



DUNBAR
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

Dunbar Community Council AGM + Open Meeting

Dunbar Town House

21st October 2024

PRE MEETING REPORT

ALASTAIR DICKIE – OAKWOOD DEVELOPMENTS/DUNBAR BUSINESS PARK

Alastair Dickie gave DCC members a brief update of plans for Dunbar Retail and Business Park in advance of public consultations scheduled for 12noon – 7pm on 18th November and 16th December 2024 at Hallhill Centre.

Oakwood Developments will shortly be issuing a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN Notice) for a revised proposal for Dunbar Retail Park. B&M and Lidl, both previously identified, will now be joined by a M&S Foodhall, bringing some 61,000sq ft of new retail space to Dunbar and the new drive-thru will be Costa. Once these are established, up to 20,000 sq ft of start up units are envisaged.

The revised scheme will allow for a roundabout and new pedestrian/cycle crossings at the Kellie Road roundabout but no signalised junction as there has been much concern that traffic lights would cause tailbacks onto the A1. Although it does not form part of the pending application, consideration is being given to means by which improved cycle/walking routes can be created from the Dunbar Retail Park into residential areas to the west and to Dunbar town centre.

The Andy Scott bear is owned by Ken Ross but does not form part of Oakwood Developments' plans. Mr Ross would be willing to see it moved from the site and DCC were invited to consider whether or not there might be a good location for the sculpture in or closer to the centre of Dunbar, where it had the potential to attract more visitors to the town.

Following a brief round table discussion, Mr Dickie was thanked for taking the time to come to the meeting. DCC Members will all attend the PAN information sessions in November or December and DCC will forward consensus comments then.

The PAN sessions will be advertised and it is very much hoped that members of the public will attend to find out more and share their views and suggestions.

MINUTES OF MEETING – OVERPAGE

MINUTES

Ref	Item	Action																																																																								
1.00	SEDERUNT																																																																									
1.01	<p>Present</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Pippa Swan</td> <td>DCC Chair</td> <td>PS</td> <td>Alasdair Swan</td> <td>DCC Treasurer</td> <td>AS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Graham Adams</td> <td>DCC Vice Chair</td> <td>GA</td> <td>Pam Shields</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>PSH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stuart Cameron</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>SC</td> <td>Kevin Searle</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>KS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gill Wilson</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>GW</td> <td>Rena Keller</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>RK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jacquie Bell</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>JB</td> <td>Mark James</td> <td>DCC Member</td> <td>MJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Norman Hampshire</td> <td>ELC Councillor</td> <td>NH</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donna Collins</td> <td>ELC Councillor</td> <td>DC</td> <td>Lyn Jardine</td> <td>ELC Councillor</td> <td>LJ</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Observers</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Gavin Wilson</td> <td>Public</td> <td></td> <td>Anouska Woods</td> <td>Be Green/CW</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Douglas Urquhart</td> <td>Public</td> <td></td> <td>Rev Keith Mills</td> <td>Dunbar Baptist Ch</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jean Urquhart</td> <td>Public</td> <td></td> <td>Mike Shaw</td> <td>Public</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mitchell Stevenson</td> <td>VCEL</td> <td></td> <td>Jo Waddell</td> <td>DTA</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	DCC Chair	PS	Alasdair Swan	DCC Treasurer	AS	Graham Adams	DCC Vice Chair	GA	Pam Shields	DCC Member	PSH	Stuart Cameron	DCC Member	SC	Kevin Searle	DCC Member	KS	Gill Wilson	DCC Member	GW	Rena Keller	DCC Member	RK	Jacquie Bell	DCC Member	JB	Mark James	DCC Member	MJ	Norman Hampshire	ELC Councillor	NH				Donna Collins	ELC Councillor	DC	Lyn Jardine	ELC Councillor	LJ	Gavin Wilson	Public		Anouska Woods	Be Green/CW		Douglas Urquhart	Public		Rev Keith Mills	Dunbar Baptist Ch		Jean Urquhart	Public		Mike Shaw	Public		Mitchell Stevenson	VCEL		Jo Waddell	DTA		Cameron Ritchie	EL Courier					
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1.03	<p>Councillor's Declarations of Interest</p> <p>JB, AS and GW declared an interest in the voting on Local Priorities funding application from a new Health and Wellbeing Community Group.</p>																																																																									

2.00	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
2.01	<p>Minutes of AGM 2023</p> <p>Minutes of the AGM held on October 16th 2023 were adopted by DCC members without change at the meeting of 20th November 2023. There were no action items and no matters outstanding.</p> <p>The adoption of the Minutes of the 2023 AGM was unanimously ratified by members.</p>	
2.02	<p>Chair's Report</p> <p>Pippa Swan presented a report on the workings of the Community Council in the past year. The Chair's report is added to these minutes.</p> <p>PS was thanked for her work as Chair.</p>	
2.03	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Alasdair Swan presented a report on the Finances of the Community Council to year end March 2024. The Treasurer's Report is added to these minutes.</p> <p>AS was thanked for his work as Treasurer.</p>	
2.04	<p>Election of Office Bearers 2024 – 2025</p> <p>The current incumbents were returned, without contest.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair - Pippa Swan 2. Vice Chair - Graham Adams 3. Treasurer – Alasdair Swan 4. Secretary – Graham Adams 	

2.05	<p>Community Liaison</p> <p>In addition to DCC Office Bearer positions, members act for and/or represent DCC on fourteen boards or committees, throughout the year. It was agreed that all incumbents should continue with their current roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>Note: JB asked to be considered as DCC’s nominated Trustee in place of AS with the John Muir Birthplace Trust. AS reported that he was much enjoying his work with the Trust and was playing an active role therein. He wished to continue for another year. After a brief discussion, there was a request to see whether someone wished to second the proposal that JB should replace AS as the Birthplace trustee, but the Community Council resolved that AS should continue as its representative on the John Muir Birthplace Trust for another year.</p>	
2.06	<p>Any other AGM Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>DCC Elections</u> It was noted that this will be the final year for the existing Community Council and that publicly advertised elections will take place on the 20th of October 2025 for a new Community Council of 12 members. 2. <u>DCC Constitution and Complaints Procedure</u> East Lothian Council and AELCC have formulated a draft paper on a new complaints procedure to be adopted by all E Lothian Community Councils. Work will have to be done by DCC members over the coming months to ensure that the new guidance is in place for an incoming Community Council in October 2025. 	
2.07	<p>AGM Chair – Closing Remarks</p> <p>PS thanked members for their contributions over the past year and welcomed the presence of members of the public at the AGM.</p>	

DCC OPEN MEETING

3.00	MINUTES OF MEETING – 16TH September 2024	
3.01	<p>Amendments</p> <p>Nil</p>	
3.02	<p>Adoption</p> <p>The motion to adopt was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposed – SC ▪ Seconded – AS <p>The Minutes were adopted and will be published on DCC website.</p>	
3.03	<p>DCC Action Review</p> <p>With the exception of the undernoted, all action items have been attended to or have been overtaken by events</p> <p>2.04 Safe Crossing at Queen’s Road – briefing paper - KS</p> <p>8.03 Civic Week - Handover - SP</p> <p>9.02 DCC Roads plan for DELAP – KS/AS <i>AS will meet up with JB to pick up issues. Plan needed by end of November</i></p>	<p>KS SP KS/AS</p>
3.04	<p>Matters arising not covered in agenda</p> <p>Nil</p>	
4.00	ELC COUNCILLORS – REPORTS	

4.01

Cllr Norman Hampshire -

1. Action - Update and Matters Arising

3.01.i.a Motorhome Parking at Shore Road, Belhaven – Residents’ Consultation

NH informed the meeting that ELC Roads intend to proceed with a Traffic Regulation Order for Shore Road which will confirm the existing arrangements for campervan parking. Residents and members of the public will be offered an opportunity to make their observations about the trial known to ELC through that process.

DCC members were dismayed at this report and felt that both they and residents local to Shore Road had been treated with contempt. Residents and DCC members had been assured repeatedly over the past year that they would be invited to contribute to the review of the campervan parking trial before any final decision was made. Assurances had been given by NH and by ELC both verbally and in writing that this would happen.

DCC will write to ELC.

LJ stated that she was unaware of any complaint about motorhome parking amongst local residents. PS noted that this issue had been repeatedly recorded in DCC meeting minutes, including a minute on the representation made by Belhaven residents at the September meeting.

3.04.4 Found Gallery reinstatement (action with DC)

NH reminded the meeting that flood damage to the property, owned by ELC, had been caused by a contractor damaging a mains water pipe. The building is now dry. Contractors will be on site on 22nd October to commence reinstatement. And it is hoped that all works will be complete by early November. ELC will support the tenant to hold the Found Gallery winter show in alternative accommodation if necessary.

3.04.5 46/48 High Street

NH reported the ELC had contracted out major remedial works to the former housing office to external contractors. The building was handed back to ELC who put it to the open market for sale. Surveyors appointed by prospective purchasers had found extensive defects in the work carried out and the building has been withdrawn from the market until all defective work has been made good. There is no timescale for this. JB noted the very significant length of time that the building has been out of action.

2. Report

NH spoke to members about the very difficult financial position facing East Lothian Council. Social care, children's services, IJB are all overspending and this has put the Council as a whole under enormous pressure. It was highly likely that there would have to be very significant changes to the services provided by East Lothian Council in the coming year. LJ noted the overspend on all critical services. This was not due to any kind of inefficiency, but rather to the ever-increasing demand on services that are essential to so many.

MJ recalled that ELC had appealed to the Scottish Government in an attempt to seek additional funding that reflected the enormous growth in the population of East Lothian over the last decade, and he queried what the outcome of this appeal had been. NH said that ELC were continuing to look to both the Scottish Government and Westminster for additional funds, but nothing had been prioritised at all as yet.

	<p>GW noted that elderly care services would be really under pressure given the changing demographic in all communities, but particularly in Dunbar where the Belhaven site had been closed. NH suggested that there was a crisis in care for the elderly in East Lothian with no capital funding for any development nor revenue to manage same. LJ said that some of these concerns will be addressed in conversations about the Belhaven site. There will be a meeting on the 11th of November at which it was hoped that discussions about future local care provision will be advanced and the Belhaven site safeguarded.</p> <p>In response to NH comments about managing a reduced budget, AS felt that there was enormous concern that the third sector is experiencing reduced support from East Lothian Council. The benefits provided by volunteers in the Community would be at risk if the cuts go further. The benefit from every pound of support that the Council gives the third sector is a multiple of the investment by the Council. As the council reduces its own resources it needs to address the bureaucracy that seemed to underline every single aspect of its service provision. LJ agreed that the mentality had to be 'We can if' not 'We can't, because'.</p> <p>Observer Gavin Wilson asked whether or not the increase in Council Tax had helped ELC finances. NH explained that council tax only amounted to 25% of the total income required by Eastern Council to provide all of the services it needed and therefore increases in council tax did not significantly impact the shortcomings in the revenue required to provide all that residents needed or wished for from their council.</p>	
4.02	<p>Cllr Lyn Jardine Nothing to add to NH report and discussion.</p>	
4.03	<p>Cllr Donna Collins</p> <p>1. Actions-Update and Matters Arising <u>Yosemite Park – Taylor Wimpey traffic</u> DC has continued to receive numerous objections to continuing traffic servicing the Taylor Wimpey site at Hall Hill North. ELC planning officers intend to inspect the culvert, the root of the traffic problems on Beverage Row, and they will check that this has now been repaired, as reported by Taylor Wimpey. An enforcement order is anticipated imminently to oblige the contractor to use the agreed service routes and it is hoped that this will deal with the chronic issues experienced by local residents. DC was thanked for her efforts.</p> <p>2. Report DC had nothing further to add in respect of a report.</p>	
4.04	<p>Questions/Concerns to Councillors</p> <p>1. <u>East Beach Sea Defences – Breakwater Reinstatement</u> NH had promised. Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood Group that the sea defences at East Beach, Dunbar would be repaired following the damage occasioned by the storm last November. Despite repeated assurances that work would be carried out before Christmas, there's been no activity on site and DSHNG wondered what the process was going to be for this. <i>NH stated that Royal Haskoning DHV, the consultants for the East beach, had inspected the breakwaters and were of the opinion that they had not been degraded by the storms last year. This is contrary to local resident perception. On the advice of Royal Haskoning, ELC do not intend to take any additional action to repair the breakwaters. It was agreed that DSHNG should write to ELC Engineer Andy Taylor, to ask for clarification and request a meeting to discuss the sea defence risks at East Beach.</i></p>	PS

	<p>2. <u>Coastal Pathway collapse at the Glebe – repair programme</u> <i>NH confirmed that there were no fixed plans for repairing the collapsed pathway as it had proved very difficult to find a way to move the big machinery required, down onto the beach. The path will remain closed for the time being. The lack of funding makes a possible repair unlikely and a new route may have to be found.</i></p> <p>3. <u>Sewage back up at Beachmont Place</u> Recurring problems have been reported with sewage in the region of Beachmont Place, with sewage backup causing a real issue in this location. JB asked what action ELC intended to take. <i>NH confirmed that responsibility for all sewers and water supplies were that of Scottish Water who were dealing with the issues at the moment.</i></p> <p>4. <u>Queen’s Road wall collapse</u> RK raised again her concern over the collapsing wall along Queens Road between Spot Road and the Hillside Hotel. Complete sections of stonework continue to fall out onto the main pavement and RK expressed the view that this represents a real danger to the public and particularly just small children.</p> <p><i>NH confirmed that ELC engineers had inspected the wall and were confident that it was stable and no additional work was required. RK reminded NH that the Community council would be supportive of a solution that saw the wall demolished and railings instituted instead as a cost effective way of repairing the whole section of wall which is now obviously beyond economic repair. This was noted. Lammermuir House, who owned much of the wall length, is about to change hands again and conversations may be entered into with that new landowner. NH undertook to arrange for the wall to be inspected again to ensure its safety.</i></p>	NH
5.00	POLICE REPORT + COMMUNITY AND POLICE PARTNERSHIP (CAPP)	
5.01	<p>CAPP Meetings and Police Reports (SC/PSh) These continue to highlight youth ASB. SC, who is a Co-op store manager, reported that 12 and 13 year old youths had jumped the serving counter at the Co-op on High Street to steal spirits. Police were able to identify the perpetrators from CCTV footage and the matter was being dealt with but he gave this as an example of just how bold and dangerous these youth activities can be.</p> <p>KS reported youth ASB at the SUDS area at Alexander Gardens and GA recorded ASB at ASDA. Both these matters will be noted at the upcoming CAPP meeting on 12th December 2024.</p>	PSh/SC
5.02	<p>Comments/Matters Arising <u>Youth Network Group</u> PSh reported on progress with the emerging Youth Network Group that was initiated by PSh for DCC with LJ. PSh was aware that youth ASB has been an issue in Dunbar for years with no obvious sense that things were improving. The group are initially going to compile a map of all the support groups and organisations involved in youth work in Dunbar</p>	
5.03	<p>Matters for CAPP – 12th December 2024 <i>See 5.01</i></p>	
6.00	TREASURER’S REPORT	
6.01	General Account:	

- The bank statement balance at the month end was **£127,621.00**
- The restricted funds held within the General account at the end of the month were -

	£
Community Windpower Fund	£117,123.32
Access for All Fund	£759.00
Local Priorities Fund	<u>£ 8,257.78</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£126,140.10</u>

- The unrestricted funds held within the General account were, at the month end—

TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£1,480.90</u>
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TOTAL FUNDS	£127,621.00
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- Grants were paid out of the Community Fund in September for:
 - Ridge for watering High Street plants - £350
 - Belhaven Church for Hire of Halls for Youth Work - £1,710
 - Christmas Lights for Anchor Points - £4,500
- Grants were paid out of the Local Priority Fund for:
 - Dunbar Harbour Trust for Fishermen's Monument - £500
 - Ridge for Portraits along Black Bull Close - £325

Christmas Lights Account:

- The bank balance at the month end stood at **£ 24,247.81**
- Expenditure in the month included £1,120 for equipment hire
- A grant of £300 was received from Tarmac, as well as the £4,500 Community Benefit grant.
- There will be heavy costs next month with the pull test and replacement of anchor points.

Civic Week Account:

- The bank balance at the month end was **£ 7,679.22**
- There was a payment to Dunbar Parish Church for the use of its Church Hall - £300

Dunbar against Litter Account:

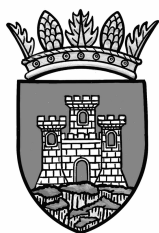
- The bank balance at the month end was **£ 3,865.36**
- Litter picking equipment is to continue to be made available at Be Green and will be funded through this account.

	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Local Priority Grant applications</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Review</th> <th>Decision</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dunbar Harbour Trust</td> <td>500</td> <td>May</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunbar History Society</td> <td>500</td> <td>June</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Carrot</td> <td>1644</td> <td>June</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday Coffee Club</td> <td>280</td> <td>August</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ridge - Portraits</td> <td>325</td> <td>Sep</td> <td>Awarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Committed or under review</td> <td>£3,249</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Local Priorities Fund available</i></td> <td><i>£7,482</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum Budget Total</td> <td><u>£10,731</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current year fund</td> <td>£10,200</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brought forward fund</td> <td><u>£531</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><u>£10,731</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paid</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not yet paid</td> <td>Book Barn</td> <td></td> <td>£10</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sensory trail</td> <td></td> <td>£486</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Tuesday Coffee</td> <td></td> <td>£280</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rejected or lapsed</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Local Priorities Fund available</i></td> <td><i>£7,482</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not yet paid</td> <td><u>£776</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Per September 24 Finance Report</td> <td><u>£8,258</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local Priority Grant applications	Amount	Review	Decision	Dunbar Harbour Trust	500	May	Awarded	Dunbar History Society	500	June	Awarded	Community Carrot	1644	June	Awarded	Tuesday Coffee Club	280	August	Awarded	Ridge - Portraits	325	Sep	Awarded	Committed or under review	£3,249			<i>Local Priorities Fund available</i>	<i>£7,482</i>			Maximum Budget Total	<u>£10,731</u>			 				Current year fund	£10,200			Brought forward fund	<u>£531</u>				<u>£10,731</u>			 				Paid				Not yet paid	Book Barn		£10		Sensory trail		£486		Tuesday Coffee		£280	 				Rejected or lapsed				 				<i>Local Priorities Fund available</i>	<i>£7,482</i>			Not yet paid	<u>£776</u>			Per September 24 Finance Report	<u>£8,258</u>			
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6.03	Local Priorities Fund Applications for consideration 1. <u>Community Health and Wellbeing Group (JB)</u> This new group will meet on a regular basis to network and consider community health and wellbeing issues. A public awareness fair is planned to allow people to understand what supports are available to them. A grant of £300 was made to the group for hire of halls for meetings etc.																																																																																																	
6.04	Requests for support for consideration: Dunbar Writers' Group and Dunbar Dolphins had asked DCC whether it might consider support for their plans. Both will be invited to submit formal applications. Dunbar Rugby Club was looking for long term sponsorship but this is not something that DCC would do as it would set a precedent for all clubs. The Club will be invited to submit an application for a specific purpose for DCC consideration.	AS AS																																																																																																
7.00	PLANNING + LICENSING MATTERS for discussion																																																																																																	
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8.00	DCC PROJECT UPDATE																																																																																																	
8.01	Christmas Lights GA confirmed that all was progressing well for the Christmas Lights 'put up' which will happen over 5 evenings/days at the beginning of November. In addition to the Christmas Lights Team, additional community volunteers have, as always, stepped forward.																																																																																																	

	Pull tests on all cables had been completed earlier in the year with a number of fixings replaced. This is always a costly exercise. The white Winter Lights will go on in November and will stay switched with street lighting until February or March.	
9.00	DCC + COMMUNITY PROJECTS/GROUPS	
9.01	DELAP Roads Projects See 3.03/9.02 above	
9.02	<p>Dunbar High Street – The Future</p> <p>PSh ,for DCC, is working with Dunbar Trades Association and High Street residents to begin to formulate a plan for public engagement and consultation on the future of Dunbar High Street and the conservation area. An update report had been circulated.</p> <p>High Street resident, Ree Rolph, is leading a plan to build a High Street Tenants and Residents Group to ensure that residents’ voices are clearly heard in any and all plans for repairs, maintenance and/or design change. Jo Waddell for DTA was thanked for facilitating all meetings to date.</p> <p>The maintenance and repair of gutters and downpipes is important to the maintenance of the High St facades and it may be that a plan can be formulated to carry out wholesale gutter clearing. GA has discussed this with the Ridge and DCC have also obtained a quote which will be sent to KS and GA for information.</p>	PS
9.03	<p>Writers Court/Colvin Street Regeneration Project</p> <p>Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood Group have started another project. This one will endeavour to see the whole area around Writers Court and Colvin St regenerated. The plan would be to remove large areas of tarmac and brickwork and to plant as much as possible with biodiverse plants. Plans for the provision of cycle parking and children’s play is also envisaged. Community councillors have all been invited to attend a public drop in session to be held at the Harbour Chapel on 23rd of October.</p>	
10.00	CONSULTATIONS	
10.01	ELC Consultation Hub lists all current consultations. None to note	
11.00	AOB	
11.01	The Twinning Association will celebrate its 30 th year with a visit from a group from Lignieres, arriving on 24 th October.	
12.00	DCC MEETINGS	
12.01	DCC INFORMAL (CLOSED) MEETING 7pm 4 TH November 2024– Location to be agreed	
12.02	OPEN MEETING 7pm Dunbar Town House Monday 18th November 2024	

PS/ AS/PSh

APPENDIX A



DUNBAR
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

AGM 2024

CHAIR'S REPORT

Pippa Swan

Dunbar Community Council has had another busy year and we are delighted to have been working again with a full complement of volunteers. Stuart Cameron joined the team in November last year and Rena Keller, in December. Both have proved to be great assets to the Council.

We have generally met once a month in public session where we have been joined by one or more of our elected East Lothian Councillors, Norman Hampshire, Donna Collins and Lyn Jardine. All three members have worked hard for us over the months, all acting to support the Community Council where appropriate, as we have sought to address local issues of concern. Minutes are posted on our website on a regular basis.

This year we instigated informal meetings, in camera, to allow Community Councillors to come together to talk about matters of interest or concern prior to meetings. The first few informal meetings were of particular value when they gave us all a chance to learn more about each other as individuals and this has significantly enhanced our working capability.

All Community Councillors are volunteers and are widely involved in community matters, outwith meetings, on behalf of DCC.

At the request of the Chair, Stuart Cameron has worked with Pam Shields on all matters relating to police liaison and ongoing policing issues in the community and both represent the Council at the Community and Police Partnership meetings, held every 6 weeks or so. Both members have represented the Council in engagements with Dunbar Grammar School with which we hope to maintain close links as it moves into a new era with Head, John Johnstone.

Rena Keller joined the Council with the declared ambition of working to make a difference in the community... and this she has certainly done. Rena was the power behind DCC's Book Barn Project in Lauderdale Park. Finding money, gaining consents, organising tenders, overseeing the build and then, finally, managing the book supply, the project simply would not have happened without her. Even the paint job is hers! Hundreds of children have accessed the Book Barn over the summer and it will remain a DCC project into the future as we ensure that it is well maintained and managed.

The Community Picnic was another of Rena's projects. Liaising with all of Dunbar's support groups for older people, we hosted a super picnic lunch and an afternoon of entertainment at Lauderdale Park in June. Rena put together her own community and family team who catered for and looked after our guests as well as running a really successful and fun sports and games afternoon for families. The link with the newly established monthly market at Lauderdale Park was deemed to have been a great initiative.

Our long standing Vice Chair, Graham Adams, has continued to lead on the High Street projects. He and his team meet every week throughout the year to plan and manage the summer bunting, the winter lights and the Christmas Lights, all of which are DCC projects. It is a massive commitment from all the volunteers as they handle the multitude of complex technical, event and fundraising tasks that are needed to keep the displays safe and perennially attractive. Enormous thanks go to the small army of extras who sign up to help as the displays are mounted and then taken down throughout the year. The hugely popular Christmas Lights switch on event will be on Sunday 24th November.

Dunbar Civic Week is DCC's annual celebration of all that is wonderful about our community. DCC councillor, Sanchita Patjoshi, joined the Civic Week Committee in 2019 and has chaired it for the past 3 years. She and her small team of volunteers spend months of each year planning the events which start with the Civic Week Fun Day at Bleachingfield. There follows a week of events for young and old and we are always delighted to get to know the Royal Court who commit to public engagement for the whole week. Sanchita has stepped down as Civic Week chair now. Rena Keller has volunteered to take up the DCC/Civic Week lead role now.

The Civic Week Royal Court is led by the Civic Week Queen and this year we were hugely impressed by the maturity and composure of Queen Josie Craig and her attendants, Emily Alexander and Aizah Ahmed as they assisted us with our annual Awards Ceremony. Dunbar Grammar School pupil, Hayley McCausland, and local resident, Bob Fleet, won the Bowe Cup and Community Council Awards respectively for their exceptional volunteering work. Dunbar's Salty Sisters won the Stephen Bunyan Award for their wonderful promotion and support of open water swimming as a mainstay for women's health and wellbeing. We had a very happy evening with all 9 award winners, who were all warmly thanked for all that they do in the community.

Dunbar Against Litter became one of our 'in house' groups in 2022 which enabled us to support them in the management of accounts. Romie Blair led the team, as she has since she conceived the group decades ago. Romie is now taking a break but her volunteers continue to work discretely away, all around Dunbar. We owe them a great debt of gratitude.

Dunbar Community Council is a statutory consultee on all planning and licensing matters and Mark James acts as our principal point of contact for this.

The CALA housing development at the Deer Park caused a great deal of community concern, primarily on the grounds of loss of publicly accessible,

recreational greenspace and we campaigned hard to see the worst effects of this development mitigated when we were invited to test it against the rigorous environmental and community centred requirements of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). Our arguments against the development in its current form were not heeded and the East Lothian Council approved the scheme, in its entirety. Building work has commenced without a single one of our proposed mitigations being adopted. This was a sorry day for the planning process in Dunbar.

Similarly challenging was the proposed development of greenspace to create a new pump track, skatepark and football field between Dunbar Primary School and Lochend Woods. Because of the level of public interest in the proposals, DCC hosted both proponents and opponents to speak to the scheme before making comment to ELC. The scheme was approved by ELC members in October and we look forward to seeing a scheme that will become a real recreational asset to young people and families whilst still respecting the importance of its landscape setting.

Dunbar Community Council considers all developments, large or small, and we have very much appreciated being kept fully briefed by the promoters of both the Space and Dunbar Business Park which will come forward through the planning process in due course.

The Space is an ambitious plan to create an eco-friendly community and free-sports space to the south east of Dunbar. Dunbar Business Park changed hands a year ago and the new owners have exciting plans to create workshop, storage and employment use spaces in addition to complementing the existing retail offer at what was formerly known as Dunbear Park.

We are committed to offering as much support as possible to projects that enhance buildings and business in the conservation area as well as those that seek to capture the benefits of renewable energies.

Dunbar Community Council receives approximately £60k a year in funding that it can distribute in grants to local projects. £50k per annum comes from Community Windpower and the balance from East Lothian Council for Local Priorities projects.

Alasdair Swan, our Treasurer, is the master of our funding management. Grant applications are invited and assessed and we meet as a group, in camera, roughly once a month to discuss these and agree appropriate levels of support. Alasdair's Treasurer's Report logs the wide range of community projects that we have been able to help in the past year.

DCC Councillor, Jacquie Bell, chaired Dunbar and East Linton Area Partnership for three years and completed her term of office in March 2024. This important group works with East Lothian Council to direct resource to the needs of the community, wherever possible, and DCC remains well represented by Rena Keller and Pam Shields, whilst Alasdair Swan acts as Vice Chair.

DCC member Kevin Searle, an experienced building surveyor, has been our guiding voice on building matters and he has represented us in discussions about the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme which is now half way through its

lifecycle. Particular thanks go to him for his support of the Community Bakery building as they worked towards a repair scheme for that site. Kevin also hosts our facebook page where we post public information notices.

In addition to her police liaison role, Pam Shields is the Community Resilience lead. We have an overall response plan that we can use if and when we are needed to take a lead in an emergency response, as we did during Covid, under the leadership of former DCC Vice Chair, George Robertson. Pam has revised the Response Plan and this will be signed off in the next quarter.

The DCC website was refreshed this year and Pam takes a lead on the management of same.

We are delighted to have had the continued and unfailing support of our longstanding councillors, Gill Wilson and Stephen Bunyan. Gill's wide-ranging knowledge of community matters has proved hugely valuable in our decision making and she continues to take a lead on health and age related matters on the Area Partnership.

Stephen has contributed throughout the year and we have been so grateful to him for his attendance at so many of our gatherings, formal and informal, and for his continued advice on matters particularly relating to community heritage and assets.

It is a privilege to have led Dunbar Community Council for the past 6 years, and I thank you all, most sincerely, for all that you do.

Pippa Swan

15th October 2024 for

AGM – 21st October 2024

APPENDIX C



DUNBAR
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

AGM 2024

TREASURER'S REPORT

Alasdair Swan

Dunbar Community Council's accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024 have been independently examined by G Spratt & Co and have been submitted to East Lothian Council. The accounts record the income and expenditure from our relatively small General Fund and detail the use that is made of the other rather larger funds that are either raised for specific purposes or are provided to the Community Council for the benefit of the Dunbar Community.

At the end of March 2024, the General Fund stood at £2,485 (2023 - £1,090). Expenses paid from out of this fund included regular items such as the Community Council's insurance premium, the wreath for Remembrance Sunday, subscriptions to RAGES and the John Muir Birthplace, computer software and website costs and administrative costs.

At the end of March 2024, the Christmas Lights Fund stood at £20,495 (2023 - £10,226). The total expenditure on the lights was £14,040 in the year, so the pressure on the Christmas Lights Committee to raise funds is constant. Recognition needs to be made of the dedicated work of Yvonne Wemyss who, as Treasurer of the Christmas Lights Committee, keeps a constant eye on its finances and leads the fundraising efforts.

At the end of March 2024, the Civic Week Fund stood at £11,329 (2023 - £10,248).

The cost of running Civic Week in 2023 was £11,151 and the Civic Week Committee is to be commended for its wonderful fundraising activities and the organisation of yet another special event in the life of the town under the leadership of Sanchita Patjoshi.

At the end of March 2024, the Dunbar Against Litter Fund stood at £2,445 (2023 - £2,601).

The Access for All Fund, established to provide secure disabled access to Belhaven Bay, stood at £759 at the end of March 2024. There was no movement on this fund during the year.

At the end of March 2024, the Local Priorities Fund stood at £1,657 (2023 - £3,552). The Community Council was able to give sixteen grants totalling £11,146 to a wide variety of community groups and events including –

- Our Dunbar
- Primary School Parent Council
- Volunteer First Aid training
- Primary School laminator
- Pull tests for the High Street hanging baskets
- Tuesday Coffee Club annual outing
- Dunbar Grammar School
- Futuro bins for Gala Green and the Glebe • Lauderdale House interpretation panel
- Dunbar Maps
- The Ridge cycling project

- Christmas Lights maintenance
- Civic Week Fun Day
- Dunbar against Litter equipment
- Local Place Plan
- Coronation picnic

At the end of March 2024, the Community Benefit fund stood at £107,216 (2023 - £121,100). During the year thirty-one grants totalling £63,884 were distributed to local organisations including –

- Dunbar Music Festival – event costs
- Dunbar Rotary – Station improvements
- Dunbar against Litter – Van
- Dunbar Civic Week
- Dunbar Christmas Lights
- Dunbar Harbour Trust – Fishermen’s Monument
- Dunbar Pipe Band
- Sparkling Dunbar Festival
- High Street Hanging baskets – creation
- High Street Hanging baskets – watering
- High Street Hanging baskets – repairs
- Battlefields experience for Dunbar Grammar School
- Belhaven Church mower
- thespace – professional fees
- Wellhead monument on Victoria Street
- Dunbar Scouts – Duke of Edinburgh equipment
- Belhaven Surf Centre – Surfskating equipment
- Wilder Outdoor education and experiences for the disadvantaged
- Dunbar in Bloom
- Dunbar Shed – perching benches
- King’s Meadow playpark
- DACYP – youth support
- Belhaven Community Garden
- Groundswell
- Intergenerational Group
- Wave project
- WLAF – stone stacking competition
- Youth led research
- Grammar School war memorial
- Dunbar Community Bakery

Dunbar receives £25,000 twice per year from Community Windpower Ltd to support and develop community activities. In administering these funds, it is grateful for the guidance provided by Anouska Woods at BeGreen.

Alasdair Swan 15 October 2024