had responded

Colin Gilmour- CARS update

Sustaining Dunbar - Newsletter

Via Facebook- Query about properties to let in Dunbar for catering business. JB had responded.

Via Facebook- Ann Morton- Lighting /tree Guards at Yosemite park- JB had responded

Dunbar Twinning Association -Newsletter. AGM has moved to 1st March

Via Facebook- Romie Blair – Blocked drain in High Street. JB had responded

Via Facebook, Kevin Searle- lorries driving on path to DunBear. JB had responded

Via Facebook, Sarah Mason- Query about wall repairs at Abbeylands car park which are restricting the number of parking spaces.

Police- Local Area Commander Jocelyn O'Connor is moving to West Lothian

Via Facebook- Iain Jamieson- Large potholes at entrance of Winterfield Car Park. JB had responded.

Mr Hogg- query about adult social care services. JB had responded.

