

ROYAL BURGH OF DUNBAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on Monday 15 December 2014

In the Council Chamber, Town House, Dunbar at 7 p.m.

Present: S. Bunyan (Chair); J. Bell (Vice-chair); K. Croft (Treasurer); S. Anderson;

W. Collin; H. Coutts; I. Knox; P. Swan; M. Young

Others present: P.C. Gavin Ross; Mark Taylor & Graham Adams, Dunbar Christmas Lights Committee.

Councillors present: M. Veitch.

1.Apologies: A. Massimo; G. Wilson.

2.Minutes of previous meeting – approval: The minute of 17 November 2014 was taken as a true record – approved by Sue Anderson and seconded by Pippa Swan.

3. Christmas Lights Committee Report

Sue introduced Mark Taylor and Graham Adams who are dedicated and active, volunteers of the Christmas Lights Committee. She announced that Tracy Gillespie has resigned as Chair of the Committee. Mark and Graham are happy to act as co-Chairs in her place and Sue was seeking the Community Council's approval. This was unanimously agreed. It was also agreed that they would be co-opted to the Community Council. Stephen expressed thanks to Tracey for her service to the Christmas Committee.

On behalf of the Community Council Stephen thanked everyone involved with the Lights. It was unanimously agreed that they are the best in East Lothian, if not Scotland.

Sue reported that it was hoped to totally refurbish the lights which would hopefully mean less maintenance and the Committee will be seeking funding for this purpose. It was expected that the figure required will be in the region of £40,000.

Sue also said that there was a problem with security at the Corn Exchange and a lack of power points. It was agreed that she would determine whether there was a formal lease with ELC and determine the terms of the same

SA

In the meantime she will submit a request to the Community Council for funding to obtain the tools required for the maintenance of the lights as Mark and Graham were currently using their own.

A vote of thanks was given to Sue for her continuing work as Community Council representative on the Lights Committee.

4. Police Report:

Road Safety –

- During the period since the last meeting tickets have been issued regarding vehicles overstaying their time in the High Street bays.
- On 26 November a number of speeding tickets were issued in the town.
- On 2 December a vehicle was seized from the Pine Martin car park due to it being driven by a person without a suitable licence.

Anti-Social Behaviour –

- There have been a couple of complaints about the behaviour of youths congregating in vennels off the High Street.
- Overnight 22/23 November a vandalism occurred at The Retreat. A fence was damaged.

Litter –

- No litter complaints. Dog fouling patrols being conducted later this week by P.C. Ross and Comm. Warden Wilson.

Theft –

- On 21 November a couple attempted a fraud by trying to confuse a shop assistant when requesting a quantity of £10 notes were changed for £20s.
- Overnight 30 November/1 December a steel container at the building site on Kellie Road was broken into and items stolen.

Other incidents of note –

- On 9 December a Misuse of Drugs Act warrant was executed in Dunbar. Items were recovered and a male charged with possession and being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

CAPP priorities:

- Parking issues – patrol Dunbar and East Linton town centres and issue tickets for offences.

- Anti-social Behaviour in vennels off Dunbar High Street – Patrol High Street and vennels to prevent anti-social behaviour and check for any lighting faults or common stair security issues.
- Youth Shelters – Conduct a feasibility study for consideration of siting youth shelters in the Dunbar area.

Next meeting – 7.30 p.m. Wednesday 7 January 2015 at Dunbar Police Station.

- 1) Mary reported a vehicle racing in a dangerous manner through Belhaven and West Barns.
- 2) Will asked for clarification on the position of Primary School children cycling on pavements. P.C. Ross confirmed that this was acceptable for children up to Primary 6 stage.
The lack of appropriate cycle paths in the town was mentioned, particularly near the schools.
- 3) It was agreed that the Community Council should support the Police in their initiative to ensure that ELC install/repair lighting in the closes on the High Street.

5. Treasurer’s Report:

Kilvert had circulated this . The current working balance was £623.73.

6. Matters arising (not on Agenda):

a) Waste issues – Jacquie had circulated material from Tom Reid following his presentation in November.

b) Planning Matters-

i) East Lothian Local Development Plan Main Issues Report - 2 December 2014.

Pippa and Sue reported that the daytime session had been poorly attended. Stephen and Will had attended the evening session which had been busier. The main concern of those who had been present was the impact the changes would have on the whole infrastructure which the Report acknowledged but did not seem to properly address. It was agreed to convene an Open Public Meeting in January with local Councillors, Community Councillors and ELC Planners to debate these concerns. The Community Council will hold a short meeting prior to this, on the same evening, to discuss the Report in detail. Sue and Pippa will make arrangements. Date to be decided at end of this meeting.*

SA/PS

ii) Fences & flagpoles (Various):

- Flagpoles, Rose Cottage, and Southfield – subject to enforcement.

- Fiddlers Green flagpole – reported.
- Fences – Rose Cottage, Cherrytrees Nursery, 54 Seafield Crescent – need planning applications.
- Castellau House Door – pink doors reported to Planning and Estates. This property is leased from ELC. It is a listed building in the Conservation Area.

Concern was expressed that the Community Council. should not be put in a position of “policing” these issues. Singular representations may be made on a case by case basis. It was agreed to ask ELC to remind people of the rules relating to properties in a Conservation area. It would also be useful if a notice/plaque was put on a building informing people that they are entering a Conservation area. Cllr. Veitch will take this forward.

MV

iii) Station Road – Planning permission granted on Appeal subject to S75 agreement.

iv) Beveridge Row – no further information.

v) Bayswell Road – applications for erection of 7 flats and demolition of walls/gateposts at the old Manse site: Plans were circulated for discussion. The Planning Department will be asked to consider the scale of the building relative to the other existing properties and to ensure that good quality materials are used.

c) Twinning – nothing to report.

d) High Street Market - The Christmas Market had again proved successful. Herbert suggested that similar markets might be held throughout the year on an alternative site such as the ground in front of the swimming pool, behind the Public toilets.

e) A1 Safety – As yet no reply from Transport Scotland re safety concerns South of Dunbar. Jacquie had attended a meeting convened by Cllr. Veitch on 12 December. Improvements are to be made at various junctions.

f) Flag Policy - Flags are to be of the same size. ELC is issuing new guidelines.

g) East Beach – Invitations to tender are to be submitted to firms with a proven track record in this field.

h) Dementia Friendly Dunbar - Pippa had attended a meeting at end of November. It was hoped to orchestrate an open information gathering session in the Spring.

i) Community Resilience Planning – no update.

j) Portrait of Earl of Dunbar – Steps have been taken to obtain a photograph.

k) Memorial Garden at Parish Church - The situation has improved but despite the erection of bollards parking was still taking place.

l) St Anne's Viridor Application – A decision expected early in the New Year.

m) Street Names - Yosemite Park and Narni Way were approved along with the other twinning themed names that had been submitted previously.

7. Local Priorities:-

a) Updates

Information Boards The sub committee was working on these and were in discussion with Peter Blood and ELC officials

Parish Church: A draft text had been prepared. Suggested locations had been considered.

-Harbour : A flat surface which would be water resistant was to be considered.

Letham Gardens Summerhouse – nothing to report.

Cricket Club – nothing to report.

Dunbar in Bloom – alternative arrangements will be put in hand.

b) New application to be submitted for Tools for Christmas Lights.

8. MIR – already discussed.

9. Vennel improvements on High Street (from CAPP) – already discussed.

10. Youth Seating (from CAPP) – already discussed.

11. Community Planning: - Meeting 1 December. Minutes had been circulated. There had been a few inaccuracies and Minutes will be re-issued.

Next Local Area Partnership meeting 28 January 2015 at Bleachingfield. This will focus on MIR.

12. Local Councillors' Reports

M. Veitch :

a) A very helpful meeting had been held on 25 November in John Muir House with Dunbar Trades Association (DTA) and ELC officials . Notes will be circulated. There is scope for another meeting to discuss plans for the backlands.

DTA had raised issues of the of the former Electricity Board shop/Council office being unused. It seems the building which is ELC property is structurally unsound. Cllr Veitch will report back to the next DCC meeting with information from ELC.

It was felt that attempts should be made for the Commmunity Council and DTA to work together to improve the High Street. Pippa had met with the DTA Chair, Steven Hill, who has a number of ideas.

b) The Scottish Government has agreed a two-hourly rail service between Edinburgh and Berwick, via Dunbar.

c) A1 – improvements are to be made at Cement Works junction and Spott Road Roundabout.

Cllr Hampshire – no report

Cllr McLennan – no report

13) Reports from Committees/Meetings attended:

Twinning –The meeting had been cancelled.

Day Centre – A Special meeting is to take place on 17 December. Registration has been deferred until January 2015.

Friends of Winterfield – A Positive meeting had taken place with the Cricket Club who will be using the park. Cllr. Veitch will continue to pursue the Pavilion issue via the Asset Management Group and discussions with the other local Councillors. A report is awaited from Liz McLean, ELC architect.

Community Rail Partnership – Annette Philby will be invited to attend a Community Council meeting – possibly March. Sue will arrange this. As DCC's representative on the CRP.

Woodland Group. The AGM had been held. The Group has some new members. It has a positive outlook and the woods are looking very good.

14. Correspondence – previously circulated:

Planning issue – Lisa Russell. Wishes to speak to DCC about a forthcoming application. No details have been supplied on the application.

Janet Barnes - Dunbar Community Kitchen – DCC are not involved directly. A planned meeting had been cancelled..

ELC – Autism Strategy

Scottish Government via ELC – Land Reform Consultation.

NHS Lothian – Findings of Consultation on the Strategic Plan.

Symon McIntyre – Drift Art Project – The Community Council were interested in this beach art installation project. Sue will obtain more information.

RAGES – update on local rail meeting.

Kate Darrah – Christmas Hampers

Libby Newell, Zero Waste – invite to C.C. meeting.

15. Any other business:

a). Herbert spoke of the need to upgrade the war memorial including adding new names and restoration, where it has eroded e.g. on the seaward side. A special fund is available for war memorial repairs. Herbert will make enquiries.

16) Date of next meeting:

The Special Meeting to discuss the Main Issues Report will be on **Monday 19 January 2015** in the Town House at 7 p.m. This will replace the normal DCC monthly meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.