

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28TH MAY 2015

Held in Dirleton Kirk Hall

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	J Findlay (JF) Chair	Gullane
	K Chapman (KC)	Gullane
	A McCallum (AMc)	Aberlady
	D McDonald (DMcD)	Dirleton
	Cllr J Goodfellow (CllrG)	East Lothian Councillor
	T A Lonie (TAL)	Secretary
In attendance:	M White (MW)	

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were received from: Rosanne Ainslie, Tom Drysdale, Malcolm Duck, George Fraser, Sian Morris, and Veronica Sked.</p>	
2	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated by the Secretary, were confirmed as a true reflection of the meeting but it was noted that George Fraser represented Gullane village and not Dirleton as stated in the minutes and that the time of the next meeting should have been 7:00pm instead of 7:30pm. The Secretary apologised for these two mistakes.</p>	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The Chair had received a response from Scotrail regarding his letter concerning the issues with train station car parking at Drem and Longniddry. Scotrail confirmed that there was currently no budget for extending the car parks but that they would keep this in mind for future plans. The Chair stated that he intends to write back to Scotrail and suggest that they at least paint white lines at Longniddry station to help the situation there. CllrG asked if the dumping ground next to the station to the west of Longniddry could be used for additional parking but DMcD stated there could be ownership issues.</p>	Chair
4	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>Unfortunately, there was no Community Constable present at the meeting and a report had not been e-mailed to the Chair. DMcD questioned who the Police contacts were for GACC and CllrG confirmed that there are five Community Constables covering our area and North Berwick and that the names of the Constables should be checked so that the GACC can be updated.</p> <p>ACTION: Chair to write to Inspector at Haddington regarding names and contact details for our Community Constables.</p> <p>AMc updated the meeting on the CAPP meeting held the evening before in North Berwick. He confirmed that the current priority for Gullane was police presence to calm the traffic on the Main Street, during school opening and closing times, in the absence of the Lollipop Man due to illness. This was likely to be needed for one more week before his return. However it was noted that cover for this post was in short supply.</p> <p>AMc also stated that there had been considerable ticketing in Gullane for parking especially at the west end of the Main Street. KC highlighted the issues in Gullane with the lack of car parking spaces near the shops due in part to the shop owners parking their cars outside their own premises.</p>	Chair

	<p>DMcD had been asked by the DVA to report an incident involving a motorbike using the track down from Dirleton to Duncan’s Plantation/Archerfield and travelling at speed causing concern to the Dirleton Playgroup who often use the path with their young children. This has been brought to the attention of the Police and DMcD pointed out that this ‘footpath’ was also frequently being used by cyclists and becoming a segway track which is becoming a safety issue.</p> <p>On a final point, the Chair asked Cllr G when the white lines would be re-painted on the Main Street in Gullane and if the bins outside the new Italian restaurant, The Main Course, were going to be removed. CllrG confirmed that the white lines would be re-painted once the tar had time to dry and that the council were planning to remove the bins outside the said restaurant with a court order if necessary.</p>	
5	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>Application for £500 for Junior Bowls from the Aberlady Bowling Club (ABC) – an application had been received from the ABC for £500 to purchase junior bowls in order to encourage and keep young people interested in this sport. The Chair confirmed that the sub-committee had had a ‘virtual’ meeting and that they recommended GACC approve this application. The Chair asked for a vote and all present were in favour of granting the funds requested.</p> <p>ACTION: Chair to instruct transfer of funds to ABC and inform them of decision.</p> <p>DMcD enquired if the Chair had received a thank you letter from the Dirleton School Partnership (DSP) regarding the £1,500 granted to them towards the purchasing of portable staging for the school. The Chair confirmed that he had not received one as yet and DMcD confirmed that the DVA had received their thank you letter and that the staging had been purchased and had already been successfully utilised.</p>	Chair
6	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>TD had e-mailed GACC members with general updates in advance of the meeting (refer to e-mails sent on 14/5/15 & 26/5/15). In TD’s absence, the Chair updated the group on current planning applications as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The owner of 13 Hopetoun Terrace, Gullane (within the conservation area), whose planning application to erect bollards at the rear of her property last year was refused, has now applied for permission to change the use of the open space to the rear of her property to a car parking area. TD has spoken to David Scott and both agree that GACC remain neutral on this occasion and don’t object to the planning. Those present at the meeting agreed with this stance. • Fire Station Exhibition – The Chair informed the meeting that he had a meeting with Barton Willmore (BW) in their Edinburgh office to discuss the future plans for the old Fire Service College in Gullane. He was pleased to report that they are keen to retain the entire original house in their plans and that the exact use of the building was still to be determined. CllrG reminded the group that planning is classified as business use so up to 20% of the building could be economic business units. Most of it is likely to be residential and there is a rule that if there are shops within 1600m of the new residences, then they do not need to include shops in the planning. KC commented that the Fire Service had been smart in gauging the community’s interest and listening to their views. The Chair stated that the next stage in the planning after consulting the public was to prepare a report and present it to the council before going to an outlining planning application. He suggested that BW attend a future council meeting in Gullane with the possibility of switching next month’s venue to Gullane. <p>ACTION: AMc to check with Aberlady Kirk Stables if meeting can be moved and Chair to check with BW if they can attend next month’s meeting and if it can be in Gullane so that the local community can attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to MIR – MW informed the group that a considerable number of responses to the MIR were now online (at least 50%) and some related to the Drem area of search were quite revealing including responses from Strutt & Parker (probably 	AMc/Chair

	<p>representing Russell the farmer at Drem), the farmer Brownlee and PPCA representing Keith Chalmers-Watson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gullane Post Office (old premises) – KC asked about the empty Post Office premises and if anyone knew who had taken it over the as it appears to be being renovated. No one was aware of the plans and KC agreed to approach Jules Frostwick in the Gullane Business Centre for information. 	
7	<p>WEBSITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMc informed the group that work was in progress for a facebook page for GACC. • DMcD requested that Ian Malcolm be removed from the website as he has resigned from GACC. • KC's profile and photo needs to go on the website as new Councillor. 	
8	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Aberlady – ongoing concerns with the proposal of yellow lines being painted by ELC in village. Dirleton – DVA meeting last week with proposals to create a website with facebook page link. Drem – councillor not present. Gullane – ongoing issues with parking, (refer to item 4. 'Police Report').</p>	
9	<p>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Council Members – Fiona Boswell has put forward her resignation as she feels she cannot commit enough time as she would like at present. Martin White (MW) is interested in replacing her as Community Councillor for West Fenton area and was present at the meeting. The Chair proposed MW to be co-opted in to GACC and DMcD seconded the motion with all present in agreement. • Incidents of Fly-tipping – MW reported first incident of fly-tipping in West Fenton, (a washing machine on this occasion). DMcD also reported fly tipping at the west side of Longniddry, (large rubble of stone work), and the Chair agreed to raise this with the council. • Emergency Services – DMcD had been approached by an elderly resident who had a recent worrying incident when calling for assistance for his wife. He was enquiring if the proposed new Roodlands Hospital in Haddington could have an emergency department? He had called for an ambulance for his wife and an ambulance from Hawick arrived on the scene and requested him to escort them to the Royal Infirmary, as they did not know where it was and did not have satellite navigation to guide them. A discussion ensued on the number of First Responders in our area as well as access to defibrillators. The question of whether GACC should fund some defibrillators had been raised a couple of years ago and it was decided that this should be re-visited. ACTION: KC to investigate the case for defibrillators – where to get them from, the cost, training involved and the locations where to store them. 	KC
10	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Thursday 25th June 2015 at 7:30pm in Aberlady Kirk Stables.</p>	