

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2015

Held in Dirleton Kirk Hall

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	Tom Drysdale (TD) D McDonald (DMcD) V Sked (VS) J Hendry (JH) M White (MW) A McCallum (AMc) M Duck (MD) Cllr Jim Goodfellow (CllrG) Cllr Tim Day (CllrD) T A Lonie (TAL)	Dirleton Dirleton Gullane Gullane West Fenton Aberlady Aberlady East Lothian Councillor East Lothian Councillor Secretary North Berwick Coastal Ward
In attendance:	Katie Nevans	

Item	Title	Action By
1	APOLOGIES Apologies were received from: Jeremy Findlay, Rosanne Ainslie, Karen Chapman, Sian Morris and Cllr David Berry	
2	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated by the Secretary, were confirmed as a true reflection of the meeting with the exception of Item 9. under AOCB. Amendment as follows to be made by TAL & website version of minutes to be corrected by VS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Member for GACC – <i>add</i>: ‘This was agreed as filling a casual vacancy in terms of article 4 of the constitution.’ 	TAL/VS
3	MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning matters - Proposed Anaerobic Digestion Plant at Ballencrieff and Proposed Housing Development at Gullane Fire Services College Site –refer to Item. 6 • West Fenton fly-tipping incidents – MW reported that he had written to the owner of the field and had received no reply to date. No further action required at present. • Remembrance Day Wreaths – DMcD pointed out that the wreaths were incorrectly referring to GACC as Gullane Community Council. ACTION: RA to check wording on logo and amend accordingly.	RA
4	POLICE REPORT PC Philip Davies had sent the police report in advance of the meeting but no representative from Police Scotland was present at the meeting, (please refer to the full report that TAL circulated by e-mail on 26 th November). The report was based on incidents between 29/10/15 and 25/11/15. Ward priorities are as follows: Road Safety – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Gannet took place between the 9th and 13th November 2015 with officers carrying out speed checks in Aberlady and Main Street, Gullane. During this week seven conditional offers were given to drivers for speeding. • 31st October – a male was issued with an ASBO warning for his manner of driving on the A198 in Aberlady. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12th November – a male was charged with driving his car without insurance, tax or MOT at Main Street, Gullane. <p>Antisocial Behaviour –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th November – a male was assaulted on Hamilton Road, Gullane. There were no injuries and enquires are ongoing. • 12th November – damage was caused to the roof of Gullane Village Hall, enquires are ongoing. • 21st November – a male was found in possession of a controlled substance at Yellowcraig car park. He was subsequently charged and a report was submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. <p>Housebreaking – a property on Erskine Road, Gullane was broken into on 22nd November. Enquires are ongoing by the dedicated housebreaking team.</p> <p>Parking - Further patrols have been carried out in the past month with double yellow line offences detected in Gullane. These patrols will be carried out again during the festive period.</p> <p>The date of the next CAPP meeting is yet to be confirmed.</p>	
5	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>Application from Gullane & Dirleton History Society (GDHS) to replace a projector at a cost of £700 – an application had been received from GDHS’s Chairman, Mr Michael Thompson requesting 50% funding of the total cost of a replacement projector, (£350). DMcD recommended that this be passed on to the Chair on his return and considered at the next Local Priorities sub-group committee.</p> <p>ACTION: Application to be considered at next LP sub-group meeting.</p>	Chair/ LP sub-group
6	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Local Development Plan (LDP) – ELC had held a special meeting on 17th November at Brunton Hall, Musselburgh, where the draft LDP had been approved by a majority vote. The findings of this meeting had been heavily reported in the local press and TD had circulated his comments on the draft to GACC members by e-mail on 11th November with his and MW’s intention to attend this meeting to represent GACC. He highlighted the main findings that came out of the meeting as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Gullane – controversial estimate of up to 320 new houses in Gullane on the former Fire Service College site, two sites at Fenton Gait and one at Saltcoats field. * Aberlady – preferred option of 100 houses in the field at the west end of the village approved to go ahead with concerns over the impact of increased traffic. * Dirleton – preferred option of 30 houses at Castlemains Place, between the east end of the village and the bypass road. <p>TD also reported that the Gosham development, (near Strawberry Corner), had been removed from the list and that Cllr B had put forward a proposal for a number of small sites in North Berwick for business use, with a view to promoting local employment. There would be a further opportunity for consultation on all these proposals once the amended LDP had been published. A discussion ensued on the need to represent the views of the local community, particularly as it was felt that the extent of proposed development in Gullane and Aberlady was excessive.</p> <p>Proposed Housing Development at Gullane Fire Services College Site – TD stated that he had spoken yesterday to the Planning Officer assigned to this application, who had informed him that the application was being considered and will go to the planning committee meeting in either January or February 2016. GACC will be notified of the date of this meeting and will have an opportunity to speak at it. Finally, MW undertook to seek clarification on how planners would deal with the obvious problem of master planning for inter-related Gullane sites (from the future LDP) given the potential for early approval of development at the Fire Station site.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Anaerobic Digestion Plant at Ballencrieff – TD had also spoken to the Planning Officer regarding this application, who was unable to comment on the timescales due to many outstanding issues. This application is almost certain to be taken off the delegated list and is likely to be put forward to the planning committee meeting in January or February 2016. TD also informed the meeting that he understood the developer had indicated he would need an early planning permission to benefit from government grants, which would make the development commercially viable only if it was operating in part by 31 March 2016. He also understood that there had been over 500 objections to this application and that a group of local residents had retained a Planning Consultant to advise them how to effectively object to the application. MD also commented that Mr Hamilton had visited Duck’s Inn recently and offered site visits for interested parties. 	
7	<p>COASTAL AREA PARTNERSHIP (CAP)</p> <p>A full meeting was held on Tuesday 10th November to finalise the budget allocation on projects agreed at the last meeting with £83,000 now available in the current financial year to fund these projects. DMcD had questioned why, within a month, the budget had reduced from £100,00 to £83,000. CllrG stated that he was taking up this issue with ELC officials as North Berwick representatives on the CAP had also taken issue, as had Dunbar CAP representatives DMcD reported on the following projects put forward, noting that the outdoor showers on the east and west beaches in NB and the seagull proof litter bins had been omitted as not being considered a priority for this year’s budget. The following projects had been approved for funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dirleton public toilets - £15,000 awarded. A site visit will take place on 2nd December • Path/cycle route improvements with better access to beaches - £55,000 awarded. A meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st December in the Hope Rooms, NB, to discuss this project. <p>ACTION: DMcD will attend this meeting and TD and MD hope to do so as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic calming measures on Main Street, Gullane– funding had been approved for a school crossing with flashing beacons on the Main Street. Gullane Primary School are keen to have a traffic light/push button controlled crossing but CllrG suggested that the traffic figures in Gullane would not justify the cost of another such crossing in the village. <p>A discussion ensued on the effectiveness of the CAP and MW suggested that the outcome of the funding allocation was linked to who attends the meeting, stressing the importance of attending future meetings. DMcD also commented that as representative on CAPP with Jeremy Findlay, it was important that they know the priorities for each of the villages.</p>	DMcD/TD /MW
8	<p>WEBSITE</p> <p>VS confirmed that she had added the dates of the meetings in 2016 to the website, in so far as their locations had been confirmed, (AMc confirmed he had now booked the meetings in Aberlady Kirk Stables).</p> <p>ACTION: VS to liaise with JH in order to get his photo and short biography on the website.</p>	VS
9	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Aberlady – AMc referred to the issue of road-sweeping only taking place on the Main Street in the village and not the surrounding streets. CllrG suggested he raise the issue with Stuart Pryde at ELC. MD also referred to the new double yellow lines at Aberlady Bay/Reserve Park causing problems for pedestrians, as cars are now parking on the pavements to avoid parking on the road/double yellow lines. He questioned if they were having an impact on traffic and CllrG offered to report back to the traffic department at ELC.</p> <p>Dirleton – nothing to report (plans for renovation of public toilet block referred to in item 7)</p> <p>Drem – SM not present at the meeting.</p> <p>Gullane – VS reported on the possible closure of the Post Office in the village after being</p>	

	<p>informed that Mr Rasul, owner of Day Today store on Stanley Road, has given six months informal notice to Post Office Counters Ltd to cease trading as it is proving not to be financially viable.</p> <p>A discussion ensued with the feeling that it was not acceptable for Gullane to <u>not</u> have a post office/post box. It was noted that Dirleton now has a post office limited to being open for two hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and a question was raised whether the Bank of Scotland in Gullane might offer post office services on the two days a week they are closed for banking services.</p> <p>ACTION: GACC to consider proposals and discuss at meeting in January with a plan to make representation on behalf of Gullane residents.</p> <p>West Fenton – MW reported a road incident (speeding issue) on the bridge between West Fenton and Aberlady involving a family of walkers wearing high-visibility vests and a driver. No one was hurt and the incident was reported to Police Scotland.</p>	All
10	<p>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS (AOCB) There was no other competent business reported.</p>	
11	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will take place on Thursday 28th January 2016 at 7:30pm in Aberlady Kirk Stables.</p>	