



Dunbar Community Council Open Meeting

Dunbar Town House

19th February 2024

MINUTES

Ref	Item	Action																																								
1.00	SEDERUNT																																									
1.01	<p><u>Present</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Pippa Swan</td> <td>Chair</td> <td>PS</td> <td>Kevin Searle</td> <td>KS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alasdair Swan</td> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>AS</td> <td>Sanchita Patjoshi</td> <td>SP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stuart Cameron</td> <td></td> <td>SC</td> <td>Mark James</td> <td>MJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anouska Woods</td> <td>Be Green/CW</td> <td>AW</td> <td>Jacquie Bell</td> <td>JB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Norman Hampshire</td> <td>ELC Councillor</td> <td>NH</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Observers</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Peter McDonagh</td> <td></td> <td>Mike Shaw</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gavin Wilson</td> <td></td> <td>Rev Keith Mills</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr + Mrs Urquart</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shelagh Tait</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Press</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Cameron Ritchie</td> <td>EL Courier</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Pippa Swan	Chair	PS	Kevin Searle	KS	Alasdair Swan	Treasurer	AS	Sanchita Patjoshi	SP	Stuart Cameron		SC	Mark James	MJ	Anouska Woods	Be Green/CW	AW	Jacquie Bell	JB	Norman Hampshire	ELC Councillor	NH			Peter McDonagh		Mike Shaw	Gavin Wilson		Rev Keith Mills	Mr + Mrs Urquart			Shelagh Tait			Cameron Ritchie	EL Courier		
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1.02	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Lyn Jardine</td> <td>LJ</td> <td>Graham Adams</td> <td>Vice Chair/Sec</td> <td>GA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rena Keller</td> <td>RK</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stephen Bunyan</td> <td>SB</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gill Wilson</td> <td>GW</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pam Shields</td> <td>PSh</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Lyn Jardine	LJ	Graham Adams	Vice Chair/Sec	GA	Rena Keller	RK				Stephen Bunyan	SB				Gill Wilson	GW				Pam Shields	PSh																			
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1.03	<p><u>Councillors' Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Nil</p>																																									
1.04	<p><u>Meeting Chair</u></p> <p>It was agreed that Alasdair Swan would chair the meeting.</p>																																									
2.00	MINUTES OF MEETING – 15th January 2024																																									
2.01	<p>Amendments</p> <p><i>Nil</i></p>																																									
2.02	<p>Adoption – Proposed:KS Seconded:SC</p> <p>The minutes were adopted without amendment</p>																																									
2.03	<p>DCC Action Review</p> <p>With the exception of the undernoted, all action items have been attended to or overtaken by events:</p> <p><i>Nil</i></p>																																									

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2.04	<p>Matters arising - not dealt with under full agenda items.</p> <p>6.01 <u>Countess Road Closure</u> The Laundrette owner has been advised of DCC's letter to ELC Roads and will notify us when a satisfactory resolution has been reached.</p> <p>11.01 <u>Bayswell Road BT Box</u> BT have confirmed that this will be checked and cleaned BT to be approached to tidy and repair the phone box on High St</p>	PS
3.00	ELC COUNCILLORS' REPORTS	
3.01	<p>Cllr Norman Hampshire</p> <p>a. <u>Action Update</u> Shore Road residents have been invited to meet with ELC officers to feedback on the Campervan parking trial at Shore Road, as promised by NH last year. It is anticipated that full public consultation on the Shore Road/Back Road traffic and active travel proposals will happen in the spring.</p> <p>b. <u>Report</u></p> <p>1. <u>ELC Budget</u> NH gave a detailed account of the issues relating to East Lothian Council's budget shortfall and explained that a great deal of cross-party work had gone into trying to bridge a £27m gap. Raising Council Tax this year is not seen as an option but will be considered for future years. An increase in Council Tax this year will result in the loss of financial support from Central Government, so will be self-defeating. Even with a Council Tax increase, the shortfall will run to many millions of pounds and all services will be affected one way or another.</p> <p>Residents will become immediately aware of a move to reduced green bin collections and charges for garden waste collection.</p> <p>Concern was expressed by all present at the impact that a lack of funding will have on health and social care. NH explained that the Integrated Joint Board (IJB) had overall responsibility for expenditure on these matters but that if there was any overspend on their budget it would have to be met by ELC... which has no spare money at all.</p>	
3.02	<p>Cllr Lyn Jardine <i>Not in attendance</i></p>	
3.03	<p>Cllr Donna Collins <i>Not in attendance</i></p>	
3.04	<p>Questions to Councillors</p> <p>1. <u>Summerfield Road Junction</u> DCC Members were vocal in their criticism of ELC plans to make alterations to the junction of Summerfield Road with Belhaven Road by widening pavements into Belhaven Road. This work is being carried out with the minimum of notice and without warning to residents, DGS, Belhaven Hill School or Belhaven Church. DCC members felt that this was an unwanted and potentially dangerous intervention to address a problem that did not exist.</p> <p>NH explained that the move was a legacy of the Spaces for People initiative in place during Covid 19 and that there had been support then, in 2020, for this plan. It was intended to make the roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists and there was funding</p>	

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	<p>specifically available for this type of work. DCC Member Mark James spoke in favour of the plans as a good move towards more sustainable travel.</p> <p>After discussion, NH agreed that ELC had not communicated the plans well and that the impact of the changes to the road layouts would have to be watched.</p> <p>NH also agreed that ELC Roads must come forward to DCC with a comprehensive plan for Active Travel so that members could see and understand where these road changes would take place. This would give time for residents to comment, as appropriate.</p> <p>2. <u>Valencia Landfill Fire – Follow up action</u> AS and PSh had attended an update meeting with Valencia on 31 January 2024 and had circulated a briefing paper to DCC members. NH was asked to note that , following that meeting, it was proposed that DCC would take the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>DCC will write to Valencia for a copy of their revised emergency procedure to tackle future incidents involving fire.</i> 2. <i>DCC will lodge a Freedom of Information request so that DCC can see Valencia's own fire investigation report (submitted to SEPA).</i> 3. <i>DCC will ask ELC why the Emergency Response Team failed to recognise the toxic danger of the fumes and failed to inform the relevant communities. How are ELC's lessons learned recorded? Can we have a sight of them, so that the response is correct if there is a next time.</i> 4. <i>DCC will ask SEPA why they failed to take air quality tests and will ask SEPA to undertake soil samples, informing DCC of the significance of the results.</i> <p>It was also agreed that DCC would seek to co-ordinate information requests with the other CC representatives who had attended the Valencia liaison meeting.</p>	 AS AS AS AS AS
4.00	POLICE REPORT	
4.01	<p>Police Report to DCC <i>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.</i></p> <p>Report items of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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, causing significant damage to property and alarm in customers. A number of young people have been arrested and charged and the police are working with young people and families in an attempt to promote more positive behaviours. ○ There have been a number of reports of vandalisms to motor vehicles reported in and around the High Street and enquiries are ongoing. ○ A number of complaints have been received about parking issues at Hallhill Sports Complex including vehicles parking on the pavement and driving along the pavement to park by the 3G pitches. The manager at Halhill has sent out a reminder to all members regarding parking and requested that the carpark is utilised at all times. It is an offence to drive 	 PS

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	<p>on a footpath. Patrols will be carried out and offenders issued with a £50 fixed penalty.</p> <p>Member comments/questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members felt that the current system for reporting was not working and that calls to 101 were not being answered. They queried if it were possible to report crimes in a different way so that a true picture could be seen. ○ A 'heavy bladed' instrument was seen being wielded by a youth in one of the groups between Fairacres and the railway bridge. <p>PS will raise these issues at the next CAPP to be held on 11th April 2024.</p>	PS														
4.02	<p>Community and Police Partnership (CAPP) Meeting (8th February 2024) The meeting discussion centred on ASB and the impacts of same.</p> <p><u>Response to DCC Questions</u></p> <p>1. Police Station Opening Times These are not posted at the Police Station because the station is not always manned and opens irregularly.</p> <p>2. Stolen Bikes Lost and stolen bikes are kept at Dalkeith Police Station for a period of time, sometimes up to a year and if they are not claimed they go to auction.</p> <p><u>CAPP Priorities</u> It was agreed that policing priorities for the coming month will be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Youth ASB - Asda/McDonalds 2. Speeding - Edinburgh Road, West Barns 3. Driving along footpath – Hallhill 															
5.00	TREASURER'S REPORT – <i>circulated to members in advance of meeting</i>															
5.01	<p>General Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bank statement balance at the month end was £138,655.00 • The restricted funds held within the General account at the end of the month were – <table style="margin-left: 40px; width: 60%;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Windpower Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£124,962.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Access for All Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£759.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Priorities Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£8,137.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£133,859.64</u></td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The unrestricted funds held within the General account were, at the month end– <table style="margin-left: 40px; width: 60%;"> <tr> <td>Balance in the General Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£4,795.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£4,795.36</u></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">TOTAL FUNDS £138,655.00</p>		£	Community Windpower Fund	£124,962.94	Access for All Fund	£759.00	Local Priorities Fund	£8,137.70	TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£133,859.64</u>	Balance in the General Fund	£4,795.36	TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£4,795.36</u>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The balance in the General Fund is unusually high as it contains a VAT refund, much of which will be transferred to the accounts below. Grants were paid out of the community fund in January to DACYP and to the King's Meadow Development Association. <p>Christmas Lights Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bank balance at the month end stood at £ 17,598.75 Donations received during the month were £620 Fundraising in the month amounted to £60 Expenses incurred were £683 <p>Civic Week Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bank balance at the month end was £8,895.52 There was no movement in the month. The Committee has met again at the start of February and the Safety Action Group has been informed about the 2024 event. A formal SAG meeting is being arranged by ELC. <p>Dunbar against Litter Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bank balance at the month end was £1,336.28 																																														
5.02	<p>Local Priority Fund Update</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 1059 994 1350"> <thead> <tr> <th>Local Priority Grant applications</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Review</th> <th>Decision</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Our Dunbar</td> <td>£315</td> <td>May</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary School Parent Council</td> <td>£297</td> <td>May</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Aid training for volunteers</td> <td>£575</td> <td>July</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rotary - School laminator</td> <td>£286</td> <td>July</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DTA - pull test for baskets</td> <td>£683</td> <td>July</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday Coffee Club</td> <td>£250</td> <td>Sep</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunbar Grammar School</td> <td>£500</td> <td>Oct</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Futuro bins - Glebe Gala Green</td> <td>£750</td> <td>Dec</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p> Committed or under review £3,656 <i>Local Priorities Fund available</i> £8,063 Maximum Budget Total <u><u>£11,719</u></u> </p> <p> Current year fund £10,200 Brought forward fund <u><u>£1,519</u></u> <u><u>£11,719</u></u> </p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 1619 957 1715"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Paid</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not yet paid</td> <td>Our Dunbar</td> <td>£75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rejected or lapsed</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p> <i>Local Priorities Fund available</i> £8,063 Not yet paid £75 Per Finance Report <u><u>£8,138</u></u> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jan-24</p>	Local Priority Grant applications	Amount	Review	Decision	Our Dunbar	£315	May	Awarded	Primary School Parent Council	£297	May	Awarded	First Aid training for volunteers	£575	July	Awarded	Rotary - School laminator	£286	July	Awarded	DTA - pull test for baskets	£683	July	Awarded	Tuesday Coffee Club	£250	Sep	Awarded	Dunbar Grammar School	£500	Oct	Awarded	Futuro bins - Glebe Gala Green	£750	Dec	Awarded	Paid			Not yet paid	Our Dunbar	£75	Rejected or lapsed			
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5.03	<p>Questions/Matters Arising <u>Advertising Funding Pots</u></p>	AS																																													

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	It was agreed that better promotion of the projects that DCC had funded through grant support would help to advertise the funds and encourage applications. AS will pursue this with KS (Facebook) and PSh(Website) in due course.	
5.04	<p>Local Priorities Grant Applications</p> <p>The following grants from the Local Priorities Fund were approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Week - £2000 2. Christmas Lights - £2000 3. Lauderdale House Information Panel - £450 4. Dunbar Against Litter New Bins- £1000 5. Dunbar Trades Association Our Dunbar Maps - £750 	
6.00	PLANNING + ROADS MATTERS	
6.01	<p>All planning applications are reviewed prior to meetings. Discussed this month:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Installation of replacement windows at Coastguard Cottages, Lamer Street Dunbar EH42 1HD Ref. No: 24/00116/P Received: Mon 05 Feb 2024 Validated: Tue 06 Feb 2024 Status: Awaiting decision</p> <p>Members were supportive of the installation of uPVC windows in the conservation area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The climate emergency should ‘trump’ the need to preserve outdated features at all costs • The cost of timber replacement windows can be up to 10x the cost of uPVC windows, making this a property upgrade that most people cannot now afford • The quality of uPVC has improved to such an extent that uPVC in traditional styles are essentially indiscernible from timber profiles • uPVC has been permitted in street frontages in North Berwick and on the coastal frontage at Dunbar </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>DCC will write to ELC to support this application.</p> </div>	PS
6.02	<p>Dunbar Tennis Club – Update</p> <p>The installation of floodlighting in a changed position was granted consent at Planning Committee – 6th February 2024.</p> <p>Residents remain concerned that problems will persist as there is no plan to change the nature of the light fittings. DCC will continue to monitor feedback from neighbours.</p>	
6.03	<p>Battery Storage Facilities</p> <p>Concern was expressed over the proliferation of planning applications relating to renewable energies, with a particular focus on the fire risks associated with large scale battery storage facilities, one of which is planned to the west of Beltonford roundabout.</p> <p>DCC members are involved in discussions with other affected CCs and will look to take a joint position with them on these planning matters.</p>	
7.00	LICENSING MATTERS	
7.01	Broxmouth Park	

Ref	Item	Action
	Applications for occasional entertainment licenses for events between April and July, were noted.	
8.00	DCC PROJECT UPDATE	
8.01	<p>Local Place Plan</p> <p>The draft Local Place Plan was made available, as promised, to DCC members, all steering group members and all the parties who had been involved in the compilation of the draft, on 29th January 2024. The draft plan was presented to Community Council members and all contributing group reps, with the exception of Dunbar Trades, on 5th February. The draft was warmly received and feedback from that meeting was recorded and circulated. Dunbar Trades Association elected to hold their own review meeting. Pippa Swan, who made the presentation on 5th February, has stepped away from the next stage to allow others the space to see if they can come up with improved ideas. Dunbar Trades Association and Sustaining Dunbar are leading this next stage.</p>	
8.02	<p>Book Barn and Sensory Trail at Lauderdale Park</p> <p>In RK's absence, AS reported that these projects are progressing well and that it is still hoped that they will be up and running before the summer. Further updates will be forthcoming.</p>	
8.03	<p>DCC Awards Night</p> <p>PS gave notice that the Awards Night will take place on Monday 10th June 2024 and that members would be invited to consider nominees for the awards from next month. RK will assist PS this year.</p>	
8.04	<p>Civic Week</p> <p>SP reported that the Civic Week Committee was working hard on this years events and that the programme would follow much the same pattern as previous years. Dunbar Pipe Band are unable to play this year as they will be at competition. Members were asked to provide contact details for bands or groups who might lead the parade. Anouska Woods will pass on details of a drumming band that might be good.</p> <p>DCC members will be invited to volunteer themselves and others to assist at the Fun Day on June 8th and at other events during the following week.</p>	
9.00	DCC + COMMUNITY PROJECTS/GROUPS - UPDATE	
9.01	<p>Harbour Trust - Feedback</p> <p>Members were invited to respond to a request from Dunbar Harbour Trust for their ideas on what the Trust might do at the harbour over the next 3 – 10 years. The intention is that the ideas would capture members' perceived community ambitions.</p>	All
9.02	<p>Nextdoor Nature Pioneers' Programme</p> <p>MJ has passed on details of this programme to the Ridge, who will represent Dunbar on this initiative.</p>	
10.00	OPEN CONSULTATIONS – to note	
10.01	<p>ELC CONSULTATION HUB lists all currently open consultations in East Lothian.</p> <p>1. Various applications for single disabled parking spaces outside homes in residential areas were noted</p>	
11.00	AOB	
11.01	King's Portrait	

Ref	Item	Action
	The Community Council has been offered a framed photograph of King Charles and it was agreed that this offer should be accepted. DCC will liaise with Dunbar Town House over its placement in the Council Chamber.	AS
11.02	Bike Racks Members were invited to inspect the stainless steel bike racks located at St Anne's church as these are weathering well, without rust or marking. This may inform future decisions about bike racks for High Street.	
11.03	Access to Southern Platform, Dunbar Station It was noted that ELC are applying for funding to deliver access to the southern platform at Dunbar Station. Residents are already expressing concern over the potential for parking issues in nearby streets. DCC will monitor progress, closely as it is recognised that Resident Parking only may have to be implemented.	
11.04	Station Road Potholes in the road have been patched and Network Rail are costing a full resurfacing project.	
12.00	NEXT MEETINGS	
12.01	DCC Informal Meeting (Closed) – Monday 4th March – Paul McLennan DCC Members are to communicate any questions for Paul McLennan to PS who will ensure that Paul has them before his visit. AS, PS and PSh have already tendered questions	All
12.02	DCC Open Meeting – Monday 18th March 2024 7pm Town House	

PS/AS