



ITEM	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
1.00	<p>Present DCC: Stuart Cameron (in the Chair); Bev Anderson; Ree Rolph Hannah Renton; Gayle Bell; Alexander Coull; Jacquie Bell; Catherine Acton</p> <p>ELC: Norman Hampshire, Donna Collins BeGreen: Anouska Woods Resident – Iain Maddox</p> <p>Attending Press: Cameron Ritchie</p> <p>Members of the public: Jo Waddell (Dunbar Traders Assoc.); Rev Keith Mills; Peter McDonagh and one other.</p> <p>Apologies Kirsten Harper, John Robertson, Bea Taylor, Lyn Jardine</p>
2.00	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	Call for Councillors declaring an interest in matters to be discussed: None declared at this point.
3.00	MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 16 th March, 2026
3.01	Amendments: None
3.02	<p>Adoption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed – Ree Rolph • Seconded – Alexander Coull
4.00	<p>Visit from Diane Christopherson of Wilder Outdoor Education – Diane was welcomed to the meeting and she described the work of the project, giving a comprehensive, concise over-view of what is offered:</p> <p>Year-round forest school sessions and after school nature clubs; Curriculum-linked outdoor learning support for schools, including sustainability education and activity weeks; Community engagement projects, events, and adventure programmes; Forest and Outdoor Learning Awards (Levels 2–4) and development towards Outdoor & Adventure Therapy accreditation.</p> <p>The latter offers an accredited qualification developed by, and linked to Newbattle Abbey College. This is not classroom based or assessed, therefore offers opportunity to those for whom traditional learning is less appealing or appropriate. Students generally sustain their learning throughout the 10 week blocks, with low levels of absence and exit. The learning is person-centred and takes a therapeutic approach, addressing physical, emotional and social well-being. The aim would be one block per term with a maximum of 12 students. Dunbar Grammar School are very interested in the learning awards, likely to be aimed at young people from 13 – 16 years of age, although there is room for flexibility. There is a fit with the Curriculum for Excellence and this offers transferable skills, and personal growth.</p>

	<p>The Council Chamber was not set up to allow Diane’s presentation, however she intended to send this on to the secretary for viewing. Diane was thanked for her input, after several funding streams were suggested.</p>
5.00	ELC COUNCILLOR REPORTS
*5.04	<p>Having consulted with the local councillors, it was agreed to take this item at this earlier stage. A resident, Mr Iain Maddox, had approached DCC with several concerns around road safety on High Street, West Port, Countess Crescent and around the primary school at Lammermuir Crescent in general. The latter related to drivers dropping off and picking up at school times. Mr Maddox suggested that white lines be re-laid clearly on Countess Crescent as vehicles often mistake this as one-way. There can also be driver confusion as vehicles enter and exit the narrow road to the Masonic Hall at school times. A more measured method of drop-off and pick up ought to be considered. Another area of concern was the pedestrian crossing at West Port/High Street where vehicles have poor sight lines from the West Port and need to straddle the crossing in order to see to the right. Drivers of vehicles turning left on to West Port often concentrate on the give way to the right rule and pedestrians are put at risk while on the crossing. Norman H was going to consult with Ms Haddow, Senior Roads Officers, East Lothian Council on the issues raised and update Iain on the matters. DCC will also consider Iain’s points and monitor progress.</p> <p>Iain left the meeting, after thanking DCC for the opportunity to raise his concerns.</p>
5.01	<p>Cllr Norman Hampshire</p> <p>Action Update and Matters Arising: East Beach/Shore Road, still in progress towards completion. Stone bags will be lined up against the wall to protect the wall. Long-term, a break water is being looked at, but a full budget is not in place. Grants were being sought to make up the shortfall.</p> <p>Report: None.</p>
5.02	<p>Cllr Lynn Jardine: Lyn was unable to attend the meeting but had provided an update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biel Burn discharge and notification system – the secretary had circulated a response from SEPA to Lyn in regards to <i>“Operational agreement and standards between SEPA and East Lothian Council.”</i> including: <i>Bathing Water Quality “In response to a high Escherichia Coli (E Coli) result taken at Dunbar (Belhaven) on 2nd September 2025, we advised East Lothian council to erect signage on 4th September 2025 and then further advised removal of signage on 5th September 2025 when samples showed that the water quality had improved. Microbial Source Tracking (MST) analysis was carried out and identified gull and canine DNA as the highly significant sources of the high bathing water result.”</i> <p>Lyn wrote that she <i>“will be catching up with (named person) from the council about it now that we have a response from SEPA and please don’t hesitate to pass on any further questions.”</i></p> <p>There remains concern that the signage is not prominent enough, or widespread enough to protect water users of the risk. Further consideration will be given to the letter and raised with Lyn.</p> <p>Report: None</p>

5.03	<p>Cllr Donna Collins</p> <p>Action Update and Matters Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospital Road Closure – vehicles continue to use the road in spite of a closure notice to allow the housing developer the necessary heavy vehicle access to the new build area safely. Donna had approached the developer, but they were not prepared to use workforce to man the road and prevent forbidden vehicle access. It is unlikely that the road closure will be lifted earlier than the requested date in 2027, therefore Donna has advised that anyone seeing a vehicle using the road should photograph it, or note the registration number and report this to the police. <p>Report: The first of several Wind Socks had been positioned on the A1 South by BEAR. Others will be placed in key positions over the next months. These will aid lorry drivers to gauge wind speed and safer travel.</p>																		
5.04	Questions/Concerns to Councillors: *See above																		
6.00	TREASURER'S REPORT																		
6.01	<p>Dunbar Community Council Finance Report – March 2026</p> <p>General Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bank statement balance at the month end was £92522.56 The restricted funds held within the General account at the end of the month were - <table data-bbox="518 1048 1228 1211" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Dunbar Against Litter</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1965.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Windpower Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£88622.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Priorities Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£2000.54</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£92588.61</u></td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The unrestricted funds held within the General account were, at the month end– Expenses out related to Insurance renewal. <table data-bbox="518 1323 1228 1361" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>-£66.05</u></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">TOTAL FUNDS £92522.56</p> <p>There were 4 grants paid out in March.</p> <p>Paid Out</p> <table data-bbox="343 1556 1069 1697" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>● Dunbar Flower Show (CB)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 800.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>● The Space (CB)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1650.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>● Dunbar Traders for maps</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>● Dunbar Traders/DIB for planters</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£7500.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Christmas Lights Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bank balance at the month end stood at £ 18,520.96 Income relating to donation and VAT refund. <p>Civic Week Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bank balance at the month end was £ 4,525.60 No change. <p>VAT due back in April of £796.52 relating to various funds.</p>	Dunbar Against Litter	£1965.67	Community Windpower Fund	£88622.40	Local Priorities Fund	<u>£2000.54</u>	TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£92588.61</u>	TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>-£66.05</u>	● Dunbar Flower Show (CB)	£ 800.00	● The Space (CB)	£1650.00	● Dunbar Traders for maps	£2000.00	● Dunbar Traders/DIB for planters	£7500.00
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Local Priorities:

Committed or under review £9516.00

Local Priorities Available: £1870.00

Maximum Budget Total: £11,386

Current Year Fund: £10425

Brought Forward: £961

Total: £11386

Local Priority Grant Applications	Amount	Review	Awarded
Dunbar Magazines Distribution	370	April	Awarded
High Street Regeneration Room H	190	April	Awarded
Dunbar Community Bakery	500	July	Awarded
Dunbar Day Centre	1661	Sep	Awarded
Dunbar Civic Week	2000	Sep	Awarded
Dunbar Christmas Lights	2000	Sep	Awarded
DGS association	500	Nov	Awarded
Carers of East Lothian	400	Dec	Awarded
Kindred	115	Jan	Committed
Town of Culture	500	Feb	Awarded
Dunbar Writers group	267	Feb	Awarded
Administration	1013	Throughout year	Awarded
Total	9516		

Local Priorities Available £1870.00

Not yet paid: £75.00 (East Beach sign)

Kindred £55.50 (submitting invoices for room hire to be paid to West Barns Hall directly)

Matters arising/questions: The report for month ending 31st March had been circulated. There were no points raised. The annual accounts for 2025/26 are in final preparation for audit, after which they will be sent to East Lothian Council for approval.

6.02

Grant Applications: Local Priority Fund

Run for Her – advice is to re-apply in the future when the group is more established.

Dunbar Day Centre – further information had been received on the application for a bin shelter, as requested. The decision was to grant in full.

Kindred – Room hire and print costs were granted in full.

Community Benefit Fund – three applications to be discussed

(Note: Funding request from Community Benefit Fund – to be discussed in private session following conclusion of Ordinary Meeting OR, at the discretion of the Chair, at a separately convened meeting)

7.00**POLICE REPORT**

Copies of the police report for 12th March – 16th April were circulated to members

	<p>prior to the start of the meeting. Residents and businesses in the town had been victim to several serious incidents including assault and theft. People had concern for the well-being of shop staff, and the general public. The apparent ease by which offenses were taking place, the frequency and the lack of accountability were also of concern. It was felt that a more prominent police presence was needed.</p> <p><u>Comments/Questions for CAPP</u></p> <p>Update on 9th April, 2026 – Catherine A had attended the CAPP meeting. The general message was that the police were doing all they could within their capacity to respond. The individual police officers cannot be criticised for their efforts.</p> <p>Still, many people are feeling vulnerable due to the amount and type of incidents on what feels like a daily basis.</p> <p>Due to the above, it was agreed that a letter be written to Chief Inspector Ben Leathes to outline these concerns and ask for more police officers visible in and around Dunbar, including foot patrols.</p> <p>Date of next meeting is 11th June – any issues to be passed to Stuart C or Catherine A.</p>
8.00	PLANNING, ROADS AND LICENSING
8.01	High Street, re-render, CARS Online Ref: 100746415-001 – support from DCC
8.02	Any other – a discussion took place as to responsibilities on planning. The understanding is that it is a shared role; applications are online and any that are relevant are circulated to members for a decision or raised at the next meeting, dependent on timescale.
9.00	MATTERS ARISING
9.01	Town of Culture Bid – the Expression of Interest had been submitted and acknowledged.
9.02	Lawson Place – an update had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Residents of Lawson Place had been consulted and a mixed response received, with several safety concerns raised. Given this, it was agreed that no further action be taken by DCC. Those who had responded would be advised of this decision.
9.03	Queens Road – no progress reported.
9.04	Any other
10.00	DCC + COMMUNITY PROJECTS/GROUPS – UPDATE
10.01	Dunbar Civic Week update – it was reported that no meeting had taken place, therefore there was no update. Several organisations had been in touch, but the communications were unable to be picked up due to changes to the website and Facebook. This is likely to be rectified very soon, and replies made.
10.02	ELC Placemaking Consultation – Dunbar Town House. No update
10.03	Viridor – Next meeting – 28/04/2026, Jacquie B to attend.
10.04	Hallhill – No update
10.05	Good Neighbour Gang – The first aid training will be carried out by Red Cross, a

	date to be finalised soon.
10.06	Resilience Plan/meeting and membership – A detailed email had been received from Scott Kennedy, Team Manager, ELC Emergency Planning and Resilience. This outlines the current position and that there is a new Emergency Planning & Risk Officer, Steven Bosworth, in the team who will be working on Community Resilience and will be in touch at some stage. Alexander C, the community council representative, has been in contact and will liaise on DCC's behalf.
10.07	John Muir Country Park Advisory Group: next meeting, Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 2pm – Jacquie B to attend.
10.08	DCC Awards: For future consideration.
10.09	Any Other:
11.00	AOB
11.01	East Lothian Community Benefits: ELCB's primary aim is to secure the maximum Community Benefits for East Lothian as a whole. Ree had circulated two suggestions which will be forwarded on DCC's behalf in response.
12.00	CONSULTATIONS etc. – circulated, no action unless stated.
12.01	Flood Risk Management Plan – a survey had been circulated for response by individuals and organisations. Alexander C had responded on behalf of DCC.
12.02	East Lothian Energy Forum Legacy Report – info only
12.03	East Lothian Community Planning Partnership, March update – info only.
13.00	NEXT MEETING: Proposed to be 18 th May, 2026