

MINUTES OF MEETING
Held in Aberlady Kirk Stables on Thursday 29th March 2012

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:

A McIntosh (AM)	Gullane (Chairman)
R Ainslie (RA)	Gullane (Treasurer)
J Aitken (JA)	Aberlady
J Findlay	Gullane
H Heenan (HH)	Aberlady
G Fraser (GF)	Gullane
S Morris (SM)	Drem
S Shorthouse (SS)	Gullane
A Steel (AS)	Dirleton
D Sutherland (DS)	Gullane
Cllr Rankin (Cllr R)	East Lothian Councillor
L Ogilvie (LO)	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>APOLOGIES Apologies were received from the following: Cllr Mackinnon, V Sked and PC Banks.</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: Under item 4 – Should read that RA advised that Monday had seen the launch of the older peoples strategy.</p>	
3	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES JF advised that the financial position at the end of this year is that from a total of £9048.36 there is £8958.80 as committed funds leaving a small balance of £89.59. There is an amount awaiting transfer to Gullane Village Hall for the purposes of signage – further information is awaited prior to the transfer. The award for next year amounts to £7170.00 which is slightly less than last year.</p> <p>JF proposed that SS sits on the local priorities sub committee; this was seconded and SS was formally appointed on to the committee. AM will remain on the group at the moment. SS reminded the Chair that he is due to step down from the Community Council in October.</p> <p>It was noted that there have been no further discussions with Gullane Mini hockey club regarding the possibility of an astro facility.</p>	
4	<p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE Concerns had been raised regarding the planned extension to the Nursing Home on Gullane High Street and the Chairman read out the incoming email. GF advised that the plans had been considered and that talks had been held with the developer. GF had prepared a response to the email. It was felt that the new extension will provide further opportunities for employment with much improvement to the facilities for both patients and staff in the home. It was noted that there had been no complaints to the amended plans from the Bowling Club. There were no comments from the floor.</p> <p>Yellow lines – RA advised that PC Banks was dealing with this; RA had sent him a detailed email. There are double yellow lines in the parking bay outside the primary school and it was hoped to have them removed to allow a drop off point for the school. RA advised that there would appear to have been a decrease in traffic in the area over the last few weeks and wondered whether a request had been made to parents to take care in this area.</p> <p>VS had forwarded comments on the barbed wire at the Falcons/Finches – PC Banks had walked round the area and on his return visit the offending wire had been removed.</p>	

	<p>Roe Deer: The Chairman reported that ELC had attended a convention in Stirling regarding the increasing deer populations in the Central Belt of Scotland but an email from Neil Clark of Landscape and Countryside did not appear to take the matter forward or provide any solutions. This matter was originally raised with ELC over 2 years ago after members of the local community had raised the problems of damage to gardens and deer vehicle collisions. The matter had been discussed at some length by GACC over many meetings and there had been no progress despite continuous contact with Landscape and Countryside at ELC.. It was unanimously agreed that the matter should now be left with ELC and SNH to progress without further involvement by GACC. Neil Clark had tried to organise a public meeting on the matter but GACC had not been consulted or notified. After debate it was unanimously agreed that a public meeting would not serve any useful purpose and GACC would not support it. GACC had included a reference in The Newsletter regarding deer vehicle collisions and everyone has been requested to notify the Police if they are involved with accidents involving deer. The Chairman would notify Neil Clark of Landscape and Countryside of the foregoing decisions.</p> <p>SNH have asked for evidence regarding damage to gardens and deer vehicle collisions (DVC). Mr and Mrs Dalton have kindly provided documentary evidence of the high incidence of deer in their own and surrounding gardens and further information will be obtained re DVC.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>POLICE REPORT – PC Banks did not attend the meeting and no report was available</p> <p>The Chairman had received the minutes of yesterday's CAPP meeting, a representative from the Balencrieff steading had attended and it was noted that the police had been in attendance with a hand held radar unit to monitor traffic. A report was made regarding an incident behind the Muirfield apartments and a warning had been given to the drivers of the vehicles concerned. Jim Goodfellow advised on an issue of dog fouling near Gullane Primary School, also parking at zig zags on Aberlady Main Street had been highlighted. The Chairman advised that PC Banks has been very supportive and the CC were putting him forward for a community policing award.</p> <p>A resident from Kingston was in attendance who was very concerned about speeding traffic in the village, she had contacted ELC regarding the possibility of a gateway to the village and had been advised that the problem lay with driver behavior. It was agreed that the CC should write to ELC in support of her claims and recommend that Kingston receive the speed sign. If the housing development at north Berwick goes ahead Kingston will be the main exit route for the area and she strongly felt that drivers need to be educated now with regards to the bad junctions in the village. The Chairman reminded her that registration numbers of vehicles should be taken and passed to the Police. Cllr R requested sight of a copy of the letter she had received from ELC.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>The CC had been copied in to a letter to ELC from an Aberlady resident regarding a change of use from a property previously used as a hot food take-away to a restaurant. There are already two restaurants on the main street and the question was asked whether another in competition would make it more difficult for those on the Main Street. A discussion ensued on whether this is truly a change of use; there was speculation that the application was for an Indian restaurant with take-away but no application has been registered as of yet - parking will of course be an issue. It was noted that the chip shop was run as a restaurant with tables inside. It was suggested that if the premises were to become an Indian restaurant this would not provide competition for the other restaurants, it was noted from the floor that there would be seating for thirty people with a food preparation area and a bar the lady who advised of this had concerns about the small preparation area and the bar, do we feel this would benefit the community? Should we object? HH felt no objection should be made but the question was asked whether the letter writer had the support of the community, DS suggested that further information is required; it was agreed that as the CC had been copied in to the letter that no response was required at this time.</p> <p>Applications for Drem and Ferrygate windmills are of local interest and the relevant paperwork is available for perusal. AS advised that the planning application had been approved for wind turbines at Castlemains; it was agreed that there was a certain amount of confusion as to policy regarding wind turbines. Cllr R advised that there is an approved policy; which can be made available to the CC. Following an appeal two wind turbines have been approved for Drem which are larger than in the original application and will be located in a different position - these are in addition to the two previously approved. Jim Goodfellow advised that Historic Scotland had not raised any objections to the Castlemains wind turbines application.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Aberlady</p> <p>HH advised that a dog ban is likely to be approved for the nature reserve this is awaiting ratification by the Scottish executive - there was a discussion on this matter as many people felt that dogs should be allowed on leads with the possibility of a ban in the nesting season. HH will pass these comments back to the group. Improved signage was suggested at some of the access points from the Gullane side. A question</p>	

	<p>was asked whether the toilets at the bay could be re-instated this will be followed up by HH.</p> <p>The chairman thanked JA for the newsletter. Over three thousand copies had been printed with only two hundred copies spare; GF was thanked for his sterling work in coordinating the project with RA who volunteered to take this on with help from DS for the next distribution, there was a vote of thanks to RA.</p> <p>Gullane There has been some vandalism on Erskine Road and a suggestion had been made that this had been perpetrated by the same people previously charged with other acts of vandalism - this will be followed up with PC Banks. JF advised of tree planting at Goose Green, but not in the area where objections had been raised previously, there had also been some planting in Middleshot Road. SS reported of instances of dog fouling; this has been made a priority with the CAPP project. LO to email PC Banks to ask for this to be made a priority in Gullane also. RA felt that the access (walkway) from Memorial Park to the side of the old Waverley building is in a terrible condition and that improvements are required especially if further sporting activity is to take place in the park. SS felt that the road between the children's golf course to Saltcoats has very fast traffic overtaking dangerously; it was noted that there are plans to have sleeping policemen every fifteen metres on this road with also a fence.</p> <p>Dirleton AS had not attended the last DVA meeting and had no report from the meeting.</p> <p>Drem Core paths - Ian Monk has been in touch regarding the pathway between Drem and Gullane and discussions continue with the local farmer. Ian Monk had been spoken to very strongly by an employee of ELC and this is being followed up.</p> <p>Mair Road traffic calming an Aberlady resident felt very strongly that this was ineffective and that traffic is using the road as a shortcut instead of the High Street. He suggested raising funds for the traffic calming measures (sleeping policeman) to be carried out the full width of the road. ELC had indicated they would consider matched funding for this. There is also a problem on school road re driving behavior; this is a safer route to school. CC will write to ELC on these matters.</p>	
8	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS RA advised of the Community Council grant allocation of £736 for next year; this is the same as last year. A Gentleman from the floor advised of confusion between Aberlady and Longniddry regarding postcodes and addresses; this would appear to be causing problems with delivery companies.</p>	
9	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will take place in Gullane Village Hall on Thursday 26th April at 7pm.</p>	