

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27th June 2013
Held in Dirleton Church Hall

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	A McIntosh (Chairman) (AM)	Gullane
	R Ainslie (Treasurer) (RA)	Gullane
	G Fraser (GF)	Gullane
	T Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
	I Malcolm (IM)	Aberlady
	J McCallum (JM)	Aberlady
	D McDonald (DM)	Dirleton
	S Morris (SM)	Drem
	S Shorthouse (SS)	Gullane
	Cllr Day (Cllr D)	East Lothian Councillor
	L Ogilvie (LO)	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were received from the following: Jeremy Findlay (JF), Veronica Sked (VS) , Fiona Boswell (FB), PC Banks, Cllr Berry (Cllr B)and Cllr Goodfellow (Cllr G).</p>	
2	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting subject to the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that members of the public are not noted as attending - we do not normally include this detail. • Police Report – amend Fenton Barns to read West Fenton. • AS should read as AM. • Under Item 4 Local Priorities – It was agreed to ring fence funds in next financial year for this project but if there is a significant sum left over at the end of the year the balance should then be transferred to this project. <p>RA felt this was a change to the CC policy and will be discussed further when the application has been received and the Local Priorities sub committee have met. It was noted that no application for the project has been received and no specific amount of funding has been requested. A letter of support for the project has been sent by AM.</p>	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Walks leaflet - An application was made previously for funding of the printing costs. RA had received correspondence and will send a copy to Cllr D.</p> <p>Noticeboard – It had been confirmed to RA that the ground at the Old Smiddy belongs to ELC but it is in a conservation area. A decision will now be made on whether the Village Hall Association will make an application to fund a board. If the CC apply then full planning is not required. SS advised of some confusion as to the type of board sourced and whether it was for the use of the CC or Village Hall Association. It was agreed that a CC board should be placed on the side of the Old Smiddy and SS will now progress and it was agreed that GACC would proceed independently. The Village Hall Association had suggested a free standing board. RA will speak to Eric Thomson of the Village Hall Association and advise that if he requires a sign for the Hall he must submit a formal application for funding. SS will progress.</p>	SS

	<p>Dog Fouling – will be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr D – speeding minibus has spoken to Transportation, ELC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter re Fenton Barns has been sent by JF. • A letter has been sent to Lady Morrison. • A letter has been sent regarding the signage at West Fenton. 	
4	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>There is nothing to consider.</p>	
5	<p>POLICE REPORT – attached</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC Banks was not in attendance and the report was read out by AM. • Ware Road, Dirleton – could not enforce a 30mph limit, this had been discussed at last night’s CAPP meeting and will become a priority over the next month. • AM had received a letter from Police Scotland from the local Police Commissioner regarding managing of traffic wardens. Cllr D had not had sight of this letter. 	
6	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>Ardmuir – the application has been approved. The architect had worked with planning officers and the application met ELC guidelines.</p> <p>Archerfield – the application has been granted despite objections from the CC. Cllr D advised that the area had been zoned for housing. Changes to the type and number of houses were due to economic conditions and smaller units were now to be built. Discussion took place on whether objections were treated differently if the objector was at the planning meeting to discuss fully any objections. Cllr D advised that it is better to attend these meetings in person.</p> <p>TD felt that local people have become cynical and also concerned that their objections to planning applications are not considered. There is also concern that decisions by the local council can be overturned by Scottish Government.</p> <p>GF had received transitional guidance for miscellaneous developments but felt there was very little in the notes for CC’s to consider.</p> <p>Marine Terrace, Gullane – There are plans for two houses in the garden of a house but the row of trees will remain intact. No objections have been raised with the CC and it was agreed not to object to this application.</p> <p>Gullane Golf Club - It was noted that a memorial bench will be located at the top of Gullane Hill to the right of the reservoir. This application has been made by Gullane Golf Club who intend to place various plaques on the bench rather than to place individual benches in memoriam of golfers.</p> <p>Bissetts - There has been very little movement with this build. GF has spoken with the architects who have another project ongoing in Dunblane.</p> <p>Saltcoats - It was rumoured that the developer is to submit a planning application without traffic calming on the access road. No further information is available at the moment.</p> <p>Fenton Barns – The Community Council will have a representative at any planning meeting. This application has been ongoing for some time. The planning application is outwith policy and is a major development and must go to the full council and if non determined will go to the Scottish Government. There is no date for a pre determination meeting as yet.</p> <p>A gentleman attending the meeting advised that he had objected and will attend the planning meeting. TD is happy to support him on this. The DVA had also objected and TD and D Holloway will attend the meeting on their behalf with GF attending for the CC. A date for the meeting is awaited. It was noted that the CC could elect to send a professional to the meeting to put forward the CC points of view. Martin White advised that the development is a joint venture between Keith Chalmers Watson and Caledonian Investments who are a one billion pound investment company. There is concern that if a sewerage infrastructure is in place there could be scope for building additional housing particularly as there is some bemusement as to why Caledonian Investments are involved. It was agreed that a rural setting should not become an urban setting. TD will arrange to meet with Martin Wishart and discuss the best way forward prior to a planning meeting.</p>	

	<p>The road between Aberlady and Gullane has now been resurfaced and is awaiting road markings. There was an article in the East Lothian Courier re a small wind turbine at Ferrygate. Cllr D felt that NBCC had not raised any objections. TD will make some enquiries. It would appear that the new ELC guidelines for wind turbines are not yet in operation and TD will consider these.</p>	
7	<p>WEBSITE</p> <p>Following a meeting on 17th June Gary Hitchin has been progressing with the refurbishment of the website. Community Councillors are supplying biography details and photographs for the site. FB has agreed to take ownership for the site when completed with assistance from JM and VS. There is a vacancy for a school crossing patrol person and this vacancy will be advertised on the website. Thanks were expressed for all Gary's hard work in moving this forward as well as TD, FB and DM. Discussion ensued on the possibility of a donation as a thanks for all his work. Ongoing maintenance of the site will be paid from administration funds. Gullane has a facebook page and it was suggested that the website has a connection to this site – it was agreed to wait a few weeks before considering this option. Twitter was suggested and Gary will be asked about this option.</p>	
8	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>Dirleton</p> <p>Dirleton Fete and Games takes place on 13th July.</p> <p>The grasscrete area at the village green had been weedkilled – as had the area in Gullane – there would appear to be an issue with cutting edges and this is being investigated.</p> <p>Support had been given to the shop which has now opened.</p> <p>The Coronation tree had been planted and coverage had been given in the Courier this week.</p> <p>Gullane</p> <p>GF advised of a complaint regarding the road leading to the second fairway at Muirfield. A tractor and trailer had travelled this route with a load of slurry like material which had spread along the track. A car was also seen racing along the red track – the problem would appear to be access to this area as there are locked gates and it would seem that someone has given access to this vehicle. SS reported a new sign on the harris fencing requesting that the gate was closed. AM advised that a security firm are managing this area during the period of the Open on behalf of the R & A and AM will discuss the matter with them. RA advised that she had been unable to contact the dog warden as he is on leave but will update the meeting next month.</p> <p>At the CAPP meeting it had been noted that Greig McGowan will patrol the Gullane area – he will be very high profile and will make a huge improvement.</p> <p>AM – bus from Gullane to Haddington. A meeting took place on Monday and progress has been made. Goose Green parking during the Open – it has been agreed that residents will have parking there within roped off areas as they do not have off street parking.</p> <p>Aberlady</p> <p>LO will follow up the issue with Coffin Lane, Aberlady. It was noted that this area can become overgrown and often muddy in the winter months.</p> <p>Drem</p> <p>SM advised of a core path meeting on 8th July at 7pm. JF and AM will attend. There has been renewed interest for a Drem noticeboard.</p>	AM
9	<p>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS</p> <p>AM referred to his email of 16th June when he suggested that Community Councillors should take individual responsibility for particular aspects of GACC business. A discussion took place on this suggestion but it was unanimously agreed that Councillors represent the whole area and not just their own ward. It was also agreed that all issues should be debated at the full monthly meeting. It was strongly agreed that individual Councillors should not write letters on any subject without the support of the whole meeting. All letters should be signed on behalf of GACC by the Chairman and only with the full agreement of the full council should letters be signed by anyone else. Cllr D felt that the way the CC</p>	AM

	<p>operates mirrors the manner in which the local authority also operates. IM accepted that this is the case. It was noted that email contact can now be made very quickly to debate any issues between meetings.</p> <p>An email had been received regarding the proposed new astro pitch in Gullane from a local person who expressed concern regarding various clubs available to children and whether they were still operational. RA felt that the letter of complaint had contained a number of inaccuracies. Complaints had also been received about the building of the skatepark which had resulted in a noise assessment taking place. The squash courts at the school had been turned into a classroom as they had been unused for around fifteen years. The girls hockey players are transported to Haddington for better facilities for mixed gender activities. SS stressed the importance of listening to all views from the community. As the letter was addressed to the Gullane Sports group and the CC only copied in to the letter it was felt that the CC should not respond.</p> <p>Cllr D enquired about the wording of the new signage for West Fenton. It was agreed that this should be discussed with FB but the preferred wording was agreed as <i>Welcome to West Fenton reduce your speed – children ahead</i>. AM will speak to FB and Cllr D will then discuss this with Peter Forsyth.</p>	
10	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Thursday 25th July in Aberlady Kirk Stables. Aberlady Brownies will be given priority for the use of the Aberlady hall and the CC meetings may have to be delayed until 7:30pm – the Brownies meet in term time only. RA had been advised of this issue and IM will make enquiries.</p> <p>Councillors should note that the August meeting will take place in the small hall to the rear of the Gullane Village Hall.</p>	IM

Responsibilities for Community Councillors were agreed as follows - the responsibilities are in addition to those for each Ward area.

Local Priorities	Jeremy Findlay Sophie Shorthouse Donald McDonald
Website	Fiona Boswell Veronica Sked Jane McCallum
Planning	George Fraser Tom Drysdale Ian Malcolm
CAPP	AM attends meeting on 4 th Wednesday of each month. Jane will attend if possible.
Treasurer	Rosanne Ainslie
Aberlady Bay Nature Advisory Group	Ian Malcolm
Dirleton Village Association	Tom Drysdale Donald McDonald