



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and OPEN MEETING

Held on 2 February 2021 via ZOOM

### Attendees

Colin Barnes	Teresa Barnes	Adam Biran	Mark Cavanagh
Liz Curtis	Ian Dane	Jan Green	Sue Guy
David Raw	Tanya Jepson	Joan Johnson	Tania King
Kenny Maule	James McGrath	Cathie Ramsay	Robert Ramsay
Mike Shaw	Pippa Swan	Alasdair Swan	John Thompson
Maggie Thompson			

### Apologies

Jo Waddell	Nigel Booth	Brian Cox
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James McGrath, Adam Biran and Tania King, new members, were welcomed to the Meeting.

### A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### 1.00 Minutes of Meeting held on 4 February 2020

1.01 Amendments - none. Adoption proposed by Ian Dane and seconded by Mike Shaw. The minutes were duly adopted.

1.02 Action items - as reported in September 2020 Newsletter issued to all members.

#### 2.00 Chairperson's Report for Annual General Meeting 2021

PS as chair, reported on the group's activities in the past year noting that Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood Group was founded 10 years ago. She presented a video outlining the group's achievements including major projects.

Activities in 2020 were severely curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic but the long-awaited East Beach regeneration contract was completed by the end of

October. Plans for a new promenade along Lamer Street frontage, prepared by OOBE, are now being completed as a long-term project to benefit Dunbar town as a whole.

New developments in our neighborhood and preservation projects which the group have supported are well advanced.

Looking forward to the next 10 years the aim is to keep improvements to our neighbourhood ongoing.

A copy of the Chair's report is issued with these minutes.

Joan Johnson, on behalf of all members, thanked all involved for what has been achieved in the last decade.

3.00 Receipt of Annual Accounts

Brian Cox, Honorary Treasurer prepared the accounts for the period 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021.

The balance at 31 January 2021 was £2,709 68 of which £1529.00 is in a restricted fund earmarked for replacement of swings, ropes, etc., in the play area at Lamer Street.

The accounts were agreed and signed by Pippa Swan, as chair, and a copy will be placed in the Minutes File.

The treasurer will submit a copy to ELC when applying for this year's administration grant and explain lack of activity as Covid-19 related.

It was pointed out that while Covid-19 restrictions have curtailed the group's expenditure in 2020, the renewal of group activities, once restrictions are lifted, still require funding.

4.00 Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 2021

The existing Committee and Office Bearers stood down in line with constitutional requirements.

Prior to the AGM, the Chair had circulated members a "we need your help appeal" asking for offers to take over the duties of the present office bearers, some of whom have been in post for much of the last 10 years.

In the absence of members offering to take officer positions at this time, the present officers agreed to serve a further term on the understanding that some members may be interested in taking over next year once the level of commitment required is known. Pippa Swan proposed that the remainder of the

committee would be made up of members taking active roles. This was agreed. On this understanding, the committee for 2021 will be:

Chair	Pippa Swan
Vice-Chair	Mike Shaw
Treasurer	Brian Cox
Secretary	Ian Dane + Colin Barnes
Web Manager + Tenants' Rep.	Tanya Jepson
Members	Joan Johnson [Beach Maintenance] James McGrath [Sea defences & infrastructure] Kenny Maule [Flood Resilience, Estate inspection manager]

#### 5.00 Amendments to the Constitution

No amendments having been proposed, the Constitution, as revised 13th February 2019, stands.

#### 6.00 Close of AGM

There be no other matters to be considered, Chair the declared the AGM closed.

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### OPEN MEETING

#### 1.00 Minutes of the Open Meeting held on 4 February 2020

#### 1.01 Amendments - none

#### 1.02 Action Items - as reported in September 2020 Newsletter issued to all Members.

#### 2.00 Current Projects - update

#### 2.01 East Beach Regeneration

As noted in the Chair's report to the AGM, the contract carried out by Southbay was completed by 30 October 2020 when a post-works inspection was carried out and conditions agreed between the contractor and ELC [East Lothian Council] as the client. Due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, agreed remedial work is being carried out by a local contractor, A. G. Thompson. Remedial works to the sea wall and Lamer Street are underway. A. G. Thompson have the removable timber sections of the groyne in safe storage pending completion of remedial work.

## 2.02 Update on Biowall

The concrete section of the new groyne was cast in textured concrete to form a bio wall designed to attract sea life. Liz Curtis and Tanya Jepson have undertaken the task of monitoring progress on marine growth.

The wall has 6 main sections which have been numbered from the landward end. Each section has two circular pools on top linked by a channel: this will facilitate insertion of a timber superstructure if, as hoped, the level of the sand on the beach rises significantly over the years.

Liz and Tanya have been going out once a week since last October to check progress and take photographs. So far, four or five limpets have been spotted on the wall or in pools but they do not stay around.

However some algae are growing on the wall which will provide food for limpets in the future. It is suggested that if members have a few minutes to spare, they should checkout limpets on Wikipedia . They are fascinating creatures! You will be surprised to learn that they have teeth, which with which they scrape algae off rocks or, in this case, concrete.

Monitoring is ongoing and, in thanking Liz and Tanya for their efforts, it was agreed that the biowall and new breakwater, which are encouraging a completely different group of sea and shorebirds to visit, may well form the basis of a schools' project once restrictions allow. This will remain under review and when appropriate, a leader for this will be found.

## 2.03 Kelp Management

The perennial problem of kelp buildup on the East Beach continues to be monitored. Up to 500 tonnes can accumulate in a storm, which takes a full week to move. The group coordinate with ELC on kelp management but the plan is not yet robust. Joan Johnson has agreed to take a lead on this problem and beach maintenance generally. Sue Mowatt and family regularly litter pick the beach and round about and Joan will liaise with her.

There is talk of a JCB or similar ELC vehicle being made available to help clear kelp for smaller dumps. Large dumps will still go off site.

**Action:** Joan Johnson

## 2.04 East Beach Seawall Defences

As reported in the September 2020 newsletter RHDHV and OOBE, as marine engineers and landscape architects respectively, have been developing their proposals. The latest news is that proposals for long term development of the sea

wall and its environment will now hopefully be available for public comment within a month.

Once received, the proposals, in the form of a discussion paper, will be distributed to all members for comment and, based on feedback, the extent of DSHNG involvement, in what will be a long term project, can be agreed. James McGrath will lead in this, supported by Pippa Swan.

Meanwhile, ELC are understood to view the project, which will cost in the region of £5 million, favourably.

**Action:** James McGrath, Pippa Swan

#### 2.05 Estate Inspection Report 2020

Concern at a lack of response to last year's Estate Inspection submitted to ELC has been referred to in the chair's report to the AGM.

Kenny Maule has kindly undertaken to take this matter up with the relevant council officers.

**Action:** Kenny Maule

#### 2.06 Flood Resilience

Kenny Maule volunteered to take on the role of Flood Warden as part of the wider Dunbar Community Resilience Plan and organised a leaflet drop to all vulnerable properties last November.

Kenny reminded the meeting that East Beach, Lamer St and East Links areas are particularly vulnerable to flooding at the spring tides when the combination of North East winds, northeast swell and some surges can cause overlapping damage to the sea defences, flood closures at Lamer St and occasionally a risk of flooding of homes.

It was pointed out that overtopping of Harbour walls at Cromwell Harbour can also occur.

General advice on flood protection to your home is available at:  
<https://scottishfloodforum.org/>

A supply of modern "sandbags" is held at McArthur's Store, Victoria Street and at 'Seapoint', Woodbush.

### **3.00 Projects for 2021**

This a list of projects for consideration in 2021, some or all of which it may not be possible to undertake due to restrictions imposed because of the pandemic.

#### **3.01 Promenade Project**

Lamer St was necessarily closed from March to October 2020 to enable the East Beach Regeneration contract to be carried out.

Traffic has notably diminished since Lamer Street reopened as drivers had found alternative routes. This has raised the possibility of temporarily closing Lamer Street for the summer of 2021 thus providing traffic free access to East Beach while COVID-19 restrictions put areas for outside exercise at a premium.

There was general agreement that this would be a worthwhile project and Sue Guy will be joined by James McGrath and Adam Biran in developing the idea with a view to obtaining a TTRO from East Lothian Council.

**Action:** Sue Guy, James McGrath, Adam Biran

#### **3.02 2021 Seaside Award and Beach Cleaning**

An application will be made by ELC *per* Alasdair Swan for renewal of a seaside award suspended in 2020 due to the work of the East Beach Regeneration Contract.

Susan Mowatt and family continue to keep the East Beach tidy but volunteer cleaning days may be required to which it is hoped members will respond . Joan Johnson, in her role as overall beach coordinator, to liaise with Sue Mowatt if the need arises.

**Action:** Alasdair Swan, Joan Johnson

#### **3.03 Creel Loaders Maintenance**

Under the agreement with ELC, the group remain responsible for maintaining the shrubbery. Brian Cox has carried out this task since August 2016 but the possibility of the Ridge Organisation taking on this task, with reimbursement from group funds, has been suggested. Pippa swan will discuss with Brian Cox.

**Action:** Pippa Swan, Brian Cox

#### **3.04 Facebook and Website Update**

Tanya Jepson has agreed to take on this task but needs access to existing data as a start. Pippa Swan and Tanya Jepson will liaise.

**Action:** Pippa Swan, Tanya Jepson

3.05 Notice Board Update

The notice board at East Beach is for DSHNG use but needs regular attention and contributions on matters relating to the neighbourhood. Mike Shaw [michaeljohn.shaw@btinternet.com] is the person to be contacted if you have any suggestions.

3.06 Estate Inspection 2021

Volunteers are required for the inspection of each area of the neighbourhood which usually takes place in the summer months. Timing may depend on progress Kenny Maule is able to make in getting ELC to act on the 2020 report, otherwise this years report may just repeat known concerns.

3.07 Beach Activities

Kenny Maule suggested that to raise the Group's profile, competitions for children such as art [raked sand] or sandcastle scheme should happen . This could be covid friendly and environmentally friendly in providing a facility for open air activities off a traffic free promenade. The tide would clear away the results! [Kenny has Tide Tables for the year to assist in the planning.]

3.08 Fishermen's Monument

The fishermen's monument is located at Cromwell Harbour and is owned by Dunbar Harbour Trust [DHT].

DSHNG has, however, offered assistance to the Trust towards the maintenance of the monument since April 2011 when the group had the stonework repaired and there have been repeated attempts to redecorate.

At the open meeting held on 4 February 2020, Mike Shaw pointed out that traditionally the fishermen used to apply a coat of limewash annually knowing it would need renewal each spring. At this meeting it was agreed that an approach would be made to the Ridge Organisation to see whether they would be prepared to take limewashing on as an annual task, the cost of materials being met from Group funds.

*This proposal remains outstanding due to Covid-19 restrictions.*

DSHNG had also submitted proposals to the Trust for improvements to the setting of the monument by paving its immediate surround but this was not acceptable. Whilst recognising that Cromwell Harbour is first and foremost a working Harbour, the Fishermen's Monument attracts numerous visitors and photographers. It is

nearly four years since matters were last discussed with the Trust but in view of the suggestion to propose annual maintenance, the proposals for improving the monument setting may also be revived. It was agreed that Ian Dane will liaise with Alasdair Swan to try to progress matters.

**Action:** Ian Dane, Alasdair Swan

**3.09      Community and Police Partnership (CAPP)**

Mike Shaw, who represents DSHNG, advised the meeting that one of our police relations officers has recently been replaced but that Jimmy Wilson [Community Warden] is still in post.

The police advised at the CAPP meeting on 19 January 2021 that they would be concentrating on anti social behaviour, drug abuse and parking offences with regular foot patrols. Sale of drink to children, misbehaviour in Lochend Wood and enforcement of 20 mph speed limit are further concerns.

**3.10     Dunbar Harbour Trust**

Any members with enquiries concerning Victoria Harbour or Cromwell Harbour should contact Alasdair Swan [alasdairswan@yahoo.co.uk]

**3.11     Social Events**

If restrictions allow, it is hoped that a summer and Christmas social event for members will be possible this year.

**4.00     Date for next meeting**

It was agreed that the next Open Meeting, to which all members are welcome, will be a Zoom meeting to be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 2 of March 2021.

An Agenda will be sent to all members beforehand.