

# Gullane Area Community Council

Representing Aberlady, Dirleton, Drem and Gullane

[www.gaddabout.org.uk](http://www.gaddabout.org.uk)

Note of Meeting held on Thursday 26 April 2018, 7pm, Gullane Village Hall

Present: Donald Hay, Aberlady, Chair (DH)

Tom Drysdale, Dirleton, Vicechair (TD)

Martin White, West Fenton (MW)

Dorothy Arthur, Gullane, (DA)

Gordon McLelland, Gullane, (GM)

Sian Morris, Drem (SM)

Cllrs Findlay (JF), Henderson (JH) and Goodfellow (JG)

Apologies: Karen Chapman , Gullane

Malcolm Duck, Aberlady

Bill Scott, Aberlady

John Hendry, Gullane

## 1. Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record. DH reminded the audience that Minutes were available on the website.

## 2. Matters Arising:

None not covered elsewhere in the meeting

## 3. Local Priorities Fund:

Aberlady Bay Conservation Group have applied for a grant of £1500 as part funding for a structure on the reserve to be used as a base for conservation volunteers. The subcommittee have recommended approving this request, subject to a number of conditions which are acceptable to the applicants. The grant was approved on that basis.

Gullane Community Children's Hub – an amalgamation of playgroup, the afterschool club and the preschool club. They have requested a grant of £2500, which the LPF Subgroup are favourably disposed to grant for this worthwhile cause. Answers are still awaited for some queries that we have raised in what is a complicated set up, so we are unable to comment further whilst they are outstanding, but the Subcommittee proposes to bring a recommendation to the next main meeting.

Thanks have been received from Drem for the defibrillator grant.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report:

TD summarised in KC's absence. There is a carry forward of £2500 which contributes to the overall sum of £7397. This is a lower figure granted from the Council in line with their general austerity measures, but they have enabled the larger carry forward figure. If the proposed recommendation for the Gullane Children's Hub is granted, there will be a need for frugality in the granting of applications.

#### 5. Golf Report:

MD was absent, but JF updated the meeting. The marketing plan for the forthcoming European Tour is being established, which should be available for the next Community Council meeting in May. It will be posted on the Gullane Facebook page.

A traffic management plan will be in place. The temporary traffic lights in the village will be suspended between June and September (this is for general purposes, not just due to the Golf).

The proposed event for the village on the Goose Green which is due to take place on the Saturday of the event is also still to be confirmed. The European Tour is proposing to donate £7500 for the purpose, which is aimed at the villagers rather than the participants. The Golf Club is hosting its own event, which is not the same as this one.

#### 6. Police Report:

As there were no Police present, their report was circulated to the group and the wider meeting.

DA was to contact our Police Reps with regard to speed traps. This was a priority at the CAPP meetings. DA and GM were to share attendance at these meetings.

Concern was raised regarding the recent mud left on roads throughout the area, whether this was a Police or a Council matter. JH advised that the CAPP had met with the Police and large contractors – BT had recently been fined by the Council for leaving mud on the road.

#### 7. Planning Matters:

MW advised that there were no applications to highlight this month.

Tony Thomas advised that Cala's proposed developments at Saltcoats South and Fenton Gait South were due to be submitted for planning at end of May. A comment was raised re the allocation of Affordable Housing which was in the Local Development Plan and the Environmental Assessment, but now didn't appear to be in the Fenton Gait South plan. JG advised that if Affordable Housing was in one development only, that would have satisfied Cala's obligations. It was the Council's policy to disperse the requirement across a number of developments; however Cala were still obligated to provide 25% of Affordable Housing stock. MW advised that this was incompatible with the Main Issues report, and we would need a formal response from the Council in order to frame our feedback.

MW thanked those who had responded to his Facilities Survey; he will now assess the responses and respond at the next meeting.

A new planning process was at the first stage of the Scottish Parliament, where local place plans need to be given 'due regard' – query about what the definition of this meant.

TD advised that the Castlemains development was still not before the Planning Committee. TT advised that there had been an issue raised by SEPA regarding culverts and flood levels. JF and TD advised that planning consideration would now be given to views to and from the Castle – previously guidance was only regarding the view to the Castle.

## 8. Village Reports

Gullane – there was a large presence in the audience due to the news that Gullane Bowling Club was increasingly becoming unviable and was in correspondence with solicitors regarding the winding up of the club and sale of its assets. It was decided at the meeting to rearrange the agenda to enable this matter to be heard. A prepared statement was read out to the room by the club secretary, but he stated that, given the involvement of solicitors, no questions could be responded to.

It was decided to arrange a separate meeting to look at any measures such as grants/recruitment drives which could be taken to reverse this decision. Billy Mellors, EL Development Officer on behalf of Sports Scotland, who was present, stated that he was happy to attend this, and the Community Council were happy to get involved. It was agreed that the Bowling Club were to contact the Community Council in this regard.

Subsequent news from Gullane concerned complaints from Muirfield Drive regarding parking linked to the Fire Station development. Parking restrictions had been suspended.

The 30mph signs at the east end of the village had been moved by c50 yards eastwards.

Luffness Golf Club had carried out a speed survey in February, which showed there was a significant number of vehicles going over 60mph. The club secretary was to discuss with Alan Stubbs, Service Manager for ELC Roads Department, with a view to extending the current speed limit beyond No 3 Course, due to the numbers of children playing there. However, this would be a long process, and could take up to a year.

Work on Bissets Hotel needed to co-ordinate with Cala with regard to Traffic Lights as it is not possible to have 2 sets in such a short distance.

Fenton Gait East footpath. TT advised he was submitting an application to the Planning department to have this removed from the Landscape Plan, as ownership was unable to be established.

A member of the audience requested a litter bin on Muirfield Lodge next to the Bus Shelter. JF undertook to progress this.

The map has been returned to its location by the Old Smiddy. JF thought this was part of a general update from ELC's Landscape and Countryside Department.

Aberlady – DH had attended a meeting of the Pharmacy Planning Group, which had discussed the viability of combining the post office with the pharmacy. This is a business model which has been in operation in the North of Scotland already. JF was thanked for his support of the application. The outcome should be known within a week.

The Cruden housing development was going to plan despite the bad weather. There was good liaison between the site manager and the villagers. An email had been received regarding concerns of low mains water pressure, TT was not aware of this but undertook to investigate.

A question was raised regarding the ability of ambulances to cope with the increases in the population with all the new developments. TT advised that this was an NHS matter, and that he understood that this was being linked to the proposed population increase.

MW raised the issue of the Climate Friendly Survey which had been circulated within the village, and covered more than Traffic concerns which had been the remit of the On The Move recent survey.

General concerns were raised about what was being featured in the NB CAPP meetings purporting to come from GACC but we had not discussed or forwarded suggestions. DH was attending the next On the Move meeting on 18 May.

Dirleton – nothing report

Drem – nothing to report

West Fenton – the issue of speeding and the proposed Quiet Roads scheme was to be addressed at the next CAPP meeting.

#### 9. NB CAP Meetings:

There had been a lot of discussion regarding the Council Transport Strategy at the On The Move group. It was felt that it was less NB focussed than previously, with parking in villages and speeding considered. There is an on-line survey to complete, and the link will be provided for this for individuals to undertake. The deadline is 10 May and people are encouraged to respond.

The next meeting is 18 May, TD and DH will attend.

A query was raised from the floor in how to get information out in Gullane. The Co-op notice board and the one by the Old Smiddy were suggested, as well as Gullane News website.

BS was going to write a letter to the Area Partnership regarding ways to make it more effective, in conjunction with the new Chairperson.

#### 10. Website:

GM has now got this up to date, including the Police Report and links to the Facebook page of Gullane News. Thanks were put forward to GM and BS for developing this. A decision is required on how to develop this. Once the Secretary post is filled, a link can be made to their details.

#### 11. AOB:

A member of the audience asked regarding floral displays by shopkeepers during the forthcoming golf tournaments. This used to be done by the Council but had stopped due to budget issues. JH advised that the support and the upkeep has to come from the village, similar to Aberlady Floral Group and NB in Bloom. There were issues regarding insurance and also accessibility risks for some big planters. TT wondered if this could be part of the Tourism Strategy.

Pencaitland Planning Issues. An email had been forwarded to Angela Leitch from Pencaitland Community Council with concerns that the Planning Department are not engaging with Community Councils as they should. A meeting is being set up with Douglas Proudfoot, Head of Service, and Iain McFarlane from the Planning department. There was concern from the Community Council that the tone of the email was quite aggressive. TT felt that Community Councils can come across as negative, only writing letters of objections. TD disagreed with this, referencing the Fire Station, Aberlady and Dirleton plans as having constructive observations from the Community Council.

Winter Resilience Plan. This was raised by a member of the audience. Sandy Baptie, Risk Manager at the Council was to talk to the Community Council, and we should invite him to the next meeting. A useful model at NB had worked during the recent bad weather, enabling medicines etc to be brought to vulnerable people, and it was hoped that the template of phone numbers could be adopted.

12. Next Meeting – Thursday 31 May, Dirleton Kirk Hall, 7pm