

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015

Held in Dirleton Kirk Hall

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	J Findlay (JF) Chair	Gullane
	T Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
	R Ainslie (RA)	Gullane
	K Chapman (KC)	Gullane
	Malcolm Duck (MD)	Aberlady
	A McCallum (AMc)	Aberlady
	D McDonald (DMcD)	Dirleton
	Cllr Day (CllrD)	East Lothian Councillor
	Cllr J Goodfellow (CllrG)	East Lothian Councillor
	PC Duncan	Police Scotland
	T A Lonie (TAL)	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Apologies were received from: Fiona Boswell, George Fraser, Sian Morris and Veronica Sked.	
2	<b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b> The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated by the Secretary, were confirmed as a true reflection of the meeting.	
3	<b>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</b> * The Chair updated the group that he had agreed with Harry Barker (HB), who is the RELBUS Representative on the new East Lothian Community Rail Partnership (ELCRP), to attend the meeting in March to discuss the impending changes to the X24 bus service. <b>Action:</b> Chair to confirm HB’s attendance at the next meeting.  * Road Banners in Gullane – the Chair informed the CC that Susan Smith from the ELC had agreed to remove the banners in their entirety except for the occasional advertising of events such as the Scottish Open and US Kids Open Golf tournaments. The CC agreed that this was a good outcome.	Chair
4	<b>POLICE REPORT</b> PC Charlie Duncan, Community Constable based at Longniddry, presented his police report covering the period 29/01/2015 to 26/02/2015. There were 50 calls to the Police during this time with the four priorities being: <b>Road Safety</b> – four vehicle accidents (VA) were reported in the community with no offences detected in all cases. <b>Anti-social Behaviour</b> – damage had been caused to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> green at Gullane Golf Club, (No.2 course), by a vehicle. Enquiries are ongoing. <b>Substance Misuse</b> - no recorded incidents in the last month. <b>Theft</b> – three housebreakings to the Co-op, Super Fry and Gannets Deli with a quantity of alcohol and money stolen. Enquiries are ongoing. A further two reports of attempted break-ins. PC Duncan also reported on the recent CAPP meeting with three highlighted areas of concern for the coastal area: * Disorderly behaviour by youths at a bus shelter at Lochbridge Road, North Berwick (junction with Law View). * Parking in North Berwick (High Street and St. Baldreds Road) * Inconsiderate /dangerous driving at the school crossing on Main Street, Gullane (at junction with Broadgait).	

	<p>A general discussion then followed regarding speeding in the villages with focus on West Fenton (concern raised by Fiona Boswell and put forward by the Chair on her behalf), the main street in Gullane (as you enter and leave the village) and the issue of overtaking on the bends at Luffness. PC Duncan agreed to look into organising speeding patrols for these areas and the Chair highlighted that a good time to assess the speeding issues would be during the week-end. Finally, RA reported on a recent incident involving a large group of cyclists travelling together with a near miss with a car coming in the other direction at Skew Bridge, which had been reported on Gullane News Facebook (GNF) page by a local resident. PC Duncan confirmed that there was no rule regarding number of cyclists on a road but that the guidance was a maximum of two abreast. RA also reported that an act of keying vandalism on a car in Gullane had also been reported on GNF and that images had been sent to the police.</p>	
5	<p><b>LOCAL PRIORITIES</b></p> <p><b>Application for small building project for Gullane Playgroup (GP)</b> – funding had been requested to develop the toilet block in the building that provides premises for pre school play group, toddler group and the after school club. The LPF sub-group committee had met since the last meeting and approved the recommendation to grant £2,000 to GP. It was agreed that this was an excellent facility for the community and well used by families with the GP full with a waiting list currently.</p> <p><b>Application for 10 tables for Aberlady Kirk Hall (AKH)</b> – funding had been requested for the replacement of 10 tables used for various activities in AKH including Girl Guides and community lunches. The LPF sub-group committee agreed to award the sum of £720, which is 50% of the total cost of the tables.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Chair to instruct transfers of funds to GP &amp; AKH.</p> <p><b>NEW Application for upgrading of heating installation for Gullane Village Hall from Gullane Community Association (GCA)</b> – Catherine Montgomery from the GCA had been invited to the meeting to apply for funding of up to £4,000 to go towards upgrading the heating system at the Gullane Village Hall (GVH) including replacing the boiler, pipework, control systems and pumps. The installation of photovoltaic (PV) cells was also being considered in order to enhance sustainability and guarantee an income of £2,000 per year for the GVH with the electricity generated being sold back to the grid. DMcD asked when the funds were required and CM stated that she hoped work would start later this year with applications going into EU agencies in May as the whole project was expected to cost up to £40,000. The Chair noted that limited funds were now available from the LPF and that the sub-group committee should consider this request with a decision for the next CC meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Application to be considered at next LPF sub-group committee meeting.</p> <p><b>Application from Dirleton School Partnership (DSP)</b> – DMcD/TD had been approached yesterday by DSP requesting an application form to apply for funding from LPF.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> To be put forward to next meeting.</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>LPF sub-group</p>
6	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS</b></p> <p>TD stated that there was nothing to report on individual planning applications and clarified that he sends the list of weekly entries to both the Chair and George Fraser. It was agreed in future it should only be sent to the Chair (AMc receives the list for Aberlady) and to Sian Morris in respect of any entries in the Drem area.</p> <p><b>MIR Update</b> – TD confirmed that he had submitted the MIR response on behalf of the CC on 6/2/15 and had received an acknowledgement from ELC. The responses were submitted via the website and were sent by GACC, Dirleton Village Association (DVA) and Aberlady Conservation Historical Society. TD informed the CC that the progress of analysis of the MIR consultation exercise will be reported by ELC officials to the full ELC meeting on 21 April and that he expected to attend this meeting and will report on it at the April CC meeting.</p> <p>The Chair stated that he and RA had attended the North Berwick Coastal Partnership Meeting regarding the MIR and that they had put forward the comments of GACC and that the majority in attendance were in favour of the agreed compact strategy.</p> <p><b>Ferrygate</b> – TD confirmed that Miller Homes have appealed the refusal of planning permission for the Ferrygate application and this is now with the Scottish Government with nothing further</p>	

	<p>to report meantime.</p> <p><b>'Countryside around Towns'</b> - the Chair noted his disappointment that the proposed Countryside Around Towns designation had not included undeveloped land on the south side of Gullane, with the suspicion that ELC was keen to develop the Saltcoats area. CllrG confirmed that no decision had been made yet. TD confirmed that concern about the limited extent of the proposed designation around Gullane as well as Aberlady and Dirleton had been included in the CC's MIR response. RA re-iterated the strong opinion of the CC against any development on Saltcoats field.</p>	
7	<p><b>WEBSITE</b></p> <p>*RA updated the CC regarding the website hosting charge of £6:18 per month. The plan had been to be pay by direct debit in future but since the last meeting RA had been informed that this was not possible. She has now paid the charge up to February 2016 in full and an acknowledgement of payment has been received. RA is also now the main contact for future payments.</p> <p>* AMc confirmed he had attended the Digital Engagement Workshop at Edinburgh Napier University on 30<sup>th</sup> January and that it had been useful to see what other communities were doing regarding communication via website, Facebook etc. He noted that the GACC's website appeared quite advanced compared to others but the need to set-up a Facebook page for the CC that would link to the current website and provide up-to-date information to the community was still apparent. The fact that there are four main villages within the community sets a challenge to how information can be distributed and feedback gathered. A discussion ensued on the effectiveness of communications and AMc suggested testing an Aberlady Facebook page linked to the current website before distribution to the other villages. KC commented on the effectiveness of the Gullane News Facebook (GNF) page for general information and advice with the Chair noting that he was an admin on GNF, which had approximately 900 members. Aberlady village also have their own Facebook page but DMcD confirmed there had been no move in Dirleton for one. It was agreed that now was a good time to engage the community after the positive response received during the MIR consultations, (over 100 people attended the meeting in Gullane). RA suggested that one person in each village would need to administer and monitor the Facebook pages, which could be a challenge but it was confirmed that no cost would be involved.</p> <p>ACTION: AMc to prepare action plan for next meeting.</p>	AMc
	<p><b>VILLAGE REPORTS</b></p> <p><b>Aberlady</b> – nothing to report  <b>Dirleton</b> – nothing to report  <b>Drem</b> – councillor not present  <b>Gullane</b> – nothing to report</p>	
9	<p><b>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p>* RA attended a Waste Management Evening on behalf of the CC recently and gave an update on ELC's Waste Management Strategy and their plans to reduce landfill costs and improve the recycling and potential revenue to be gained in East Lothian. The hope is that by January 2016 there will be no food uplifts going to landfill and by January 2021 there will be no bio-degradable waste going to landfill. Currently ELC are 7<sup>th</sup> best out of 32 councils but are still failing their target by 5%. A 'secret waste analysis' was carried out with waste hand-sorted to identify current levels of recycling. On the 23/3/15 a new marketing campaign is to be launched to encourage recycling and introduce the new food caddies/liners and food disposal box which each household will receive from ELC so that food waste will still be collected weekly but the general waste in green bins will now go to a fortnightly collection. RA pointed out that the uplift dates could be changing and it was confirmed no penalties at present for failing to recycle and that the recycling centres in the area are still available to use.</p> <p>* RA informed the CC that she had completed and returned a form from ELC requesting feedback on the success of the 'Walks around Gullane' leaflet, which was printed with the assistance of a £1,000 grant from ELC. The leaflet is well used by the community and visitors to the area and it is to be noted that £270 of the grant remains unspent but will go towards the</p>	

	<p>next print-run of the leaflet.</p> <p>* The Chair commented on the recent press coverage in the East Lothian Courier of Gullane Bents being the first beach car park to charge for parking. CllrD confirmed this and that an annual permit for residents would be available at the cost of £40, although this had not yet been communicated to residents. CllrD also confirmed that 'pay and display' machines are to be installed by the beginning of April and that the Police would be responsible for enforcing the parking fees. ELC's future plans include having their own Wardens for parking, dog-fouling etc but can only do this once Police Scotland have de-criminalised parking fines. Other beaches in the area will also have 'pay and display' machines installed over the next few months.</p>	
10	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7:30pm in Aberlady Kirk Stables.</p>	