

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26 JUNE 2014
Held in Gullane Village Hall

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

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| Present: | J Findlay (Chair) | Gullane |
| | T Drysdale (TD) | Dirleton |
| | G Fraser (GF) | Gullane |
| | Angus McCallum | Aberlady |
| | D McDonald (DMcD) | Dirleton |
| | S Morris (SM) | Drem |
| | V Sked (VS) | Gullane |
| | ClIr Berry (ClIrB) | East Lothian Councillor |
| | PC Tait | Police Scotland |
| | L Ogilvie (LO) | Secretary |

| Item | Title | Action By |
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| 1 | <p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were received from the following: Malcolm Duck, Fiona Boswell, Roseanne Ainslie, Ian Malcolm, ClIr Goodfellow and ClIr Day.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to two minor typing errors.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>The Chair reported that East Lothian Council had been requested to make payment of £2,000 to Aberlady Conservation and History Society.</p> | |
| 5 | <p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>The Police Report was given by PC Tait as PC Banks is on leave. The report attached is a new type of report based on priorities in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the course of the month there had been 29 calls to the Police with five crimes reported, three of which have been solved. • An incident involving a tandem and another cyclist is ongoing. The cyclists on the tandem had not been wearing helmets. • An ASBO warning had been given to a driver on the grass at Goose Green. • Concerns had been raised regarding motor bikes and officers from the motor cycle section will increase their presence in the area. • There had been several calls regarding possible bogus callers but they had in fact been legitimate. • A number of tickets had been issued for parking violations. • A question was asked regarding a body found near Muirfield - there appeared to be no suspicious circumstances. • CAPP – ClIr Berry advised that there had been a previous action point relating to parking on the corner entering Aberlady Main Street. An action for the coming month involves traffic safety relating to incorrect parking. • A North Berwick Community Councillor had called the Police Call Service (101) and no call back had been received. TD’s experience of the service was very different, he had spoken with someone who had answered on the second ring who had then answered his query. If an enquiry is urgent 999 should be called. • ClIr B noted that the country roads in the area seem quiet. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr B reported from a meeting on Tuesday that the Chief Superintendent had hoped for more positive outcomes from the stop and search policy. Cllr B felt this was an inappropriate approach for this area – it is more important to foster good relationships between the Police and members of the public. • The Chair advised of problems with parking and offloading opposite the Co-op in Gullane. The best course of action would be to ring 101 to report the offence but to also take the registration number of the vehicle. A warning for dangerous parking could then be given. It was agreed better to take the registration number of offending vehicles rather than a photograph. | |
| 6 | <p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>Rearrangement of parking space at rear of Hopetoun Terrace. It had been agreed to lodge an objection and this was done following the last meeting. The applicant has lodged another application for change of use of the rear area. The residents of the adjacent properties will object – should the CC do likewise? It was agreed to lodge an objection. TD will draft a letter.</p> <p>Application for two houses on Salters Road, Gullane – Davy Morin’s yard. It was felt that the CC should not become involved until the plans have been viewed. There is an existing building and access available to the site.</p> <p>There were two applications last week for the installation of multiple solar panels at Fenton Barns. Both have a large number of small panels on two areas of waste ground. No objection will be made. Concerns were raised about the possibility of similar applications on open agricultural land in the future. It was agreed to check the situation with planning for their view.</p> <p>Two weeks ago land to the east of Gullane had been advertised for sale. There was concern that some of this land could be for potential development and the situation will be closely monitored.</p> <p>An area for sale to the south west side of Ballencrieff roundabout – no development potential was mentioned.</p> <p>Blindwells – an area has been suggested as a green energy park, but it was hoped this would not affect the housing development. There was an article in the East Lothian Courier today.</p> <p>In this week’s planning list there is an application for a house on a site in Back Lane, Aberlady. It was agreed not to object but to make comments on the aspect and finishing and vehicular access which should be compatible with the conservation area. IM/TD will draft a letter prior to a mid July deadline.</p> | <p>TD</p> <p>TD</p> <p>IM/TD</p> |
| 7 | <p>WEBSITE</p> <p>VS advised that she had met with FB and both will share the workload of the website. Uploading of documentation to the website had proved difficult and time consuming for FB. A meeting will take place with Gary who designed the website to try and identify a simple way of uploading documentation. It was suggested that more use be made of Facebook to communicate with local people. One of the issues with Facebook is that immediate responses are expected and might be onerous to maintain. Community Councillors were reminded that they can only speak on behalf of the CC when matters have been discussed publicly at a meeting and a decision taken. It was suggested from the floor that Facebook could be a forum to gauge the feeling of public on certain matters. GACC is for the whole area and not only the Gullane ward, Dirleton would not wish to be subsumed into the Gullane Facebook page. Each ward area is responsible for gathering views in its area. CC members in Gullane are often stopped on the street by members of the public keen to ask questions or raise issues. AMcC is also very keen to be part of the meeting with Gary to identify a way forward for a more user friendly website. TD suggested that the website be more interesting with possibly a section reporting on the outcome of each meeting.</p> | VS |
| 8 | <p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Gullane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muirfield Nursing Home – there has been a long hiatus, matters seem to be progressing but there is no timescale as yet. Bissett’s has been purchased by the nursing home and is now closed. • Path from Gullane to Dirleton – the pathway is overgrown at its eastern end and considered hazardous, with a narrow pavement. Cyclists use the path but it was noted that they should be on the road. Correspondence had been received from CycleForth and support will be given to this group who are seeking to protect and improve cycle paths in the area. The Chair will write to ELC and report the issues with the pavement and also cutting back of the shrubbery. The path may be part of the John Muir Way but there could also be issues with biodiversity. The Chair will write to Peter Forsyth and await his suggestions. DMcD suggested that funding may be available from the coastal partnership. <p>Dirleton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted in the minutes last month that the village shop had closed – the shop has now reopened | Chair |

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| | <p>under new management and renamed The Dirleton Grocery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DVA met last Thursday and it was noted that Gullane and Dirleton History Society will hold a dig on the green from September 8th – 17th. School pupils will be involved. • There is no money available to repair potholes. The road from Dirleton Primary School to the Castle is in need of resurfacing. • The School will produce a news sheet. • Dirleton Fete and Games will take place on Saturday 12th July. A notice will be placed on the Drem noticeboard. • Unauthorised notices on the banner structures at east end of Dirleton advertising Haddington Agricultural Show are now down. It was felt that others should not use the structures. • Cllr B advised of problems with the undergrowth in Manse Road and inconsiderate parking on Gylers Road blocking driveways. <p>Drem and Aberlady – Nothing to report.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS</p> <p>Local Area Partnership - Three Councillors had attended the meeting which is a first stage to try to determine areas of interest that the body should concentrate on. There had been wide discussion with no conclusions but a report will be forthcoming.</p> <p>A meeting will take place with Angela Leitch, ELC Chief Executive, on 9th July. JF, GF and DMcD will all attend. The PA to Ms Leitch had asked for any questions to be forwarded for consideration prior to the meeting which will take place at Ducks, Aberlady at 6pm. ELC Cllrs will not attend as they feel this is an opportunity for Community Councillors to discuss openly their views with Ms Leitch.</p> <p>A question was raised from the floor regarding parking charges at the Bents. Cllr B advised that this matter had been brought up at a meeting on Tuesday and no date has been agreed as yet for charges to begin. The Head of Transportation had stated that everything will be ready to begin charging this summer. There will be a set charge of £40 for local people. The Police will enforce parking regulations. Should the CC write objecting to the set fee of £40? - it was agreed to bring this up at the meeting with Ms Leitch.</p> <p>DMcD mentioned an email from Cllr G regarding possible changes to the structure of the Council which could see Councillors reduced in number from 23 to 21 in the area. Would there still be 3 in this ward? Cllr B advised that there could be two who would cover a larger area. In areas of multiple deprivation more representatives are proposed – such as in Glasgow and Inverclyde. ELC Councillors would like to see the status quo in East Lothian. A letter supporting their view is to be drafted and circulated for discussion at the next meeting. This will be within the timescale for response.</p> <p>From the floor (G McLelland) – refuse collections in the area are to be reduced with more containers and different collection days. Cllr B advised that the Council must increase recycling rates. Food waste will be collected weekly. GMcL suggested that polythene is the one item not collected which amounts to a huge amount of waste. Cllr B felt this was difficult to separate. There will be increased bins on the pavement, feared to present hazards. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting and any feedback in the community welcomed. Gordon meantime will contact ELC for further clarification.</p> <p>FB had sent an email advising that she wishes to withdraw from the CC. The Chair will draft a letter thanking FB for all her help with speeding -vehicles at West Fenton.</p> <p>Cllr B – The CAPP meets on the last Wednesday of each month and it would be good to have a representative from the CC. Meetings take place at 7:30pm in the North Berwick Community Chambers. JF will send an email round seeking a volunteer. The intention is to try to represent the community as a whole. An email minute of the meeting would be helpful – Cllr B will look into this.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.</p> | <p>Chair</p> <p>TD</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>Chair</p> |
| 10 | <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Thursday 31st July in Dirleton Church Hall.</p> | |

