

Dunbar Community Council Open Meeting

Dunbar Town House 18th March 2024

MINUTES

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Ref	Item						Action
1.00	SEDERUNT						
1.01	Present Pippa Swan Alasdair Swan Stephen Bunyan Gill Wilson Rena Keller	Chair Treasurer DCC Member DCC Member DCC Member	PS AS SB GW RK	Pam Shields Sanchita Patjoshi Mark James Jacquie Bell Stuart Cameron	DCC Member DCC Member DCC Member DCC Member DCC Member	PSh SP MJ JB SC	
	Norman Hampshire Lyn Jardine	ELC Councillor ELC Councillor	NH	Donna Collins Anouska Woods	ELC Councillor Be Green/CW	DC AW	
	Observers Gavin Wilson Douglas Urquhart Jean Urquhart Ben Salt Aggie Salt Adrian Girling Eva Hurley	The Space DCWG		Emma Westwater Sorcha Alder Lewis Chilvers Mary Young Max Shomberg Steven Ingle Nem Sarten			
	<u>Press</u> Cameron Ritchie	EL Courier		Names in italics =	Poss wrong spelling		
1.02	Apologies Kevin Searle	KS	Gra	ham Adams Vice Ch	nair/Sec GA		
1.03	Councillors' Declarat Nil other than those		ect of	Item 3.01			
1.04		•		vas agreed that the p as part of the ELC C			
2.00	MINUTES OF MEETI	NG – 15 th Januar	y 2024	1			
2.01	Amendments 11.01 MJ wished it		that he	e had not agreed to tl	ne display of the p	oortrait	

Ref	Item	Action
2.02	Adoption – Proposed:MJ Seconded:SP	
	The minutes were adopted with the above amendment.	
2.03	DCC Action Review	
2.03	With the exception of the undernoted, all action items have been attended to or overtaken by events: Nil	
2.04	Matters arising - not dealt with under full agenda items. 3.04/1 Summerfield Road Junction It was noted that Summerfield Road was closed immediately following completion of the extended pavement works which had reportedly damaged mains gas pipework. The road will remain closed until at least 5 th April. MJ reported that he had had some positive feedback from users of the new pavement arrangement. Post meeting note: Upon investigation, MJ confirmed that the gas leak had NOT occurred as a result of the pavement works. 2.04/11.01 Bayswell Road BT Box BT have confirmed that the box has been cleaned and repaired and that the kiosk on High St will now also be repaired.	
	Mosk of Fig. 51 mm now also be repaired.	
3.00	ELC COUNCILLORS' REPORTS	
3.01	24/00126/P – Formation of pumptrack, skatepark, café etc at Hallhill Presented by Councillor Norman Hampshire	
	Declarations of interest: GW, SB, NH – Trustees of Dunbar Community Development & Heritage Trust (DCDHT) JB, MJ – Members of Dunbar Community Woodland Group Adrian Girling – the Space & nominated contractor for construction phase (part) Eva Hurley – Convenor of Dunbar Community Woodland Group NH explained that, upon legal advice, Dunbar Community Development Company was	
	established in 1998 as the vehicle through which 50 acres of woodland and open space, granted by commercial developers Hallhill Developments Ltd, could be developed to provide educational, sports and recreational facilities for the residents of Dunbar. (The company name was changed to DCDHT in 2021)	
	The Trust has supported the establishment of the Community Woodland, Hallhill Sports Centre and all of the associated sporting facilities.	
	All of the many trustees over the years have been and remain volunteers and none have or have ever had any financial interest in the landholdings. Suggestions to the contrary on social media recently, had been deeply offensive and hurtful to the volunteers who had given so much to ensure that that the Hallhill site meets all of the legal purposes of the trust.	
	As reported in the East Lothian Courier an additional 30 acres of open space and woodland were transferred to DCDHT by Hallhill Developments Ltd on 15 th March 2024. Developer funding for a new football pitch, changing facility and play area on the open ground (which already have planning consent) was a condition of the 2018 Local Development Plan (LDP) that allocated land for Hallhill North for housing.	

Ref **Item Action** The genesis of the skatepark and pump track scheme on this site came following representation from children and families at a DCC meeting in 2021 and the plans have been discussed with and enthusiastically supported by young people who are, or who would like to be, involved in these sports, now Olympic events. Hallhill is seen as one of Scotland's top community sports facilities and BMX and skateboarding are recognised as positive activities for people of all ages. Sport Scotland has committed £50k to the pump track project held and the grant of planning consent will facilitate the raising of the remainder of monies required to complete the full scheme. The café/youth hub will be manned and managed throughout the day and into the evenings in response to demand and will be part of the Hallhill site management scheme, with youth workers key to the project. Toilets will be available to the public. The newly acquired woodland will become a woodland classroom. NH was thanked for his presentation and DCC members, who had read all reports and written submissions in opposition to the development from members of the public, were invited to comment. There was widespread, but not unanimous, support for the project from DCC members with a recognition that Dunbar needed additional and varying sporting and recreational opportunities for its growing population. o JB objected to the scheme as being in the wrong place and expressed the view that the existing skate park at Pine St could have been redeveloped. JB identified site specific concerns about the negative impact on biodiversity (a breach of NPF4 - Policy3), parking and vehicular access, especially for emergency vehicles and these concerns were acknowledged by several members. o PSh queried the need for carparking for a pumptrack/skatepark which, by its nature, was to be used by people on bikes and skates. She wanted active travel to be promoted and this view was supported. MJ noted the presence of solar panels on the roofs of the proposed buildings. AS emphasised that DCC supports the aspirations and needs of our young residents. In previous consultation sessions these facilities were what the young wanted. He was confident that ELC Planning Department would consider carefully the Policy objectives of NPF4, as they are bound to do, and would ensure that the scheme meets those objectives. In response to the points raised by DCC members, NH assured the meeting that: o drop down bollards on existing access roads would limit through traffic o the access road would be passable at all times by emergency vehicles o lighting would be limited to that necessary to illuminate a new 3m wide path adjacent to the site the new path would be vehicle accessible in emergencies parking would be available in the school car park out of school time Observers were invited to comment. There was robust support for the project from the Space and a cohort of young people and an equally robust challenge from a number of private individuals and from Dunbar Community Woodland Group. Comments in favour of the application included:

Ref	Item	Action
nel	 Skateboarding can be lifechanging, being a sport that bridges all ages and one in which people can make friends for life Skateboarding is an Olympic sport and offers an accessible activity choice for young people looking for distraction There has been an 86% drop in crime since the establishment of the skatepark/pump track at Ormiston The park at Pine St is too small The project has immense potential to enrich the lives of children and young people It supports the ambitions of the Space in that it is a facility that can be 'powered by youth' The café/hub, properly supported, will be a really good safe place Over 88% of 500+ respondents (73% under the age of 18) supported the creation of a pumptrack/skate park with more than half supportive of the site at Hallhill The project offered a real opportunity to create a co-operative and mutually supportive Lochend/Jampot Forum to ensure that the needs and aspirations of everyone could be met as far as possible 	ACTION
	Comments in opposition to the application included: • DCWG is supportive of community and was instrumental in delivering plan changes in the initial Hallhill developments that protected community amenity. The application does not respect the wishes of DCWG members or many local people • DCWG paid to insure the pump track that was built in the woods in conjunction with Dunbar Cycling Group (funded from Viridor Credits). It is not maintained or well used • ASB is prevalent in the woods with many instances of volunteers having to clean up bottles and drug equipment as well as responding to arson/fire raising. The project will only exacerbate this problem • The Fire Service does not support the application • ELC's own Biodiversity Officer does not support the scheme • Children will be 'cornered' in the new facility. • Key workers will be required to man the café/hub and there is no money or resource to sustain this. • The location is wrong and it is waterlogged/flooded • The skatepark removes choice from children and the noise, traffic and people will affect the flora and fauna of the woodland which are the lungs of the town • The bollard arrangement for road closure cannot be managed • The lack of dedicated lighting will make the site dangerous at night	
	 The facility is aimed at young people only In response to the points raised by observers, NH assured the meeting that: the facility will be open to people of all ages The café will be part of the Hallhill complex and will be managed and operated according to demand Following completion of these exchanges of views, observers were thanked and those not wishing to stay for the remainder of the meeting were invited to leave. Three observers remained. 	
3.02	Cllr Norman Hampshire a. Action Update	

Ref	Item	Action
	No action items to attend to	
	b. Report	
	1. <u>ELC Budget</u> NH confirmed that balancing the ELC budget this year would necessarily impact	
	services and it was likely that the community would be impacted. Detail will be	
	forthcoming.	
3.03	Cllr Lyn Jardine	
	Nothing additional to report this month.	
3.04	Cllr Donna Collins	
	a. <u>Report</u>	
	1. Yosemite Park/Taylor Wimpey HGV	
	All three elected councillors have been involved in addressing an ongoing safety issue in respect of HGV delivery vehicles accessing Taylor Wimpey's (TW) Hallhill North site	
	via Yosemite Park rather than via Hospital Road, as agreed with ELC Planning. With	
	the support of NH and LJ, DC has taken a lead on this. She reported that TW drivers	
	had told locals that they had an period extension to the agreement with ELC over	
	access; this is not correct and ELC have never given such an extension. All HGV	
	vehicle movements should now have stopped. DC will check that this is the case and	DC
	continue to insist on TW adherence to the planning conditions.	
	The use of the road by TW has resulted in surface damage. ELC cannot adopt the	
	road until the damage is made good and ELC and TW are in discussion about how	
	these repairs will be made, and when. There is no fixed time frame, but DC will	DC
	continue to monitor and chase.	
	DC was thanked for all of her endeavours.	
	Questions to Councillors	
	1. A1 Speed Restrictions	
	JB expressed concern over the proposed reduction in the speed limit on the A199, Dunbar/Haddington road from 60 to 40mph, which would impact bus services.	
	MJ pointed out that the buses will be delayed by a maximum of 4 minutes	
	(subsequently checked - distance 7.5 miles on A199 3min 45 sec extra,	
	difference between 60 mand 40 mph) between Haddington and Beltonford	
	roundabouts. That is the worst case scenario if buses don't stop at any intermediate	
	bus stops.	
	NH explained that the change was proposed to facilitate a cyclepath/footpath along	
	the whole stretch of the road, with the carriageway separated from the	
	cyclepath/footpath by a buffer zone. The road will be narrowed in current plans.	
	In addition to the creation of this new cyclepath/footpath, the proposed changes	
	would make the road safer for everybody at centres of population e.g East Linton	
	(west) and Monksmuir, the latter having been particularly badly affected by speeding	
	vehicles over many years.	
	Any proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to change the road layout and reduce	
	the speed limit would have to be the subject of public consultation and everyone	
	would have a chance to feedback on the proposals then.	

Ref	Item	Action			
4.00	POLICE REPORT				
4.01	Police Report to DCC The report is circulated confidentially to DCC members in advance of meetings. Prepared by our Community Policing Officer, PC Laura Jackson, it summarises police activity in the past month and identifies policing priorities, agreed at the monthly Community and Police Partnership (CAPP) meetings, which are attended by Chairs of the four CCs in the Ward.				
	Report items of note: O Youth ASB has continued to dominate local policing time, with groups of young people running amok around Spott Road particularly around Asda, McDonalds and Dunbar garden Centre. Regular patrols will be carried out to tackle this behaviour				
	 Speeding has been an issue this month and Community Police Officers will carry out more speed checks over the coming months 				
	 A number of complaints were received early in the year about parking issues at Hallhill Sports Complex including vehicles parking on the pavement and driving along the pavement to park by the 3G pitches. Patrols will be carried out and offenders issued with a £50 fixed penalty. 				
	Member comments/questions O JB asked about a police promoted scheme to enable community groups to run their own speed checks in their own areas. PS confirmed that Community Speed Watch will be raised at the next CAPP meeting.				
	The next CAPP meeting is to be held on 18 th April 2024.				
4.02	Community and Police Partnership (CAPP) Meeting (8 th February 2024) The meeting discussion centred on ASB and the impacts of same.				
	CAPP Priorities It was agreed that policing priorities would be: 1. Youth ASB - Asda/McDonalds 2. Speeding - Edinburgh Road, West Barns 3. Driving along footpath – Hallhill				
5.00	TREASURER'S REPORT – circulated to members in advance of meeting				
5.01	 General Account: The bank statement balance at the month end was £125,912.79 The restricted funds held within the General account at the end of the month were - 				
	£ Community Windpower Fund £120,049.94				
	Access for All Fund £759.00				
	Local Priorities Fund£1,974.70_				
	TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS £122,783.64				
	The unrestricted funds held within the General account were, at the month end—				
	Balance in the General Fund £3,129.15				

	Item					Actio
	TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNI	DS	£	3,129.15		
	TOTAL FUNDS		£12	5,912.79		
	The VAT refunds were transferred	hetween th	ne account	s in February	<i>I</i> .	
	The 2024 insurance premium of £3			-	•	
	Grants were paid out of the Comm	-		-		
	instalment of the perching benche					
	programme; to the Sparkling Dunb Garden.	ar Festivai;	and to the	e Beinaven Co	ommunity	
	Grants were paid from the Local Programmer	riorities fun	d to Sustai	ning Dunbar	and the	
	Dunbar Trades Association.					
	Christmas Lights Account:					
	The bank balance at the month en	d stood at £	20,681.83	3		
	Donations received during the more			000411.1.		
	The Local Priority Grant of £2,000	was transfe	rred for th	e 2024 lights	5	
	Civic Week Account:					
	The bank balance at the month en					
	 The Local Priority Grant of £2,000 	was transfe	rred for th	e 2024 Fun [Day	
	Dunbar against Litter Account:					
	Dunbar against Litter Account: • The bank balance at the month en	d was £2,34	14.03			
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Ref	Item			Action
	Current year fund	£10 200		
	Brought forward fund			
	Drought for ward rand	£11,719		
		211,713		
	Paid			
	Not yet paid	Our Dunbar	£75	
	Rejected or lapsed	Lauderdale	£450	
	nejected of lapsed	Ludderdare	2430	
	Local Priorities Fund available	£1,450		
	Not yet paid	£525		
	Per Finance Report	£1,975		
5.03	Questions/Matters Arising Nil			
5.04	Local Priorities Grants			
	The following Local Priority Grants were ap	•		
	1. Book Barn - £224 with JB abstaining	-	hat the money would have	
	better been given to the library at 2. Lauderdale Sensory Trail - £486	Bieachingfieid.		
	3. The Ridge Cycling Project - £495			
- 0-	2			
5.05	Project Update The Lauderdale History Panel is now back in	n nlace suitably re	estored and undated. This is	
	the result of great work by Kenny Maule a	•	·	
	time on an entirely voluntary basis. The fin	-	<u> </u>	
	budget at £196.07, including VAT. The Com			
	the work of both Kenny and Andre.			
	Lauderdale Book Barn + Sensory Trail			
	PS expressed sincere thanks to RK for all o	f her hard work o	n these two projects in the	
	few short weeks since she joined DCC.			
	<u>Distribution of Grants</u>			
	AS was delighted to be able to report th		_	
	Priorites Fund and 37 grants from the Com	•		
	to support a wide range of local communit	y groups and proje	ects.	
	The total value of the Community Benefit financial year 2023/24 was £95,943.91	and Local Priorition	es grants distributed in the	
6.00	PLANNING + ROADS MATTERS			
6.01	All planning applications are reviewed prio	r to meetings. Dis	cussed this month:	
	1. Formation of pump track, skate park,	, basketball court	, erection of café building	
	(Class 3), changing room building and a			
	Land South Of Hallhill Sports Centre Kel			
	Ref. No: 24/00126/P Received: Tue 2024 Status: Awaiting decision	e Ub Feb 2024	validated: Mon 19 Feb	

Ref	Item	Action
	DCC members were advised that if comment were to be made to ELC, it had to be submitted on/before 22nd March 2024.	
	After discussion and following the very full information session recorded at Item 3.01 it was agreed by majority that a letter would be written in support of the application.	
	The letter would record DCC's expectation that the applicant would address the following issues with ELC planning during the post-consultation process:	
	 Meeting the requirements of NPF4 Policy 3, that the development should contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity. Limitation of risk that the new facility would exacerbate an existing, serious issue with youth ASB in the woods. 	
	Management of traffic and parking both during the construction phase and on completion.	
	4. Access for emergency vehicles at any time of day or night.5. Mitigation of the risk of ground water flooding to the site and adjacent infrastructure.	
	JB did not support the scheme and did not want to be aligned with the letter of support. She felt that the skatepark should have been located on a different site given that the site in question flooded, that the scheme would significantly impact the biodiversity of the site, that floodlighting would affect bats and other creatures and that access, parking and security issues were not resolved.	
	SC was undecided about the letter of support and it was agreed that he advise PS of his position after the meeting.	
	It was agreed that a draft letter would be circulated to members for comment before issue. (Post meeting note: SC approved the draft letter of support)	PS
	2. Alterations, extensions to house and formation of covered 1/F balcony The Round House Woodbush Dunbar EH42 1HB Ref: 24/00211/P	
	AS and PS stated that they were on the Neighbour Notification List and had written in support of this development at East Beach. There were no adverse comments and no representation will be made by DCC	
6.02	Dunbar Tennis Club - Update The installation of floodlighting in a changed position was granted consent at Planning Committee – 6th February 2024.	
	Mr and Mrs Sadler had written to DCC following the grant of consent expressing their dismay at the decision and members noted this. LJ confirmed that ELC officers will closely monitor the installation and ensure that all planning conditions are met. DCC will continue to monitor feedback from neighbours.	
6.03	DCC Management of Planning Applications as Statutory Consultees PS reported that on 2 nd March 2024, JB had complained to the Chair of the Association of East Lothian Community Councils about the way DCC was handling the planning application scrutiny process, stating that PS was not sharing information on applications with DCC members.	

Ref	Item	Action
	It was confirmed that the process for scrutinising planning applications remains absolutely in line with past practice, and an agreement reached between members that distribution of information prior to meetings would be managed so as not to overwhelm them with unnecessary reading.	
	With the agreement of members, PS has been responsible for scrutinising planning lists since last August. In January 2024, at a table shared by other DCC members, MJ offered his assistance to PS and this was gratefully accepted. Two pairs of eyes now check the lists and only those applications that appear to warrant discussion are brought to the table. We have agreed that we will not generally discuss re-roofing, replacement windows, fences, solar panels, paint colours, sheds, short term lets etc unless there is some pressing reason to do so e.g following representation by a neighbour or the applicant. This is consistent with our previous practice when JB was asked by PS (as DCC Chair) to bring forward significant planning applications only, for discussion at meetings.	
	SC noted that JB is passionate about planning matters and expert at interrogating the ELC system. This was acknowledged by all. The ELC Planning Portal is open to every member of DCC and any member can request that any application be added to the agenda for discussion at any meeting.	
	PS asked if, in the light of JB's complaint, the current planning scrutiny and distribution system worked for them.	
	SP asked MJ if he was happy with the current arrangement for reviewing lists and he confirmed that he was.	
	Members agreed to continue with current arrangements, without change.	
	MJ's offer of assistance on this internal DCC admin matter is now noted.	
7.00	LICENSING MATTERS	
7.01	Nil	
8.00	DCC PROJECT UPDATE	
8.01	Local Place Plan – Background report distributed with agenda A revised LPP is being prepared by Dunbar Trades Assoc, Sustaining Dunbar and West Barns CC, with AS, for DCC.	
8.02	DCC Awards Night Advertising has been issued and members were encouraged to consider nominations for awards.	All
9.00	DCC + COMMUNITY PROJECTS/GROUPS - UPDATE	
9.01	Renewables Meeting An intercommunity meeting was held with developers to discuss the impacts of upcoming renewables contracts on East Lothian. KS attended for DCC and will update in due course.	
	Post Meeting Note: KS advised that all the most recent information, including documents and an interactive map showing all renewables developments affecting the Lammermuirs, can be found on this link: https://eastlammermuirdevelopments.co.uk	

Ref	Item	Action
9.02	Valencia Landfill Liaison With ongoing issues of smells emanating from the landfill site at Valencia, AS has been in contact with group management. Valencia is investigating the latest incidents and AS reminded all members that the message has to be spread that members of the public can assist tracking pollution and nuisance issues by sharing photos and diary records both with Valencia and with DCC. Date, time, weather, wind direction and number plates of offending vehicles are all important factors.	
	It was noted that the lack of a full-time site manager may be impacting the proper operation of the site and JB cited other instances, nationwide where similar problems have arisen following transfer of sites from Viridor to Valencia.	
9.03	EDF Liaison Report circulated with papers. No comment or questions from members.	
10.00	OPEN CONSULTATIONS – to note	
10.01	ELC CONSULTATION HUB lists all currently open consultations in East Lothian. No new consultations to report	
11.00	AOB	
11.01	DCC Informal meeting with Paul McLennan Paul McLennan spent 90 minutes with members at a well-attended informal meeting on 4 th March. A wide range of subjects were discussed in a positive and informative session.	
11.02	Bike Racks Proposals for bike racks for High St will be brought back to the table at next month's meeting.	MJ/PS
11.03	ELC Senior Roads Officer at DCC Meetings Morag Haddow, ELC Senior Roads Officer, has written to offer attendance at DCC meetings on a routine or ad hoc basis. PS has replied to thank Morag and to suggest that she use meetings with DCC to share proposed roads/active travel/pathway/traffic management changes well in advance of plan development. DCC will always make time for these discussions at meetings.	
	Members approved this approach.	
11.04	Eve's Coaches – On demand bus service A 'soft launch' of the 131DTR 'on demand' bus service started on 11 th March. MJ reported that information including a phone number for booking, could be found on the Eve's Coaches website. https://www.eveinfo.co.uk/bus-services/	
12.00	NEXT MEETINGS	
12.01	DCC Informal Meeting None in April (Easter Monday Holiday)	All
12.02	DCC Open Meeting – Monday 15 th April 2024 7pm Town House	