

MINUTES OF MEETING
Held in Aberlady Kirk Stables on Thursday 26 January 2012

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	A McIntosh	Gullane (Newly elected Chairperson)
	H Heenan	Aberlady
	G Fraser	Gullane
	S Morris	Drem
	Veronica Sked	Gullane
	A Steel	Dirleton
	Duncan Sutherland	Gullane
	Cllr Mackinnon	East Lothian Councillor
	L Ogilvie	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>Election of office bearers George Fraser opened the meeting and advised that RA had indicated that she was prepared to continue as Treasurer and that LO will also remain as Secretary. Alastair McIntosh was prepared to stand as Chairperson and this nomination was accepted and seconded. AM then took the chair and thanked GF for all his work during his time as Chair.</p> <p>APOLOGIES Apologies were received from the following: Jeremy Findlay, Rosanne Ainslie, Cllr Neil Rankin, John Aitken and PC Banks who has submitted a police report.</p>	
2	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting subject to the following amendment: Item 6 planning matters - First sentence should read - ELC held a site meeting on 2 December regarding the Dirleton village green proposed development.</p> <p>There is a proposal for tree planting at Goose Green, Gullane - there are varying views of local residents with one for the proposal, some unsure and some strongly against the proposal. AM advised that the CC are in the process of discussing with the local residents and a letter will be sent to ELC on this matter expressing concerns – LO. AM was in receipt of a letter regarding the possibility of a Jubilee wood and this will be considered later in the meeting.</p>	LO
3	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES The Chair advised that the sub group had met to discuss two applications:</p> <p>Inspire - are based in North Berwick and are involved in youth development. The group are seeking funding to put on plays in school. Matched funding had been suggested and whilst this option was being investigated East Lothian Council had agreed to cover the cost of the project.</p> <p>Underground cabling at Dirleton Village Green - This was under consideration for the purpose of Christmas lighting; East Lothian Council have agreed to cover the cost of this work.</p> <p>HH advised that he had passed a copy of an application made by Aberlady School for speed signage to the previous meeting. AM will check that JF has this application and progress. It was agreed that there should also be such a sign purchased for the village of Gullane. DVA will purchase their own sign. A cost of £2,400 per sign was quoted. Cllr M noted that this cost excludes VAT; if the order is placed through ELC the VAT can then be reclaimed.</p> <p>There is a sum of £6,500 available to spend on local priorities and it was noted that ELC have asked that this is committed before the end of next month. Minus the cost of two speed signs there will be a balance of £1,700 available. It was noted that the sign to be purchased for Dirleton by DVA will be solar operated. Nothing further has been received regarding the installation of the noticeboard in Gullane.</p>	AM/ JF
4	MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE	

	<p>The Chairman was in receipt of a letter from Sir Garth Morrison who is in attendance this evening. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee takes place on 3rd June and it is hoped that local groups will organise a 'Big Lunch' in the form of street parties etc to celebrate the occasion. The CC were in support of this idea.</p> <p>GF gave a short update on the situation with the bus stop and shelter on Main Street, Aberlady. The bus stop will remain as it is and a new design of shelter taking into account health and safety issues will be put in place - ELC Transportation Department are progressing with this.</p> <p>John Small had written to the CC regarding a Jubilee Wood. GF will initially consult with the Factor at Luffness and also Gosford Estate to identify whether there could be some land available. It was noted that if this project comes to fruition consideration will need to be given to public access, dog waste bins and maintenance of the area.</p> <p>A letter had been received regarding the proposed new houses at Gilsland, North Berwick and the impact that this will have on the local schools. Support is being sought by the Parents Group and DS will write accordingly expressing concerns about capacity at the school, traffic issues and the lack of facilities.</p> <p>It was agreed that if 500 houses are built the figure quoted of 75 new pupils for the High School seemed too low. Cllr M advised of considerable discussions on this issue at the moment. It was suggested that if permission is given for the proposed houses at Ferryggate then the situation could be worse. GF advised that the proposal for Ferryggate had been turned down but may be appealed.</p> <p>Cllr M advised that the land at Gilsland is currently listed as DC1 and no planning papers have been lodged as yet.</p> <p>Sophie Shorthouse was in attendance at the meeting. Sophie has attended many meetings of the CC and has expressed an interest in becoming a Community Councillor. AM proposed to co-opt Sophie as a representative for the village of Gullane - this was agreed and Sophie was formally co-opted. HH issued a plea for anyone interested in becoming a Community Councillor for the village of Aberlady; there is also a vacancy in Dirleton.</p>	<p>GF</p> <p>DS</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>PC Banks had produced a report for the months of December and January which is summarised below:</p> <p>Gullane Overnight 27/28 November, Middleshot Road - theft from a car of goods amounting to around £100. Erskine Road - CD player stolen from unlocked vehicle. 8/9 December - Middleshot Road - Theft from garden hut. 14 December - Saltcoats Road - incident involving a group of noisy youths. 24 December - Muirfield area - 2 youths in park next to the primary school riding a motorbike and causing a nuisance. 28 December - Nisbet Road - Entry made to house. Very little taken. 28/29 December - Garleton Court - Overnight vehicle had been scratched. 7 January - Erskine Road - Youths causing annoyance and then running off. 13 January - stolen motorcycle found abandoned in Hamilton Road. Between 15 and 20 January - Sandy Loan - house break in and theft of jewellery and cash.</p> <p>Aberlady 26 November - School Road - incident whereby a lady was struck with eggs and paintballs. 27 - 28 November - Glenpeffer Avenue - window seals removed on parked car. 25 - 29 November – Entry gained to an area at Fenton Barns but nothing taken. 17 December - youths reported throwing food from a vehicle and driving recklessly.</p> <p>Dirleton 9 January - Main Street - a house was entered and various items taken. 11 January - The Spa at Archerfield - A security guard disturbed and then was then attacked by an unknown person in the area of the new building. Nothing was taken although property appeared to have been gathered in readiness to being removed.</p> <p>Any concerns regarding house break-ins should be passed to PC Banks who is available to give any advice. Hand held radar checks have been carried out throughout Gullane and Dirleton.</p> <p>Other matters There has been disruption by high winds during the period and 12 road traffic incidents have been reported. There have been five calls regarding deer over the period.</p>	

	<p>PC Banks asked that the public report any suspicious activity or suspicious persons in the area. PC Banks can be contacted on 01620 893538 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Alternatively PC Banks can be contacted by email on colin.banks@ljb.pnn.police.uk</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>GF will continue to deal with planning matters.</p> <p>Fenton Barns, enabling build and sewerage system. It was agreed that the CC should write renewing and reinforcing our original objections. The figure of £5m had been quoted for the sewerage works and concerns were raised as to whether all other avenues for funding of this project had been considered by the landowner. Rental had been charged for units on the land and no upgrade of the system had been undertaken and questions were asked why this had not been done.</p> <p>There were concerns regarding the actual number of houses being applied for; a figure of 75 was quoted but if the cost of the sewerage works increases then the number of houses to enable the build may be increased. There was concern that the final figure may be considerably higher. There was a suggestion from the floor that the industrial site was mismanaged and units were haphazardly located and an upgrade should have been ongoing over the years. Cllr M advised that planning consent has been agreed for building of the sewerage system which has been identified as required by SEPA. The landowner has been warned and fined by SEPA and the next stage may be imprisonment. The problem arises when there is an overflow of foul water into the Peffer Burn.</p> <p>A gentleman from the floor spoke to the matter of land being offered for purchase at the site for employment use which would increase the value greatly. This land has been offered to ELC for their use. If ELC purchase this land do they then have an interest in seeing the application granted? Cllr M advised that there is no ongoing discussion with the landowner regarding this land. There was strong feeling that alternative options had not been considered by the landowner - if the problems are created by only a few of the industrial units should they not be introducing some form of recycling of waste - the gentleman felt this had not been fully considered.</p> <p>It was agreed that there are no significant differences to the original planning application (the only difference being the employment land) and to write to this effect highlighting infrastructure issues, numbers of children for Dirleton Primary School and North Berwick High School. Garth Morrison felt it important that the landowner looks at alternative systems.</p> <p>GF suggested that given the possible extension to this site that the CC look at imposing natural boundaries to the area as has been done for the other villages.</p> <p>GF asked Community Councillors to look at documentation relating to other planning matters at the end of this meeting.</p> <p>RA had asked GF to bring up the matter of Templar Lane - there has been an approach to ELC to have this road turned into one way only. It was felt this would be a sensible approach.</p> <p>AS advised that the proposal for parking at Dirleton Village Green was approved and that work will begin on 6 February.</p> <p>Gullane Green road closure - There was a question from the floor regarding the consultation process. JF has the actual numbers but the lady was advised that the CC had withdrawn any support for this closure due to the numbers of residents who had been against the proposal.</p>	<p>LO</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Aberlady The bus shelter issue was covered earlier in the meeting. Walk leaflet - GF has copies of the leaflet for anyone who requires a supply. Illegal parking at the Londis store - This is ongoing and ELC are progressing with alternatives; planters may be an option.</p> <p>Gullane Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Drem The traffic island is currently under construction - thanks were minuted for all John Fortune's hard work on this project.</p>	

	<p>Dirleton AS advised that the last meeting of the DVA had taken place on 19 January at which purchase of a defibrillator had been discussed; an application for funding may be made to the next meeting of the CC.</p> <p>It has been agreed not to progress matters to do with the planning application at Ferrygate.</p> <p>Gullane Mr and Mrs Dalton were in attendance and noted that although the numbers of deer entering their garden have reduced following installation of a deer fence there are still many deer in their local area. Steve Baldry advised that SNH had completed a survey of numbers two weeks ago and they seemed to be as per the previous survey. Deer management on the Bents will recommence following the clocks changing and better light. SB advised of new legislation in that public bodies must take responsibility for deer management in their area and work with their neighbours - consistent planning is required. Cllr M advised that he has had conversations with Landscape and Countryside Management at Director level and will continue to progress this. Health and Safety issues cannot be ignored.</p> <p>SS felt that further advice on health and safety regarding any deer management should be sought; especially with shooting in a public area. She was advised that a full health and safety risk assessment was undertaken involving ELC Rangers and also the Deer Commission. SS has a contact with the Forestry Commission and felt that there were some doubts regarding how this had been managed.</p> <p>GF advised that the Christmas decoration at Drem had been damaged and a replacement may be required. SM will look into this matter.</p> <p>AS asked whether our representative on the North Berwick Coastal Museum should attend the next CC meeting to give an update; this was agreed.</p>	
8	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>JA is awaiting an article from SM for the newsletter - on receipt of the article the newsletter will be progressed.</p> <p>ELC are in the process of producing a new Local Development Plan and many meetings and workshops are arranged locally. One for Community Councils will take place on 8th February in Haddington to which RA will attend. Another meeting has been scheduled for the whole coastal ward.</p>	
9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place in Dirleton Church Hall on Thursday 23rd February at 7pm.</p>	