



Dunbar Community Council Open Meeting

Dunbar Town House

20th May 2024

MINUTES

Ref	Item	Action																																																																		
1.00	SEDERUNT																																																																			
1.01	<p>Present</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Pippa Swan</td> <td>Chair</td> <td>PS</td> <td>Pam Shields</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>PSh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alasdair Swan</td> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>AS</td> <td>Mark James</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>MJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stuart Cameron</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>SC</td> <td>Jacquie Bell</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>JB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kevin Searle</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>KS</td> <td>Rena Keller</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>RK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Norman Hampshire</td> <td>ELC Councillor</td> <td>NH</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lyn Jardine</td> <td>ELC Councillor</td> <td>LJ</td> <td>Anouska Woods</td> <td>Be Green/CW</td> <td>AW</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Observers</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Gavin Wilson</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Alan (withheld)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Douglas Urquhart</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P McDonagh</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jean Urquhart</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Keith Mills</td> <td>Dunbar Baptist Church</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mike Shaw</td> <td>DSHNG</td> <td></td> <td>Andrew Boddie</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Press</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Cameron Ritchie</td> <td>EL Courier</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Pippa Swan	Chair	PS	Pam Shields	DCC Member	PSh	Alasdair Swan	Treasurer	AS	Mark James	DCC Member	MJ	Stuart Cameron	DCC Member	SC	Jacquie Bell	DCC Member	JB	Kevin Searle	DCC Member	KS	Rena Keller	DCC Member	RK	Norman Hampshire	ELC Councillor	NH				Lyn Jardine	ELC Councillor	LJ	Anouska Woods	Be Green/CW	AW	Gavin Wilson			Alan (withheld)			Douglas Urquhart			P McDonagh			Jean Urquhart			Keith Mills	Dunbar Baptist Church		Mike Shaw	DSHNG		Andrew Boddie			Cameron Ritchie	EL Courier					
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1.03	<p><u>Councillors' Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>AS wished it to be known that as he was no longer a trustee of Dunbar Harbour Trust, he felt able to vote in respect of the DHT funding application.</p>																																																																			
2.00	MINUTES OF MEETING – 15th April 2024																																																																			
2.01	<p>Amendments</p> <p>Nil</p>																																																																			
2.02	<p>Adoption – Proposed:SC Secoded:KS</p> <p>The minutes were adopted</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>																																																																			
2.04	<p>Matters arising - not dealt with under full agenda items.</p> <p>Nil</p>																																																																			

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3.00	ELC COUNCILLORS' REPORTS	
3.01	<p data-bbox="288 210 592 244">Cllr Norman Hampshire</p> <p data-bbox="288 250 528 284">1. <u>Action Update</u></p> <p data-bbox="347 288 831 322">a) Belhaven Hospital Site – NH with LJ</p> <p data-bbox="395 327 1401 421">NH confirmed that the site was owned by NHS Lothian and that, driven by budget constraints and an analysis of existing and projected demand against resource, it would remain permanently closed.</p> <p data-bbox="395 465 1401 560">Although adamant that East Lothian had sufficient beds to cope with demand without those at Belhaven, NHS Lothian did accept that there was a bed shortage in the east of the county.</p> <p data-bbox="395 604 1401 698">Self funders have to pay in excess of £1600pw for care home rooms local authority beds cost £1100. All Local Authorities are now required to meet the real cost of care and all Local Authority beds in East Lothian will be priced up to reflect this.</p> <p data-bbox="395 743 1401 949">A new model of care and payment for same is needed across Scotland. This might include a model where people are allowed to buy extra-care housing and then pay for care only. This model would protect an individual's property asset. The new care housing at Herdmanflat will allow for purchase once a care package is in place, echoing successful models in England. (JB pointed out that there are ownership tensions when a couple own an extra care house and the 'cared for' partner dies.)</p> <p data-bbox="395 994 1401 1061">ELC does not have the funds to buy the site and Belhaven and is in discussion with NHS Lothian to determine if a joint venture might be possible.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1106 1401 1375">LJ spoke of her experience with extra care housing in Mid Lothian and reinforced the community view that the site needed to provide for a wider range of support and health care services, in addition to different types of supported living. The whole site needed to be financially sustainable in the long term. Paul McLennan has been in discussion with reps from both Dunbar (PSh) and North Berwick. PSh told the meeting that Paul McLennan believed that the site would be put to the market this financial year if no viable health and wellbeing solution was found for it.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1420 1401 1525">After discussion, it was agreed that a working group was urgently needed. It was agreed that LJ would take the lead and invite representation from Dunbar, East Lammermuir, West Barns and Dunderpender in the first instance.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1570 1401 1664">The aim would be to build on all the work done to date through DELAP and the LPP and develop a potentially viable brief for the site that could be used for discussion purposes with NHS Lothian and other stakeholders.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1709 1401 1776">The group would also build in information gained from DCC involvement with the current HSCP review of care provisioning for older people.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1821 1401 1915">MJ noted the success of the Aberdeen Health and Wellbeing village, a community endeavour. Sustaining Dunbar were going to try to secure an asset transfer for Belhaven Garden.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1960 1401 2027">AS stressed the need to protect the site from sale until all avenues had been exhausted.</p> <p data-bbox="347 2031 810 2065">b) Youth ASB and CAPP – NH with LJ</p>	<p data-bbox="1449 1496 1473 1529" style="text-align: center;">LJ</p>

Ref	Item	Action
	<p>Following the cancelled Community and Police Partnership meeting last month, LJ had arranged a special meeting between the police and DCC reps, PSh and SC to focus on the escalation of youth ASB in Dunbar.</p> <p>PSh stated that the fact that youth ASB has been on every CAPP agenda for years speaks to the fact that current systems are failing. The ASB is not simply high spirits but repeated instances of vandalism by physical damage and fire raising. She was of the view that the police, who are present in Dunbar on weekdays only, are not in a position to deal with incidents that happen primarily in the evening and at weekends. She felt that there was no merit at all in demonising young people but rather, there was a need to try to find ways of channelling activity in a positive way. PSh offered to lead a DCC group on this and this was welcomed. PSh, supported by SC, will work with LJ in the first instance. This group would also seek support from DELAP and would build in input from existing youth groups and Dunbar Grammar School. The appointment of a new headmaster, John Johnston, was warmly welcomed.</p> <p>In the interim, the public are to be encouraged to report any and all ASB incidents on line. https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/c3/ This is more efficient than trying to call 101.</p> <p>In cases of fire raising or when life is at risk, dial 999.</p> <p>Educating the public to use reporting in this way is considered crucial if Dunbar is to attract additional policing resource. (SC)</p>	PSh
3.02	<p>Cllr Lyn Jardine</p> <p>i. <u>Action Update</u></p> <p>a. Belhaven Hospital (see above)</p> <p>b. Back Road Consultation</p> <p>The consultation will take place after the summer (August/September) There is no funding in place from ELC for any road layout changes and any cash would probably have to come from Sustrans.</p>	
3.03	<p>Cllr Donna Collins</p> <p>i. <u>Action Update</u> (delivered by NH in DC absence)</p> <p>a. Yosemite Park/Taylor Wimpey HGV</p> <p>HGV drivers have continued to use Yosemite Park despite representations from ELC Planning officers. JB has passed reports to DC for action and ELC remain actively pursuing a resolution with TW.</p> <p>NH confirmed that the development cannot be stopped.</p> <p>It is expected that DC will continue to press for a solution.</p>	DC
3.04	<p>Questions to Councillors</p> <p>a. Public Toilet Maintenance</p> <p>RK reported that the public toilets at Lauderdale House are either blocked or out of order and the loos were 'disgusting'. RK was advised to report this to ELC by calling 01620 827827.</p> <p>b. Wall Safety – Queens Road</p>	RK

Ref	Item	Action
	<p>RK expressed concern at the continuing degradation of the wall at Queen’s Road and at the fact that barriers had been removed. It was noted by an observer at the meeting that many of the barriers had, in fact, been thrown over the wall.</p> <p>NH confirmed that ELC have inspected the wall and confirmed that it is ‘not going to fall down’. Ownership of the wall has recently changed.</p> <p>DCC again stated that they would support proposals to replace the stone wall with high quality railings, recognising that the wall is beyond economic repair.</p> <p>c. Road Repair – ELC Scrutiny RK queried the quality control mechanism operated by ELC in respect of patch repairs to roadways. Recent repairs to Countess Road had left ruts that could prove fatal to cyclists if a wheel were to get caught.</p> <p>RK was advised to report the defects to ELC via 01620827827 or the Report It facility on the website. Other Road Defects</p> <p>d. Dropped Kerbs RK queried the quality control systems in Roads whereby new dropped kerbs are installed with no apparent thought to how they relate to one another. There are many instances where there is a dropped kerb on one side of the road but no matching drop on the other, meaning that bike, buggy and wheelchair users have to use the public roadway, putting themselves at risk. SC expressed concern over this at Belhaven and RK noted the particular shortcomings at Queen’s Road.</p> <p>RK to contact Tom Reid at ELC.</p> <p>e. Spott Road Traffic Lights Local resident Andrew Boddie asked for an update on the proposed traffic lights at the Spott Road junction. NH was not aware of any further moves to introduce these but he could not say that it would not happen. He has proposed to Transportation that a crossing point be made closer to Bellevue Court.</p> <p>After discussion, it was agreed that DCC member Kevin Searle would meet with Andrew Boddie to consider options for creating safe crossings that did not include traffic lights at the junction of Spott Road.</p>	<p>RK</p> <p>KS</p>
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"> • 2 reports of theft of pedal bikes have were received during tha past month and police request that bike owners be reminded to use suitable gold standard bike locks and register their bike with bike register at www.bikeregister.com • ASB at Spott road continues to be an issue although calls have been reduced since Asda have employed extra security staff. Significantly, the polytunnel at Belhaven Hospital was set on fire which suggests that youth continue to congregate within the grounds of the hospital and cause damage. Community officers and East 	

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	<p>Lothian Action Team will be carrying out extra evening patrols to try and tackle ASB.</p> <p>Member comments/questions for next CAPP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See Item 3.01(b) - PSh and SC will represent DCC at CAPP going forward. ○ Community Speed Check initiative <p>The next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 13th June 2024. LJ will organise.</p>													
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 £119,500.10 • 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;">£104,784.44</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;"><u>£11,226.78</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£116,770.22</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>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£2,729.88</u></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">TOTAL FUNDS £119,500.10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The General Fund has been depleted because of the payment for legal fees on behalf of the Association of East Lothian Community Councils (£1,500 plus VAT). The cost will be recovered in full through a CARES grant. • Grants were paid out of the Community Fund in March for - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an EPOS system for Dunbar Community Bakery; ○ the 2024 stone-stacking festival for European Land Arts; ○ Surfing therapy for the Wave project; ○ the 2024 Intergenerational Group; ○ a Youth Research Project ○ restoration of the school war memorial. • Grants were paid from the Local Priorities fund in March for – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lauderdale House Notice Board ○ a cycling project with the Ridge <p>Christmas Lights Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bank balance at the month end stood at £ 20,800.52 • The Easter fundraising amounted to £909 • Expenditure in the month was £430 <p>Civic Week Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bank balance at the month end was £ 11,466.71 • Payments for early Fun Day bookings amounted to £850 • Donations in the month amounted to £790 <p>Dunbar against Litter Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bank balance at the month end was £ 2,068.03 • Road tax on the van amounted to £320 		£	Community Windpower Fund	£104,784.44	Access for All Fund	£759.00	Local Priorities Fund	<u>£11,226.78</u>	TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£116,770.22</u>	TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£2,729.88</u>	
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5.04	<p>Local Priorities Grants The following Local Priority Grants were approved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dunbar Harbour Trust - £500 for benches at the harbour. 																																																																									
5.05	<p>Project Update <u>Lauderdale Book Barn</u> The Book Barn is in place and has been warmly welcomed. Again, huge thanks to RK for all her hard work – including the painting! Furniture was donated by Zero Waste.</p> <p><u>Perching Benches</u> The Perching Benches project was completed earlier in May and enormous thanks go to the Community Shed and to local resident, Bob Sinclair, who championed the project.</p> <p>The last two benches were positioned at Bleachingfield and, unfortunately, were vandalised almost immediately, being overturned by excessive force. The attack was made so much worse for the volunteers at the Community Shed by social media comment that the benches had been improperly founded. This was absolutely not the case. Volunteers from the Community Shed had gone to great lengths to add steel dowels to the legs to increase anchorage in concrete and the foundations were more than appropriate for the intended purpose....seating.</p> <p>DCC have spoken to the Community Shed, reiterating our utmost support and gratitude to them for all that they had done. They will reposition the two benches and DCC will meet any additional cost of same.</p>																																																																									
6.00	PLANNING + ROADS MATTERS																																																																									
6.01	<p>All planning applications are reviewed prior to meetings. Discussed this month:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Lochend Lodge and Public Open Space, Lochend Road – erection of 4 houses – Renewal of Planning Consent Approved drawings from 2020</u> DCC wrote to object to this application in 2020 on the grounds that, amongst other matters, it represented a significant overdevelopment of a very small plot. The 4 																																																																									

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	new houses, in addition to the Lodge, would create additional traffic close to the Spott Road junction and represent an additional hazard. DCC to write ELC to object to this application.	DCC
	b. <u>4 Colvin St – Change of use of garden ground and erection of 1 bed holiday let (1.5stories)</u> DCC is supportive of this development and will write to ELC to reflect this. There are no roads issues and the development is sufficiently discrete such as not to adversely impact the area.	DCC
7.00	LICENSING MATTERS	
7.01	Nil to note	
8.00	DCC PROJECT UPDATE	
8.01	<p>High Street Bike Racks - MJ</p> <p>The paper prepared by MJ and PS last year was amended by MJ following feedback from Dunbar Trades.</p> <p>PS explained that the proposal to use SS steel racks in a contemporary design was borne of lengthy discussion with MJ, who is a keen and knowledgeable cyclist. It was felt that the more modern design was in keeping with the 2000 streetscape and be a move away from the ubiquitous racks seen in Haddington and elsewhere.</p> <p>This style has, though, been rejected at present with the more utilitarian ‘Sheffield’ racks being proposed – as Haddington but without the yellow markings.</p> <p>Proposals for the style and positioning of bike racks will be on display from 8 – 15th June at the Pop Up Shop. DCC members and members of the public can have their say. PS urged members to consider carefully the impact that these pieces of street furniture on High Street.</p>	ALL
8.02	<p>Local Place Plan – AS</p> <p><u>Public Feedback</u></p> <p>The Local Place Plan is available for public comment on ourdunbar.com It will be also open for discussion at the Pop-up Shop at 108 High Street between 8th and 15th June.</p> <p>East Lothian Council Officers have engaged positively with the Plan. They congratulated the compilers on its presentation and content, and have reverted with detailed comments which now need to be followed up.</p> <p>The Community Council has an immediate part to play in delivering the requirements of the Place Plan in the following areas –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introducing dropped kerbs in the correct places in the town. 2. Persuading ELC that it has a legal duty to allow access for those with additional needs to our beaches. 3. Engaging with the town’s children who are involved with anti-social behaviour 4. Reaching out to other Community Groups in the town to ensure their Place Plan requirements are met and that they feel free to engage with the Area Partnership where there is a need. 	
8.03	<p>Book Barn + Lauderdale Park Upgrade – RK</p> <p>See note at 5.05b above. RK asked members to note the really wonderful plans for upgrading the playpark at Lauderdale. A great deal of the park will be fully accessible to children of all abilities and the park paths will connect to the planned Sensory Garden trail. The work will happen in the autumn.</p>	MJ

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	RK was congratulated on her hard work on this. She had ensured that the views of Dunbar Additional Support Needs Community Collective (DASNCC) were front and centre of the plans and the resulting design should be a triumph.	
8.04	DCC Awards Night - PS The Awards Night will be held on Monday 10 th June at 7pm for a 7.15pm start. Members should be at Town House no later than 6.30pm to greet guests.	ALL
8.05	DCC Community Picnic – RK RK and her support will run a Community Picnic again this year on 23 rd June 2024 from 1-4pm. Lunchboxes will be provided to approximately 40 older people and RK requested 'tray bake' contributions to a community cake stall. Additional volunteers may be needed by RK will advise in due course.	
9.00	DCC + COMMUNITY PROJECTS/GROUPS - UPDATE	
9.01	Valencia Liaison Although the problem relates principally to the East Lammermuir villages, complainants have been encouraged by JB to report incidents to SEPA. The latter has resource constraints and have not obviously responded. Where hard information has come through from East Lammermuir AS has passed it on to Valencia. However, although there are definitely some instances of odour on some occasions, it is not a consistent problem and the Skateraw representative confirmed that he hardly ever experiences a smell problem. Everyone, however, is aware that the site is remotely managed for much of the week, so effectively is not properly supervised. This matter will be followed up on 5th June when there will be a site visit and a liaison group meeting.	
9.02	Tarmac Liaison The paper on the liaison group meeting had been circulated. The tarmac site is the 7th or 8th largest polluter in Scotland so anything to reduce the carbon gases is significant. Good progress is being made to reduce the carbon di-oxide emissions. This matter will be pursued at six monthly meetings.	
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	Friendly Food Network This group will have its summit on 23 rd May. To find out more visit their Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ELFriendlyFood/	
12.00	NEXT MEETINGS	
12.01	DCC Informal Meeting <i>None due to Civic Week commitments</i>	
12.02	DCC Open Meeting – Monday 17th June 2024 7pm Town House	