

Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood Group



Minutes of

Open Meeting

2 April 2013

Methodist Church Hall Dunbar

Attendees:

- Mike Shaw
- Kevin Heffernan
- Brian Cox
- Ian Dane
- Pippa Swan
- Sue Guy

- Cathie Ramsay
- Robert Ramsay
- Gordon Kilgour
- Su Nuttgens

Apologies:

- Gordon Nicolson
- Alasdair Swan
- Joan Johnson
- Michael Veitch

item	action
1.00 Minutes of Meeting of 5 March	
1.01 <u>Amendments</u> None notified	
1.02 <u>Action Items</u> Michael Veitch Michael has actioned all of the items discussed at our meeting in March and updates are as follows:	
a. <u>East Beach</u> Funding – Michael has confirmed that the kelp management budget has remained unchanged for the forthcoming financial year. A meeting is to be held on Thursday 24 th April at Seapoint with Michael Veitch and key members of the ELC with an interest in the East Beach. It will be led by Alasdair Swan and Michael Shaw will also attend. Other Beach Team members are welcome. Please let Alasdair know if you are interested. The discussion will centre on beach management and enhancement of the beach as a valuable asset to Dunbar.	
b. <u>East Beach Sea Defences</u> An inspection of the wall was carried out by ELC at Michael's request. ELC inspectors advise that there is no risk of collapse at the wall. Pippa has captured the sea defence issues in the Estate Inspection report and we will continue to press for maintenance of the wall head and pavements as a safety issue.	Pippa Swan
c. <u>Dangerous Structures</u> Despite his best endeavours, Michael has not yet received any definitive advice from ELC in respect of the protocol for dangerous structures. DSHNG still feels that this is an important issue for all constituents in the county and lack of ELC intervention is seen as a negative. The lack of response mirrors our own experience and is very disappointing as derelict and dangerous structures impact negatively on everybody in the area. We will continue to press for action in respect of the structures identified in our own estate inspection report. The CAPP report will list sites which are of concern to the police and this will be sent to ELC monthly for their response.	Michael Veitch

d. Cuckoo Wrass

Michael arranged for planning information to be sent to DSHNG and this was passed to Brian Cox. ELC have confirmed that there would be no issue with a conversion to a house. Building Control issues would have to be addressed at the time of any application.

All ELC feedback has been passed to Brian Cox for information.

e. Colvin St Triangle – Parking

The ELC van has been parking carefully and there are no further reports of damage to the plants. Signs were not required. Thanks were expressed to Michael for his intervention.

2.00 Constitution

2.01 Committee

The vacancy for Tenant Representative remains.

3.00 Project Update

3.01 Coastlife Centre

Alasdair Swan has been in negotiation with the site owner and a figure of £320k has been discussed. The owner has expressed interest in the figure despite the fact that it is considerably less than the sum invested by him so far.

The site has been valued at £100k by the District Valuer but the land plainly has an 'added value' component for the people of Dunbar given its location so close to the shore. Alasdair is trying to get an independent view of the site value from Retties.

Alasdair Swan

Alasdair has made preliminary enquiries of the Big Lottery in respect of funding the purchase of the land and is awaiting a response and will seek their guidance on next steps.

He will also make contact with the Scottish Executive which may be able to assist with fundraising.

3.02 Blair's Garden

The Garden team (Brian Cox, Ian Dane, Kevin Heffernan) met following our last meeting and tried to define a way forward. They felt that it was important to have more ideas and Pippa helped Kevin to write a letter of invitation to:

Jill Watson (bronze artist – sculptures at Eyemouth/St Abbs)

Gardner Molloy – artist stonemason

Derek Anderson – stonemason

Email invitations were sent out on 20 March but no response has been heard from any of the three. Pippa will now send a polite email asking if the invitation was of any interest.

Pippa Swan

After discussion, it was agreed that we should use Civic Week to canvass responses to the submissions made to date. We will set up a stall at the parade gathering site on 15th June and again at the Meet a Lobster site at the Harbour or at the Blairs' garden site itself on Sunday 16th June

ian Dane expressed concern at the lack of consistency in the submissions and his anxieties were appreciated. On balance, the meeting felt that there was sufficient information in the material submitted so far for people to be able to express a view and it was not felt that we needed to unify the formats.

Pippa and/or Sue Guy will help in any way the team needs to achieve feedback from the public over the two days.

Blair's Team

Sue and Pippa will arrange for the table/stall etc. and any signage needed.

Kevin had made a model of the gable end of the cottages at Blairs at 1:50 and this will be used as part of the June display.

Su Nuttgens showed us her idea of an arch in stone or ceramic and her photos were passed to Kevin for inclusion in the submissions.

It was agreed that the public feedback should still be considered by an elite panel which will probably include John Daechler, Gordon Easingwood and others with an intellectual/artistic/historical insight into the most appropriate figure for the site.

3.03 Estate Inspection

The final report was tabled for information. It has been circulated to ELC and emailed to DSHNG members and its existence has been posted on our website. A hard copy was circulated at the meeting. Please contact Pippa if you would like one.

Ian Sills of Enjoy Leisure will investigate coach parking at the pool.

The gate to the Assembly Rooms garden is not included in the report as the owner has intentions to fence off his garden and put up a steel gate for which he needs planning permission.

ELHA has expressed an interest in engaging with DSHNG over the Colvin St flats.

Pippa Swan

Pippa will continue to chase responses.

3.04 Seaside Award 2013

DSHNG will meet with ELC to discuss cleaning/kelp management (see above)

Beach cleaning will be as scheduled below in the diary.

3.05 Community Gardens

Please feel free to continue to weed the Colvin St garden and Blair's Garden.

We will plant up the East Beach planters in due course.

3.06 Civic Week 2013

See calendar below.

Anybody with any other ideas, or anybody wanting to help, please get in touch with Pippa.

3.07 Cuckoo Wrass

Brian is still investigating options. The property is on the market at offers around £110k. Brian is still waiting to hear from the Housing Department as to whether or not a repairs notice might be appropriate.

4.00 **Neighbourhood Liaison**

4.01 Community and Police Partnership (CAPP) – Extract from meeting on 19th

March

Agreed Police Priorities for coming month – see table below

Priority	Actions to be Undertaken	Person responsible.
Speeding issues Brodie Road.	Traffic intelligence report to be submitted. High Visibility Police presence required at targeted times. Officers to use Pro laser etc to enforce speed limit. Invite Colin Baird/Peter Forsyth ELC Transportation to next meeting (Done). Explore long term plans for Brodie Road once the 550 new houses are built.	Dunbar Community Beat Officers, East Lothian Community Action Team, Roads Policing Officers. ELC Transportation.
Dunbar High Street	General litter and dog fouling on the High Street.	Dunbar Community Beat Officers, East Lothian Community Action Team Jim Wilson ELC Community Warden
Environmental issues.	Derelict & Dangerous buildings. Chase up protocol with ELC. In meantime use Dunbar CAPP as a forum to raise any issue.	Pippa Swan Councillor Veitch

5.00 Publicity for Group and Projects

5.01 Website

Alasdair Swan will continue to update the website: Alasdair Swan
www.ourlocality.org/dunbarshoreandharbour

East Beach Noticeboard

Notices will be placed on the board on a regular basis.

6.00 Treasurer's Report + Finances

6.01 ELC Audit

Brian Cox will submit accounts to ELC as required

6.02 Payment for Church Hall

Brian is paying £30 every two months to the Church and all is in hand.

6.03 Balance of account

We have a balance of £421 in the bank. Brian was grateful to everybody for taking so much of the day to expenditure on themselves but urged the group to make use of the available funds as they were there to cover printing, copying, postage etc

7.00 Any other business

7.01 Dangerous Dogs

Su Nuttgens has been attacked by one of three collies that live in her building at Beach House. The police and community dog warden, Carl Howman, have been involved and the owner has received a notice requiring her to keep the offending dog on a lead in the presence of the public. The collie in question, Bernard, has a brown streak on its forehead.

The dogs have been seen off the lead on the beach since the warning was issued and have been off the lead late at night. The owner suggested that there was 'no-one about' so it was alright for the dogs to be loose.

The group is aware of several other instances where the dogs have caused alarm and/or attacked people including a small child.

Pippa will write to Carl Howman to make sure that he is aware that this attack on Su was not isolated.

Pippa Swan

There was a discussion about instigating a rule that required dogs to be on leads on the beach at least in the summer. Pippa has been told that this move would require regulation and that it would be difficult to police. There remains a requirement for owners to keep their dogs from causing alarm to the public and any offending dogs should be reported to ELC.

7.02 Traffic and Transport Consultation – Deadline 12 April

The traffic order changes proposed by ELC were discussed.

It was agreed that Pippa should write to ELC requesting that consideration be given to prioritising pedestrian access from the High St to the East Beach possibly by incorporating raised road sections at the junction of Silver St/Church St and at the Lamer St crossing.

Pippa Swan

The group would like to see parking prohibited close to the corner of Silver St where visibility is poor.

7.03 Littering

Kevin Heffernan expressed disappointment at the extent of litter along the A1 at Haddington, at the Spott and Fruit Farm roundabouts and at the Belhaven Smokery roundabout. He has been in touch with Bear Scotland for the main roads litter and has had a lukewarm response.

Pippa will raise the issue with the Community Warden/CAPP.

Pippa Swan

8.00 Forthcoming Meetings and DSHNG Calendar

8.01 Meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of every month until further notice.

Tuesday 7 May @ 7pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Victoria Street.

Sunday 21 st April	BEACH CLEAN – 2PM AT EAST BEACH
Tuesday 7 th May	DSHNG Open Meeting – 7pm at Methodist Church Hall
Sunday 19 th May	BEACH CLEAN – 2PM AT EAST BEACH
Saturday 2 nd June	SEASIDE AWARD FLAG RAISING – 2PM followed by BEACH CLEAN
Tuesday 4 th June	DSHNG Open Meeting – 7pm at Methodist Church Hall
Saturday	CIVIC WEEK PARADE

15 th June	12.30 start – flag carriers required for DSHNG
Saturday 15 th June	CIVIC WEEK – BLAIRS GARDEN CONSULTATION Following on from parade
Sunday 16 th June	CIVIC WEEK – MEET A LOBSTER Duncan Forbes will show lobsters/crabs at the harbour at 11am for 45mins/1hr whilst the Coastal Rowing Regatta gets underway (Regatta from 10am)
Sunday 16 th June	CIVIC WEEK – ROCKPOOLING ELC Ranger-led rockpooling session leaving the harbour after the lobster session at 11.45/12 noon – 1.30pm/2pm
Sunday 16 th June	CIVIC WEEK – BLAIR'S GARDEN CONSULTATION From 11am at Harbour OR at Blair's Garden (site tbc)
Tuesday 18 th June	Seaweed Search – 4PM ELC Ranger-led Seaweed Search – beach to be decided
Saturday 22 nd June	CIVIC WEEK – BEACH CLEAN Meet at East Beach at 10am – competition for most litter gathered. Results will be logged by ELC Rangers
Sunday 14 th July	BEACH CLEAN – 2PM AT EAST BEACH
Saturday 20 th July	RNLI day – help for tombola stall required (see Mike Shaw)
Sunday 11 th August	BEACH CLEAN – 2PM AT EAST BEACH
Sunday 1 st September	Seaside Award – Flag Exchange for Saltire – 2pm BEACH CLEAN
Tuesday 3 rd September	DSHNG Open Meeting – 7pm at Methodist Church Hall

Minutes by Pippa Swan

Circulated to:
Members

Support groups including Councillors, Community Council, Dunbar Trades, LB Police