

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28TH AUGUST 2014

Held in Aberlady Kirk Stables

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	J Findlay (JF)	Gullane
	T Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
	R Ainslie (RA)	Gullane
	G Fraser (GF)	Gullane
	I Malcolm	Aberlady
	A McCallum	Aberlady
	D McDonald (DMcD)	Dirleton
	S Morris	Drem
	F Boswell	Fenton Barns
	V Sked (VS)	Gullane
	Cllr Berry (CllrB)	East Lothian Councillor
	Cllr Goodfellow (CllrG)	East Lothian Councillor
	PC Banks	Police Scotland
	L Ogilvie (LO)	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	APOLOGIES Apologies were received from: Malcolm Duck and Cllr Day.	
2	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated by TD, were confirmed as a true reflection of the meeting.	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>It was confirmed that a letter had been sent regarding the Local Government Boundary Commission proposals and receipt had been acknowledged.</p> <p>A198 – it was noted that a previous survey had not been done in the best location (too near the bend between Luffness and Gullane Golf Club) and will be surveyed again. Speeding vehicles through the villages are also of concern. PC Banks stressed the importance of reporting vehicle registration numbers of offending vehicles and motor bikes to the police who can follow up the complaint.</p> <p>Gullane Deli application – it had been agreed at last months meeting that no action was required but It was noted that a number of Gullane residents may attend the planning meeting.</p> <p>Gullane noticeboard – The matter has been ongoing for some time. A board on the Smiddy Wall will require planning permission. Various telephone messages have been left for the duty planning officer who has not returned the calls. Cllr G will follow this up.</p> <p>IM – Aberlady bus stop and bench will be addressed under the LP Funding also possible Civic Pride funding for the memorial garden. The question was asked as to whether the local community could take responsibility for the maintenance of the garden. ELC are to suggest options to take this forward. This would be beneficial for the village – IM will keep the CC informed.</p> <p>IM – bus service from Aberlady to Edinburgh. IM had emailed RELBUS and had received a helpful reply today. They would support the CCs concerns regarding the journey time to Edinburgh. RELBUS are looking into rail services and integration of the timetables. The East Coast rail franchise will soon be out to tender. Cllr B had given a very powerful presentation on the provision of services throughout East Lothian and it was agreed that this would be useful for a future GACC meeting. At the RELBUS AGM it had been suggested that GACC have a representative at the meetings – IM was put forward as the representative. It was agreed that IM’s travel costs to meetings in Haddington would be met from CC funds – in the region of £13 every three months. The East Lothian Courier had printed a very good letter from Cllr B regarding rail services in East Lothian and it was agreed that the area is not well served at the moment. It was noted that a new</p>	CllrG

	<p>Lothian Country bus service will soon be in operation which will serve Haddington into Edinburgh every half hour. The service will be considerably cheaper than the cost of a ticket from Aberlady to Edinburgh and will be a much faster service. It was noted that quality of fleet on the coastal service was not good and will be monitored. IM will write to First Group and Transport Service in Edinburgh to identify what can be done to improve the coastal service.</p>	IM
4	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>An application had been received to replace a board at Aberlady Kirk. Funding for the Kirk Tower refurbishment is ongoing. Funding is required to replace one board, there are currently three frames and an amount of £1,000 has been requested. At the LP meeting matters were undecided and a sum of £500 was suggested. There is currently a CC board in the main street but it was felt that there is demand for another board. TD asked whether the church is wealthy and whether the accounts could be viewed. IM stated that the board would not be erected until March 2015 – it was noted that planning permission may be required. IM advised that the church is obligated to raise a large amount of money for the Kirk Tower. The Chair suggested we delay a decision until we hear back from IM. The matter will be discussed again when IM reports back to the meeting regarding planning permission.</p> <p>The bench at the rear of the church is in need of repair and it was felt that when repaired the bench could replace the one at the bus stop. It had also been noted that the bench at Sea Green was also in need of repair. The total cost for repair is £150 excluding the cost of installation. GF advised that when the CC originally provided the benches ELC had agreed to maintain them. The CC will fund the repair cost and ELC will be asked to relocate the bench. Cllr G will discuss this with Stuart Pryde.</p> <p>It was noted that a bench in Musselburgh (at the bus stop) has been vandalised. Cllr G felt this may have been provided by the Musselburgh Common Good Fund.</p>	IM CllrG
5	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>PC Banks reported criminals coming into the area. There will be further problems when the nights darken. PC Banks made a plea for people to secure their properties, outhouses and vehicles. UV pens were suggested to code belongings – PC Banks has a small number available. People are not locking up their property. It was agreed to place details on the GACC website to advise people to lock up.</p> <p>If speeding vehicle details are passed to the Police they may not be able to follow this up immediately but will do so as soon as possible. CCTV – this had been discussed in previous years but it was agreed that this would be useful especially to have cameras on entrance and exit of villages. Cllr G advised it would be very unlikely that ELC could fund cameras from their budget and it was also agreed totally unrealistic to have the CC fund such cameras. It was agreed that the Chair should write to ELC to make a formal request and await a response. It may be that additional funding could be sought. Monitoring of such cameras would also have to be considered. Cllr G felt that there could be some funding possibilities to help with local initiatives and possibly matched funding. PC Banks suggested neighbourhood watch schemes which are now practically non-existent were useful. The Chair will write to Ray Montgomery to explore options and costs. IM suggested that the Community Planning Partnership might be a possibility – do other areas have similar problems?</p> <p>PC Banks stressed that public assistance with the problem of speeding at Yellowcraig had been invaluable and also with the problem of cold callers in the area some time ago. It was however stressed that the Public must be more responsible.</p>	Chair
6	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>Hopetoun Terrace Gullane – Planning permission may to be granted with a change to the bollards. A decision is expected on Tuesday. Objections had been raised. GF will attend the meeting on Tuesday.</p> <p>Application for housing on second site at back of Ware Road - the application was refused and is off the delegated list. The application is contrary to existing guidelines.</p> <p>Ferrygate – TD had drafted a letter which raised the question that this should be left until the main issues report. It was agreed to send the draft letter prepared by TD. Cllr G advised that the main</p>	

	<p>issues report may be available at the end of October/beginning of November. There will then be a period of six to twelve weeks consultation time ending in January.</p> <p>IM – although outwith our own area the issues at Cockenzie will affect this area and we should have an active interest. There is a public meeting next week and a representative should be sent. The area is a significant development and will impact on tourism. TD will attend if he is available.</p>	
7	<p>WEBSITE</p> <p>A discussion ensued on the matter of uploading draft minutes to the website, despite agreement to do so at last months meeting. It was therefore agreed not to upload draft minutes but at the end of each meeting to draft a summary of significant points which could be uploaded and allow key messages to be publicised such as securing properties and neighbourhood watch. The Chair will put this document together and send to VS for action. There was a discussion on how well the CC interact with the community. Despite meeting dates being available very few members of the public attend meetings. Local people do stop CC members to advise of issues to be brought forward to meetings. Anything for inclusion on website should be agreed with the Chair who will advise VS to upload the information.</p>	Chair
8	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Aberlady</p> <p>On 2nd September and 6th September IM will host talks in this hall.</p> <p>Bus Shelter – ELC has stated that liability for damage is with Tesco and will be replaced when money is received. Cllr G will follow this matter up. IM will forward the email he has received to Cllr G. SM advised that an ELC tender for bus shelters will be sent out tomorrow.</p> <p>PC Banks has looked at the matter of parking on the grass at Rigg Street.</p> <p>Drem</p> <p>Gullane to Drem core path – a newsletter has been sent to members advising that Option 12 is not going ahead. Option 3 is now under discussion.</p> <p>Dirleton</p> <p>Sue Northropp will give a talk on 18th September in Dirleton Primary School at 7:30pm on being dementia friendly.</p> <p>Bob Smpson, a local farmer has had problems with parking over his gates into fields and has had to call the police to remove vehicles. Cars have been towed away. It was felt that this may have happened as drivers thought there would be parking charges – which are not in operation as yet.</p> <p>TD – the DVA have agreed to send a letter to the boundary commission and this has now been sent. They have suggested that the number of councillors should not be reduced but increased. They have also objected to the Ferrygate planning application.</p> <p>FB – speeding, new signs are up and FB will monitor the situation.</p>	
9	<p>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS</p> <p>The bin outside the Smiddy is too small and overflowing. JF has raised this matter with Cllr G. Stuart Pryde is trialling a bin outside the North Berwick Fry which should stop seagulls accessing the bin. He will be asked to provide information on this trial – the Chair will follow this up. It was also noted that the information boards require attention – SP will also be asked to look at this.</p> <p>Cllr G advised that the licensing board had met this morning – 2 objections had been received relation to Gullane deli but the majority of issues raised were not relevant to licensing. A decision to grant the license has been granted.</p> <p>The village road signs entering the villages are looking tatty. Cllr G will look into this.</p> <p>AMcD – CAPP meeting – it was suggested that some matters raised in the police report could be raised as CAPP priorities. It was noted that previously a short note of the CAPP meeting was available for the CC meeting but this has not happened recently. Minutes are taken but are not available as quickly as in the past. It was decided however that the CC should consider some priorities for consideration at the CAPP.</p>	Cllr G
10	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Thursday 25th September at 7pm in Gullane Village Hall (small hall to the rear of the main hall).</p>	