



**DUNBAR
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL**

Dunbar Community Council Ordinary Meeting (Open) MINUTES

Monday, 15th June 2026, 7.00 p.m., Council Chambers, Town House, Dunbar

ITEM	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
1.00	Present – DCC: Kirsten Harper (Chair); Stuart Cameron; John Robertson; Alexander Coull; Bea Taylor; Jacquie Bell; Bev Anderson; Hannah Renton; Gayle Bell; Catherine Acton. ELC – Norman Hampshire; Lyn Jardine Attending – Cameron Ritchie, East Lothian Courier; Anouska Wood, BeGreen Members of the public: Rev. Keith Mills; Peter Mc Donagh; Laura Punler. Apologies – Ree Rolph.
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 – 18th May, 2026
3.01	Amendments: None
3.02	Adoption • Proposed – Jacquie B • Seconded – Bea T
4.00	ELC COUNCILLOR REPORTS
4.01	Cllr Norman Hampshire Action Update and Matters Arising: i. Road safety issues: Norman reported on the meeting called by Dunbar Community Council on 2nd June, and a follow up site visit. More signage was proposed for the junction at Countess Road/ Hallhill/Countess Crescent, concentrating on separating pedestrians and cyclists at times of congestion. More signage was also proposed at Brodie Road and Kellie Road to highlight the speed limit. The issue of cars cutting across Sycamores from Countess Crescent as drivers travel to the Masonic Lodge car park, generally at school drop off and pick-up, may be solved by erecting a bollard that will prevent cross over. Speeding traffic on Summerfield Road, especially in the area of Dunbar Grammar School had been raised and ways to address this would be investigated. Vehicles accessing Deer Park road to the golf club development had been reported speeding. The developer would be approached to highlight the dangers and address this. BEAR had agreed to place cones on the North side of Belhaven) High Street (Belhaven Brae) on the occasions when a diversion from A1 is in place.

	ii. East Beach/Lamer Street update: update as available, removed from the agenda – Closed Report: Belhaven Hospital Site – Discussion and negotiation was underway with regards to the purchase of the site by East Lothian Council. This was with a view to providing accommodation for older people, possibly in partnership with a social housing provider and was dependent on cost. It would not affect the Community Asset Transfer area, Community Garden. It would, however, allow for the incorporation of a pathway to Hospital Road, then Yosemite Park as a safe route for school pupils.
4.02	Cllr Lynn Jardine: Action Update and Matters Arising: The recent SEPA warning on no swimming at East Beach had been withdrawn. Cllr Jardine asked that it be noted that sewage was not the only reason for risk levels, as dogs and other animal waste can also lead to a warning level. A discharge at Biel Burn was noted.
4.03	Cllr Donna Collins – not in attendance Action Update and Matters Arising: i. Hospital Road Closure signs ii. Heavy vehicles iii. Changing Places Toilet, Dunbar Leisure Pool Report: Whitesands Toilet
4.04	Questions/Concerns to Councillors: Updates i. Fly tipping had been reported at the Masonic Lodge area, in the drop gap bordering Belhaven Road. Incidence of flood water sitting there was also reported. Update: reported by Stuart C to ELC Ref no: ELGF511186 (DCC) ii. The white line markings on Eweford Road to Yosemite Park are faded and need repainted. Update: Had been added to the job list for repainting. (NH) iii. Reports of speeding in the lay-by at Deer Park Cemetery – a request for 20 mph signs to be added at each end of the lay-by. Update: (See 4.01 I, paragraph 5) (NH) iv. Bus Shelters, Gala Green – there had been a request for bus shelters to be installed on Gala Green, both sides, but particularly East bound. Given there is no town service and this is the nearest bus stop for a large number of households, the need for a shelter is heightened. Update: No progress. Previous requests for shelters on Gala Green had led to objections from residents; however the situation had changed for residents West of the bus stop due to the loss of the local bus service. It was hoped that residents of Gala Green might look more favourably at the installation of a bus shelter, at least on the Dunbar East side, to offer some protection to bus travellers. To be followed up. (NH) v. High Street Bus Shelters – in need of refurbishment, particularly East bound. The condition does not present a favourable image or offer much shelter. Update: The broken perspex had been removed from the High Street bus stop, East. This would be replaced by a stronger material. (NH) vi. Changing Places Toilet, Dunbar Leisure Pool – update as

	available, removed from the agenda – Closed																								
4.05	Questions/concerns to Councillors: New matters i. Whitesands Toilet block and surrounding area. - in the absence of Donna C, Norman and Lyn were asked to respond to the report that the area behind the toilet block was being used at times when the toilets were closed. The opening times were advertised on ELC website as 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Given the daylight hours, it was considered reasonable to assume that people would require toilet facilities beyond these times. Lyn J suggested a trial that kept the toilets open overnight. DCC agreed to this suggestion. Norman H was to investigate this. (NH)																								
5.00	TREASURER’S REPORT																								
5.01	Dunbar Community Council Finance Report – May 2026 General Account: • The bank statement balance at the end of May was: £121,199.42 • The restricted funds held within the General Account at the end of the month were – • Dunbar Against Litter - £1,955.67 • Community Windpower - £108,920.43 • Local priorities - £9021.74 Total Restricted funds: £119,887.84 vii. The unrestricted funds held within the general account were, at the month end: <u>Total unrestricted funds: £1311.58</u> There were 5 grants paid out in May: Dunbar Foodshare £5000 Changes £2350 Dunbar Day Centre £640 1 st Dunbar Guides £500 Good Neighbour Gang Red Cross Course £1211.00 Civic Week Account: The bank balance at the month end was £4525.60 Christmas Lights Account: The bank balance at the month end was £19199.10 Local Priorities as of April 2026: Annual Fund as of April 2026: £11310 Committed or under review from April 1 st : £2913.00 Local Priorities remaining: £8397.00 <table><tr><td>Local Priority Grant Applications</td><td>Amount</td><td>Review</td><td>Awarded</td></tr><tr><td>Dunbar Day Centre</td><td>640</td><td>April</td><td>Awarded</td></tr><tr><td>Kindred</td><td>562</td><td>April</td><td>Committed</td></tr><tr><td>Good Neighbour Gang</td><td>1211</td><td>May</td><td>Awarded</td></tr><tr><td>1st Dunbar Guides</td><td>500</td><td>May</td><td>Awarded</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>2913</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Local Priority Grant Applications	Amount	Review	Awarded	Dunbar Day Centre	640	April	Awarded	Kindred	562	April	Committed	Good Neighbour Gang	1211	May	Awarded	1st Dunbar Guides	500	May	Awarded	Total	2913		
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5.02	Finance Matters arising/Questions: i. Change in the independent qualified accountant – noted. Closed																								

	ii. The annual accounts to be ratified by the full council in draft form before being submitted to ELC. A query from Jacquie Bell regarding the end of year total was addressed by the Treasurer and Chair. Closed
5.03	Grant Applications: Local Priority Fund – Dunbar Coffee and Chat – ratified Dunbar Shed – Moved to Community Benefit Fund Community Benefit Fund – Several application to be considered. <i>(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)</i>
6.00	MATTERS TO ACTION – CAPP Update
6.01	Comments/Questions for next CAPP Meeting on 11th June, 2026: The amount of speeding vehicles in the town – noted, ongoing. (CAPP) Safety at Pump Track – noted, ongoing monitoring (ELC) A1 Closure/re-routing of traffic – Belhaven High Street - addressed (see 4.01 i, paragraph 6) Closed
7.00	ACTION UPDATES and FUTURE ACTIONS
7.01	Policing Levels: Contact MSP, Paul McLennan, and Regional MSPs for Edinburgh and Lothian East to highlight concerns – email correspondence had led to two acknowledgments from Regional MSPs, and a reply from Paul McLennan that was not considered to have addressed the issues. A further letter would be sent to Paul for advice on next steps. Action: Catherine A, by 17/06/26
7.02	Community Resilience: Alexander C and Kirsten H were in the process of updating the CERP (Community Emergency Resilience Plan). Alexander C had made a funding application to the Tyne and Esk Rural Development Fund with the view to purchasing relevant items for use in an emergency. Mapping of defibrillator positions in the area was planned. Action: Alexander C, Kirsten H to update – no time frame set.
7.03 + 7.05	Promotion of DCC and Redesign of Website/social media: Action: Ree R, Bev A; Gayle B to update – no time frame set.
7.04	Grant Application Overhaul: Action: Hannah R, Bev A to update – no time frame set
7.05	Redesign of Website: As 7.03
7.06	DCC Awards: Nominations to be received by 30th June. Sub-committee to consider nominations and successful award recipients. Action: Kirsten H; Stuart C, Jacquie B and Catherine A to complete by 31/07/2026.
7.07	Community Benefit Subsidised Lease Policy: Architectural Heritage Society: No update available due to Ree's absence. [Alexander reported that the application fund for a feasibility study had been unsuccessful] Action: await confirmation on the situation from Ree R.
7.08	Safer Routes to School: Meeting on 2nd June. The meeting was well attended by a broad range of representatives, and agreed to be productive. Notes of the meeting had been circulated. Outcomes as above: 4.01 Cllr Norman Hampshire, Action Update and Matters Arising: i. Road safety issues.

	Action: Ongoing – Kirsten H to re-circulate the notes with updates – no time frame set.
7.09	Winterfield Park Doorways to Promenade: A site visit had been carried out and a method of breaking up the sight line of vision identified. This would be communicated to Gordon Whitelaw, ELC Amenities Services for suitability. Action: Catherine A to contact G Whitelaw by 19/06/2026
7.10	Unified Statements: To be removed from agenda – Closed
8.00	PLANNING, ROADS AND LICENSING
8.01	Application 26/00438/P—Land East of McDonalds. Retail Park developer Alastair Dickie of East Oakwood Developments had noted that a Master-plan for the whole retail park had been submitted to ELC as part of the “Call for Sites” for the LDP2. Further information would be forthcoming in due course and DCC would be able to comment. Action: Jackie B to continue to monitor for further development – Ongoing
8.02	25/00947/P Park and Ride – JB had represented DCC at Planning Committee on 2nd June. The application had been approved unanimously despite opposition. A biodiversity condition requested by DCC had been included. Cllr Collins had obtained a condition for drivers linked to the Park and Ride to have ID on display so that their vehicle may be identified in the event of any issues. Action: none currently – Closed
8.03	West Barns Mains Data Centre: Further information awaited. Developer, Ken Ross had said he would hold public consultation events and that he would advise DCC of details. ELC had requested an Environmental Impact Assessment which was still to be submitted. An active campaign group, “Oppose the West Barns Mains Data Centre”, has been set up. National opposition and campaigning was growing. Action: Jackie B to continue to monitor for further development – Ongoing
8.04	CARS 26/00503/LBC and 26/00502/P are for the listed building that goes round the corner from 98 and 100 High Street to 1-1, 1a and 1b West Port. JB had circulated these applications for re-roofing and re-rendering the conservation area properties as part of the CARS Scheme. Action: Jackie B had sent DCC support – Closed
8.05	Notice of Additional Information for Crystal Rig I Repower (ECU00005089) for consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate the Crystal Rig I Wind Farm Repower located at land approximately 10 km south of Dunbar (Central Grid Reference NT 67634 67926), within the planning authorities of Scottish Borders Council and East Lothian Council, Additional Information has been submitted to the Scottish Government’s Energy Consents Unit. This Additional Information relates to the grid connection for the Proposed Development. Additional Information as per Regulation 20, paragraph 4 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. Action: None – Closed
8.06	00011686 – CALA Homes East Limited – Drainage Pipe, John Muir Link Path, Dunbar. The proposed works comprise the formation of a surface water outfall via a 375 mm concrete pipe and 400 mm tidal flap valve installed through the existing seawall beneath the John Muir Link Path (East Promenade).

	Action: Alexander C to check and respond, if necessary by 06/07/2026
9.00	REPORTS/MINUTES/UPDATES – DCC Representatives As below.
10.00	DCC and COMMUNITY PROJECTS/GROUPS
10.01	Heart of Dunbar Festival: Update received, on course for new, existing and past activities included in the programme. The festival committee were aware of the need for the event to be more self-sustainable, therefore some events would involve a cost that would cover expenses and contribute to H of D F next year. A funding application had been made to a local group in order to provide music workshops, awaiting decision. Action: Gayle B, Bev A to continue with plans; DCC members to respond to requests for assistance as they arise – ongoing.
10.02	Good Neighbour Gang (GNG)– First Aid Course: The first aid course had taken place, with no further expectations on the attendees. Given the change in DCC members, difficulties in attracting volunteers and changes in funding priorities, it was agreed to absorb the GNG into the Community Emergency and Resilience Group (CERP), currently being updated. The funding ring-fenced for GNG would be re-absorbed into the general fund and future CERP requirements applied for on an as required basis. Closed
11.00	AOB
11.01	Community Council Vacancy – one position remained vacant. Action: to be advertised by various means over the summer break by the media team – ongoing.
11.02	Station Access Plan, North, and new cycle way /platform 2 access: Access from the North – JB had attended a consultation on May 22nd with Consultants Ardent looking at options for access from Countess Road and Station Road. Comments from the event will be drawn up into proposals. Funding will be needed for any proposal to be taken forward. JB had met with Angie Kinghorn of Cycling UK on 12th June to help promote the new path from south of the railway line. Following the event JB had contacted Morag Haddow regarding the need for signage to the town centre, remedial work on planting and the need for ticket machines on the new platform. Action: Completed, Closed
12.00	Date of next meeting: Proposed to be Monday, 17 th August, 2026.