

MINUTES OF MEETING
Held in Dirleton Church Hall on Thursday 24 November 2011

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:

H Heenan	Aberlady (Chair)
J Aitken	Aberlady
R Ainslie	Gullane
G Fraser	Gullane
A McIntosh	Gullane
Duncan Sutherland	Gullane
PC Banks	Lothian & Borders Police
L Ogilvie	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>HH welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked members of the public for their attendance; and looked forward to receiving their comments as the meeting progressed.</p> <p>Apologies were received from the following: S Morris, J Findlay, V Sked, A Steel, Cllr Mackinnon.</p>	
2	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.</p> <p>RA wished to add a sentence to an item - in addition to what had been said by Cllr Mackinnon at the meeting. Under Item 4 regarding Community Partnership Initiative - RA wished to note that it was because of the poor representation from the outlying wards that it had been agreed that additional meetings should take place in the villages of Gullane, Dirleton and Aberlady.</p>	
3	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>It was reported that bank details had been forthcoming relating to an award made at a previous meeting and funds will now be transferred. An application had been received from Eric Thomson on behalf of Gullane Village Hall for funding to erect noticeboards in the location of the Old Smiddy. The sign will be free standing and robust - with possibly the addition of a coat of arms. A sign is also to be erected at the village hall which will be paid for by the Hall Committee. It was hoped that both signs could be erected at the same time. A grant of £650 was agreed.</p> <p>HH advised that Aberlady Primary School Parent Council would submit an application for three safer crossing places within the village and also a solar operated speed sign. GF advised that the DVA have agreed to purchase a speed reduction sign which will assist with the rota for the other signs in the area. The sum of £6,500 is available as unallocated funds.</p>	
4	<p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Bus Stop at south side of Aberlady Main Street</p> <p>In summary: In January this year representation was made to the CC by residents regarding damage to vehicles etc. The residents were advised that the CC would not take up personal issues and left it to them to progress the issue. This then escalated into a health and safety issue due to the restriction of the shelter area and pedestrians having to step on to the road to pass the shelter area. ELC considered Red Row as a site but residents were unhappy with this. ELC took this on board. At this stage there were a few letters objecting to moving the shelter and also a few in support of this move. ELC then removed the shelter. A petition is ongoing regarding this removal and ELC will consider this with the responses they have received.</p> <p>GF has spoken with Colin Baird who feels the location of the bus stop is correct but that the position of the shelter is in question and he is uncertain whether this can now be returned to its original site. It may be that an amended type of shelter can be erected on the site and CB has undertaken to look into this option. A local resident reported to the meeting that the problem is the location of the bus stop and the damage caused to parked cars by buses - this person has written to ELC on this matter. There was debate on the matter with different views heard. The view that the bus shelter also acts as a screen which masks vandalism was an issue – further debate ensued. It was felt that there had been miscommunication and</p>	

	<p>misunderstanding on this issue and that people were not aware of the situation until the shelter was removed. The point was made that many local organisations did not feel they had been consulted. It was noted that there is no timetable at the stop. HH advised that the CC will take forward the comments raised at this meeting.</p> <p>Community Partnership Meeting RA had not been present at the last meeting of the CC but advised that she had attended the Community Partnership meeting in North Berwick. She felt that the CC should be aware that further to Cllr Mackinnon's update at the last meeting that there had not only been a further meeting in the village of Gullane but a meeting also in Aberlady and in Dirleton. The meeting held in North Berwick had included the findings of all the outlying meetings. One of the issues raised in all meetings had been facilities for the local young people. It was hoped to contact local youth groups, through schools prior to a meeting in February. It was felt that the partnership adds another layer of meetings. RA reported that at last weeks meeting there had been representatives of five groups within the wards and she was glad to see the youth issues being taken forward. PC Banks felt that most meetings tend to take place in North Berwick and his concern is that the outlying areas are not always represented appropriately. Cost of travel to facilities was raised as an issue for youths. There is a youth cluster cafe in North Berwick but again cost of travel is an issue. RA advised that there is a great deal being done in the area with people giving up their free time on a regular basis and that we should be aware of all they are doing. The group is more involved with catering for older children. A lady from the floor advised that she had been involved with a local youth club for a great number of years and felt that ELC do not offer enough support outwith the North Berwick area. Accommodation and premises for clubs are often a big issue with costs being too high to consider and the local school premises either are not big enough or already in use for other purposes. It was noted that something in Aberlady for teenagers would be greatly appreciated - The CPP will be looking at this requirement.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>PC Banks reported to the meeting as follows:</p> <p>Aberlady 12 November - overnight - rear windscreen smashed on vehicle by persons unknown. Traffic wardens will be highly visible in the area on a weekly basis. PC Banks will look at stats for numbers of vandalism reports at the bus stop in Main Street. It was noted that traffic is still speeding around the Primary School area; PC Banks will speak to the school and may be able to use the traffic wardens to monitor this problem in an effort to try and keep cars away from the school.</p> <p>Gullane 28 October - Youths on Goose Green - one drinking in a public place. 4 November - Report of untaxed vehicle in the Muirfield area. 15 November - report of prowlers in Hopetoun Terrace area. 19 November - Warning given to a driver at Goose Green -1st warning. 19-20 November - purse stolen at a charity event in the Village Hall. PC Banks was asked for further details of the Hopetoun Terrace item; he will look into this and report back.</p> <p>Dirleton 5-6 November - overnight - attempted house break in at Foreshot Terrace; no entry gained.</p> <p>Road Traffic 7 vehicular accidents, none serious - one involving a deer. It was noted that drivers are not obligated to report accidents involving deer and the number of accidents could be higher.</p> <p>Diesel thefts - Fenton barns has been targeted for diesel thefts and also for theft of scrap.</p> <p>In the last months there have been various reports of 'skimming' at cash points. Any concerns regarding cash point machines should be reported immediately.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>The DVA will hold a site meeting on 2nd December regarding the Fenton Barns project. AMcI had met with Falkos Bakery regarding their application for a licence to sell alcohol. AMcI was satisfied that this would be good for the local community and that the application was not intended for use as an off-licence. An application had been received for two golf lodges at The Renaissance Golf Course, Dirleton - this has been passed to the DVA.</p>	

	AMcI advised that there is no volunteer representative for the Coastal Museum group as yet. JA is awaiting village articles for the next newsletter and a plea for a volunteer can be made through the newsletter.	
7	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Aberlady HH advised that the situation with parking outside the Londis store is ongoing and a deterrent is being sought.</p> <p>Gullane RA asked Colin Baird about the legality of barbed wire on top of a fence - CB will report back. RA advised that houses opposite the Primary School now have designated parking areas which were previously grass. There is now less parking outside the school - there are double yellow lines in a drop off zone - could the double yellow lines be removed in the parking bay? RA will write to ELC – LO.</p> <p>AMcI reported on the deer situation on behalf of Steve Baldry. There is nothing to be done at the moment. Cllr Mackinnon is taking up the matter of a policy with ELC; SNH will push for legislation to enforce landowners to carry out deer management.</p> <p>Dirleton GF advised that the DVA are opposed to the recently put forward plans for parking on the village green. On 8th and 9th December plans will be available in North Berwick Scout Hall in relation to a development at Ferrygate, Dirleton.</p> <p>Drem Nothing to report.</p>	
8	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>A question was asked as to whether an article could be included in the newsletter re dog fouling; in particular the area from Back Lane to Main Street needs attention. It was noted that if names of the dog owners are known details should be passed to the Police who will follow up on the matter. The matter of street sweeping was also discussed. This does not seem to have been done for some time. LO will write to ELC.</p> <p>It was clarified that George Fraser has not retired as Chairperson of the CC; each of the representative areas provides a host chair at the meetings in their area and all correspondence is still channeled through the Chair (George).</p>	
9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place in Aberlady Kirk Stables on Thursday 26th January at 7pm. John Aitken will Chair the meeting.</p>	