

**GULLANE AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

(Representing Aberlady, Dirleton, Drem and Gullane)

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

**MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25 February 2021**

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

**Present**

Tom Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
Malcolm Duck (MD)	Aberlady
Frank Neat (FN)	Aberlady
Gordon McLelland (GM)	Gullane
Dorothy Arthur (DA)	Gullane
Karen Chapman (KC)	Gullane
Martin White (MW)	West Fenton
Hugh Smith (HS)	Drem
David Tait (DT)	Dirleton

**In Attendance** ELC Councillors Jim Goodfellow (Cllr JG) and Jeremy Findlay (Cllr JF)

Item	Title	Action By
1	<b>Sign On, Welcome and Apologies</b> TD welcomed all to the online meeting and noted it was quorate. There were no apologies for absence.	
2	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> The minutes of the meeting of 28 January 2021 were approved, and all present agreed with decisions taken.	
3	<b>Matters Arising and Actions from the Last Meeting</b> There were no matters arising from the last meeting which had not been dealt with.	
4	<b>Membership and Secretarial post</b> Notice of the two vacancies for Aberlady members had been posted for the 21 day period required by ELC, on the village noticeboards and on the Community Council website and on Facebook. Three applications had been received, from Rebecca Simpson Hughes (RSH), Hayden Edwards (HE) and Jamie Tough (JT). TD, MD had met each of	

	<p>them separately on Zoom. They recommended that RSH and HE should be admitted as casual vacancies in terms of the ELC Scheme for Community Councils and this was agreed. It was also agreed that TD would contact JT to discuss alternative ways in which he might assist the Community Council's work, possibly by way of co-option. The vacant post of Secretary had been advertised on the village noticeboard, on the Community Council website and on Facebook but no enquiries had been received. TD would continue to monitor the position.</p>	TD
5	<p><b>Local Priorities Fund</b></p> <p>Gullane Forest School –following the agreed award of £1800, Jenny Gries had delayed progress on developing the school as a result of limitations relating to training caused by the pandemic and had asked for the expenditure set out in the application to be restructured, with more emphasis on internal training to be carried out by her and less on expenditure on equipment. It was agreed that TD, KC and HS would meet her on Zoom to discuss this and make recommendations to the full Community Council.</p> <p>Gullane Village Association – an application for a grant of £2440 had been received for the supply and erection of a new village noticeboard on ground adjacent to the Old Smiddy gift shop. Questions were raised as to whether competitive quotations for the board had been obtained and as to the relative strength of the board in the light of storm damage which had been experienced with a similar board in Dirleton. The LPF committee would discuss these points with Lorna Scott of the GVA and make a recommendation to the full Community Council.</p>	TD, KC, HS  TD, KC, HS
6	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>KC advised that there was a credit balance of £2032.89 in the LPF account for the current year (to 31 March) after allowing for grants agreed but not yet paid and a sum of £200 provisionally agreed for Gullane Beavers in respect of the proposed additional defibrillator at Gullane Bents.</p>	
7	<p><b>Police Report</b></p> <p>The monthly community police report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be posted on the website and on Facebook, was noted. PC Paterson had advised that he would be retiring from the police force early in March and it was agreed that TD should contact him to thank him for the cooperation he had provided as community police officer over many years and to wish him well in his retirement.</p>	TD/GM
8	<p><b>Village Reports</b></p> <p><b>Gullane</b> –DA reported that she had still not been advised by ELC on Scottish Water's answers to questions which had been raised about the capacity of the drainage system for the CALA Saltcoats housing development, as referred to in the planning permission. She would press CALA and ELC about this and would copy Cllr JF in to her emails.</p>	DA

	<p>GM expressed concern about ELC failure to implement agreed cleaning/repainting of street signs in the village. He would press Alan Stubbs, ELC Service Manager – Roads, about this. He also expressed concern about litter on the streets and about the ongoing problem of damage to Goose Green caused by parking on the grass. Cllr JF noted that the parking problem seemed to be caused mostly by contractors' vehicles but that it could not be resolved during adverse winter weather conditions.</p> <p><b>West Fenton</b> –MW reported that the flooding problems he had reported at the last meeting had been resolved. He also reported that heavy traffic associated with building work in Gullane appeared to be using the West Fenton road, apparently contrary to the transport programme referred to in the CALA planning permissions.</p> <p><b>Drem</b>–HS had nothing to report.</p> <p><b>Aberlady</b>– FN expressed concern about the proliferation of - directional signs to new housing developments on lampposts and fixed elsewhere around the area. It was agreed that TD would enquire about the status of such signs with ELC.</p> <p>MD expressed concern about the quite high incidence of blocked drains in the village although it was accepted that this is a perennial problem in winter. He also advised that good progress was being made with the upgrading of the Memorial Garden.</p> <p>FN expressed doubt as to whether the new 20 mph speed limits were being enforced. Cllr JG confirmed that this was the responsibility of the community police officers, who could be asked to attend with speed guns. He advised that the reduced speed limits were intended to be temporary, for the duration of the pandemic but that ELC would allow them to be retained thereafter if this was requested.</p> <p><b>Dirleton</b> – DT expressed concern that there had been problems in the village with a lack of clearing of snow and ice by ELC during the recent cold weather and that no information about this had been provided by the ELC resilience staff. He was aware of some four complaints about this.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>TD</p> <p>FN</p>
9	<p><b>Website and Communications</b></p> <p>GM reported that responses to Facebook postings were continuing to run at a satisfactorily high level and that website visits continued to be reasonably satisfactory.</p>	
10	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>MW reported that the agreed objections to the planning application for the conversion of the garage block at 33 The Village, Archerfield had been lodged. He referred to TD's request by email circulation that the Community Council should submit a letter of support of the Dirleton Village Association's objections to the renewed planning and listed building consent applications relating to Auburn, Manse Road, Dirleton and to the development of two holiday letting properties with parking on the site of the old laundry/gallery building. This request was agreed, MW to proceed accordingly.</p>	<p>MW</p>

11	<p><b>North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership (NBCAP)</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
12	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>GM raised the question of ELC's response to the new regulations on smoke/fire/carbon monoxide alarms, the introduction of which have been delayed until February 2022. It is understood that the responsibility for compliance will rest with the local authority but in view of the extended timescale for introduction of the regulations it was agreed to postpone detailed consideration of them until later in the year.</p> <p>TD advised that DT has been proposed as the new Chairman of the Dirleton Village Association, to be put to a meeting of the Association on 25 March.</p>	All

**The next regularly scheduled online meeting will be on Thursday, 25 March at 7:00pm. If members of the public wish to raise any issues for discussion at the meeting or beforehand these should be sent by email to [gaccsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gaccsecretary@gmail.com)**