

GULLANE AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 (Representing Aberlady, Dirleton, Drem and Gullane)
 www.gaddabout.org.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 31 MARCH
Held in Dirleton Church Hall

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	G Fraser	Chairperson	V Sked	Gullane
	R Dick	Vice Chairperson	S Morris	Drem
	R Ainslie	Treasurer	A McIntosh	Gullane
	J Aitken	Aberlady	PC Banks	Police
	H Heenan	Aberlady	Cllr N Rankin	ELC
	A Steel	Dirleton	L Ogilvie	Secretary

Item	Detail	Action by
1	APOLOGIES Apologies were received from J Findlay.	
2	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting with the following amendment: Item 6 - village reports Aberlady - 4th bullet point. HH asked for written clarification that the property in question was located on Back Lane and should read 'A tree had fallen in the high winds into a residential property on Back Lane' etc.	
3	MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE The Chairman advised that matters arising will be covered during the course of the meeting.	
4	POLICE REPORT PC Banks confirmed that the road at Ballencrieff would receive extra attention over the next few weeks and reported incidents for the previous month as follows: Aberlady 17th/18th March - vehicle entered and items taken Problems with youths congregating at the school had been reported. PC Banks had met with HH regarding issues with the Londis store and vehicles parking on the zigzag area outside the store. Planters are being considered for the location to block the area directly outside the shop. Gullane 12th March - lights had been broken in a driveway. The Police are monitoring youths congregating in the area. On Goose Green Road a plant pot had been thrown on a car roof causing damage. On the same Saturday evening there had been problems on Hamilton Road and East Links Road - PC Banks asked for any information to be passed to him in relation to any of the incidents. PC Banks had received some information regarding a beach party on the Bents to which some evidence had been visible the following day - AM suggested that the CCTV camera may be of help. Scrap metal has been taken at Fenton Barns and also some break-ins reported at the same location. Drem There had been a house break-in. Dirleton 26th March - a car had been vandalised. 10th March - rolls had again been stolen from outside the shop. Other shops in the area had also been targeted. 24/25th March - a vehicle had been broken into and window broken.	

	<p>PC Banks asked for any information on a black lurcher - details to be passed to him. PC Banks also advised that cars are being left unlocked and that care should be taken to ensure this does not happen.</p> <p>It was noted that cars are exiting on to the main road from the junction outside the Castle Inn. PC Banks asked that vehicle details should be passed to him - this can be done anonymously if preferred. AS felt that there had been some instances of youths speeding on the road towards Yellowcraig.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that funding for the works at Goose Green in Gullane should be in the budget for this year - Cllr Rankin will look into this. AS advised that works were taking place at the east end of Dirleton Green - edging stones which should keep vehicles off the grass.</p> <p>AM updated the meeting on the deer count undertaken over two nights on 27/28 Feb. There had been a minimum of 290 deer counted in the area over the two nights. Mr Irvine and Mr Hammond will meet with representatives from both the Community Council and ELC to discuss the best way forward. Mr and Mrs Dalton who live on Whim Road, Gullane attended the meeting with a record of the number of deer viewed in their garden over the past month which is a daily occurrence not only in their garden but also of neighbouring properties. It was agreed that a meeting must go ahead with the relative agencies and guidance taken from them. It was felt that any solution should be for the whole of the local area to be effective in reducing numbers. HH advised that the Advisory Group for Aberlady Bay would not be interested in undertaking any measures for deer reduction on the bay.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES – RD</p> <p>RD advised of £7230 in funding for this year - the revised figure is due to changes in the electorate in the area. The admin grant is as last year. An application has been received by the Gullane Village Hall Green Team. A sum of £80 was granted. An application has been received from an organisation in Aberlady for assistance with purchase of audio visual equipment. It was agreed that further information is required. RD will progress this. The Chairman advised that the event in the Mallard Hotel had been very good. Regarding the Ballencrieff issue at the last meeting SM had met with Brian Cooper and representatives of the traffic police who are looking at the issues although the general feeling was that the problem is due to driver behaviour rather than the road itself.</p> <p>Mr Young spoke to the meeting about traffic issues in the High Street Aberlady and also the possibility of relocating the bus stop situated between the Kilspindie Hotel and the Aberlady Inn. The path is very narrow and the road is also very narrow at this point which leads to a build up of traffic behind a bus when picking up passengers. Mr Young advised of many vehicle bumps and felt that a major accident will occur. The area at Red Row was discussed as an alternative for the bus stop - HH agreed to speak to the local residents to identify their feelings on any relocation. Following agreement from Red Row residents this will be progressed with ELC.</p> <p>Following the last meeting RD had corresponded to the Chief Executive of ELC regarding the relocation of the local Community Warden and had received a satisfactory and positive response. It had then transpired that the local Warden had in fact resigned and was to be replaced by Steven Short who is local and knows the area well.</p>	<p>RD</p> <p>HH</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>Alison Cosgrove spoke to the meeting on the possibility for some planting at Drem Station. Alison remembers a time when the station was manned and well maintained and she felt with the proposed refurbishment and opening of the waiting room it might be appropriate to do something with the garden area. There is environmental funding with ELC which can be applied for and a member of ELC staff will provide a design for the planting using appropriate plants which will require a very small amount of maintenance. Would the Community Council be interested in such an initiative? SM felt this was a good idea in principle. Alison will obtain the relevant forms and the name of the contact who will provide the design and this will be revisited when paperwork has been received.</p> <p>Rose Cottage, Gullane</p> <p>An appeal is now with the Reporter and it was agreed that the Community Council have nothing further to add to their previous comments on this proposal. The Chairman confirmed that comments made by the</p>	

	<p>Community Council have been included in the 'pack' which has been forwarded to the Reporter.</p> <p>Drs Surgery and Day Centre The above will be one of the first to be built under the 'Hub' arrangement. It is hoped that appointment of technical staff will be made in early June and progress will then be made - no planning application has been made as yet although the tennis courts have been moved.</p> <p>Gullane Lodge (Templar Lodge) SNH have delayed the process having taken exception to the windows looking to the main street from the penthouse.</p>	
7	VILLAGE REPORTS	
	<p>Dirleton No plan for west side of Green as yet. No sign as yet of guidelines for wind turbines from ELC. Speed sign has gone from village to Drem. It was noted that the sign from Gullane has also moved on (destination unknown). It was suggested that the CC buy a sign using local priorities funding. SM will enquire as to costs and report back to the meeting.</p>	SM
	<p>Aberlady As noted previously planters are to be considered for area outside shop - Brian Cooper will provide a design format. A letter had been sent to ELC by a resident in the Pleasance complaining about the speed of vehicles driving from the Cala houses to the Main Street. It appeared that the letter had contained more items of concern than HH had been aware of and she had received a response from ELC. ELC will undertake a survey of speed and traffic flow but advised that no injury/accident had taken place in the location during the last 10 years.</p>	
	<p>Gullane It was noted that road works are taking place in Main Street. Erskine Road was considered to be a disgrace but Colin Baird is aware of the problems - especially the corner at the east end. Dog bins are to be put in place and suggested locations were requested. The newly refurbished public toilets are due to be opened - and seem to be very smart. The lights to the front of the building were considered as a possible target for vandals.</p>	
	<p>Drem Nothing further.</p>	
8	<p>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS The Chairman suggested that for a trial period one of the Community Councillors will chair the meeting in their own area. George will still deal with correspondence etc.</p> <p>RD advised that the web site is receiving a healthy number of 'hits' - this is very encouraging. SM will take a number of newsletters to the Ballencrieff residents who were very interested and they can distribute them accordingly.</p> <p>RA advised that £261 had been refunded to the CC by ELC in respect of payments for use of halls on evenings of CC meetings.</p> <p>Fleur Nisbet attended the meeting and spoke on the subject of cars speeding on Goose Green, Gullane. She wondered whether the road which runs through the centre of the Green could be made 'access only' and had suggested this to Colin Baird of ELC who did not disagree with the suggestion. There are no calming measures in the area and as there is a play park it was felt that the situation is extremely dangerous. Various other suggestions were considered, high kerbs, sleeping policemen but they did not work for various reasons. It was felt that further consideration was required and a meeting with ELC, Police and interested parties. In the meantime Ms Nisbet will prepare a sketch to be passed to the Chairman.</p>	SM
9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will take place on Thursday 28 April in Gullane Village Hall (7pm).</p>	