

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27th February 2014
Held in Aberlady Kirk Stables

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present:	J Findlay (JF, Chair)	Gullane
	R Ainslie (RA)	Gullane
	M Duck (MD)	Aberlady
	T Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
	G Fraser (GF)	Gullane
	V Sked (VS)	Gullane
	PC Banks	Police Scotland
	Cllr Day (Cllr D)	East Lothian Council
	Cllr Berry (Cllr B)	East Lothian Council
	Greg McGown	Community Warden
	L Ogilvie (LO)	Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were received from Ian Malcolm, Fiona Boswell and Donald McDonald. Jane McCallum has offered her resignation from the Community Council.</p> <p>Primrose Dunbar has indicated that she will not join the Community Council.</p>	
2	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as a true reflection of the meeting and will now be adopted and a copy placed on the CC website.</p>	LO/FB
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING – REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Millenium Wood, Gullane – Nothing further has been heard on this matter. Cllr D will follow up. RA advised that there is a clean-up scheduled for Friday 14th March at 2pm with the Community Ranger. In the Primary School newsletter it had been noted that the wood had been used as part of an Inset Day.</p>	Cllr D
4	<p>LOCAL PRIORITIES</p> <p>The Chair advised that there is an amount of £3,750 still available in the current year – funds can be carried over into the next year. There is still an outstanding Aberlady Conservation and History Society application outstanding for street landscaping. It is hoped a response will be received on this matter soon and matters can be resolved.</p> <p>For those not aware of the situation an explanation was given – a request for transfer of funds had been requested but the CC had not agreed to the transfer. IM at that time had been advised that the CC were happy to receive a second application for funding but this had not been forthcoming. It had been hoped to have Ian at this meeting to discuss the matter. Martin White advised that as per the Aberlady Conservation Society website an application for Heritage Lottery Funding is to be made which involves matched funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberlady Village Hall – an application has been received. SS has not responded to emails from JF. • Gullane area Tennis Club – an application has been received for £500 for a security light at the gate. It is hoped to have this detail for next month. <p>It was agreed that rather than wait for the next sub-committee meeting that the applications for the tennis club and Aberlady Village Hall should be awarded. £3,000 for the Hall and £500 for the Tennis Club. All present were in agreement.</p> <p>JF will send MD an application for the Glebe Field and it is hoped that MD may be able to speak to IM and have any issues resolved by the next meeting.</p>	Chair
5	<p>POLICE REPORT</p> <p>PC Banks advised that following Laura’s departure PC Cameron Tait will return to the area. PC Banks and PC Tait will manage the village areas and meetings between them.</p>	

<p>There have been a number of house break ins locally. If anything suspicious is seen please report the matter to the Police. The Police Report is attached. Parking at Drem station – TD asked whether parking on the pavement is an offence? PC Banks advised that some vehicles are parking too close to the junction and are causing an obstruction. Parking on the road is not an offence but parking on pavements is, however in some instances it may be better to park on part of the pavement than to block the road. There would appear to be an issue with parking round the village green. PC Banks will monitor the situation. TD again raised the issue of a lack of parking at the station – he felt it important to move this issue forward. The situation at Longniddry is also a problem which will be compounded should further housing be built. Cllr B advised that all stations have problems but that ELC have tried to help with investment in additional car parking at Musselburgh and Prestonpans and also a park and ride. There are also major parking issues at Dunbar. There is a proposal for extra parking at Longniddry and also at Drem. If the rail service is extended from East Linton the situation may be eased but there is no timescale available for this. The Scotrail franchise is awaited and one of the issues suggested is a local service from Edinburgh to Berwick. At the moment there is no short term plan. TD was not reassured by anything stated or that the problem will be solved in the meantime. It was agreed that a letter should be written – JF will do this – to Network Rail and Scotrail to ask what they can do to help. There will be another meeting of Community Rail which aims to provide better information at stations and this may be a forum for the parking issue. VS advised of the new bus service from Haddington to Wallyford at peak times which may help ease congestion. JF will respond to John Clare’s email re Longniddry parking. RA asked PC Banks whether parking tickets are reported in crime reports. He advised that they are not. Cllr B advised that attempts are being made to decriminalise parking but this will take some time. Previous changes in reporting certain crimes had resulted in spikes in figures. MD felt that parking in East Lothian is not bad and that common sense is used throughout the area. Cllr B advised that ELC will not use private companies to control parking but it is intended that ELC employees will take on this role in addition to what they currently do – the intention is not to maximise revenue.</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>Chair</p>	
<p>Community Warden – Greg McGown</p>	<p>Greg explained that he works as part of the Anti Social Behaviour Team and speaks with youths in the area via schools and youth groups. He had attended the CAPP meeting last month where dog fouling had been deemed a priority and extra resources had been given to this matter with the identification of 7 hotspots which will be patrolled regularly. It was noted that fouling is not an offence on agricultural land or if an owner is not capable of picking up – guide dogs or assistance dogs. Wardens are unable to work in plain clothes and they find that when they are in an area fouling is picked up. Any information that can be passed on to the Wardens would be helpful, names, descriptions, times of offenses especially if regular occurrences. In the first instance any offenders will be spoken to and advised of the correct procedures. ELC has a duty to clean up dog fouling on pavement areas and have nine street sweepers who do this. Any information on commercial dog walkers can also be passed to Carl Howman the Dog Warden and he can take matters further. It was noted that there have been very few fines issued as it is difficult to catch offenders in the act. The Chairman asked whether the Act applies to those owners who throw the waste bags into the bushes – such owners can be charged with incorrect disposal of waste and also for littering. Greg confirmed that there will be extra patrols in the area and also extra bags available free of charge in Council offices and Libraries. He noted that stencilled messages had also been placed on pavements as a deterrent. It was felt that on occasions reports of dog fouling are exaggerated and on inspection are not as bad as reported. Greg asked that anyone who wished to accompany him on a dog patrol would be welcome and should make contact with him. The Chair thanked Greg for addressing the meeting</p>	
<p>Martin White – CC representative for the Coastal Communities Museum</p>	<p>Martin advised that he was in attendance tonight to give an update on matters. He is keen to hear any feedback on ideas as to how to make the museum volunteers and membership more appealing to the area. Volunteers and Trustees from this area equate to 10% which allows matters to gravitate towards North Berwick and attempts are being made to change this position with more volunteers. It was</p>	

	<p>suggested that reps could be sought from Gullane or Aberlady History Society. Martin advised that there are two reps from Gullane and Dirleton History Society who help front of House. Martin suggested that the issue with Aberlady might be that Aberlady are trying to have their own visitor centre but he felt the two projects were entirely different and would not be in direct competition and should complement each other. MD suggested that he take some leaflets for display in Ducks to try and raise some interest. In terms of increasing the appeal of the Museum it was suggested that there should be more publicity. The WW1 exhibition was available to Primary Schools.</p> <p>Cllr B suggested a display on agriculture in the area in which East Lothian was a pioneering force. Martin advised that when people were asked what they would like to see agriculture was not highlighted by those people. It was suggested that advertising through Facebook might be useful and would appeal to a younger audience. TD asked about the plaques on walls in North Berwick relating to local people with a golfing history. Cllr B advised that this is part of a trail with 47 locations round the town giving a pocket history of those golfers. The Chair thanked Martin for his update.</p>	
6	<p>PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>TD advised that there was nothing of any significance this month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kingston Farm site – conversion of part of a building – no interest in this. Archerfield Village – infill house. This had been refused and then appealed, but is not yet determined. Renaissance Golf Club – A new house is planned but seems to be a formality and not objectionable. Cllr B advised of outline planning for two houses owned by Hamilton and Kinneil not the Golf Club. Renaissance Golf Club – As previously reported Planning Enforcement had forced a halt to the felling of trees – planting of beech trees was ongoing. Jerry Sarvadi had suggested to MD that he come and present to the CC meeting. ELC had advised that they do not know the terms of the management agreement and TD felt that Mr S should not come along to this meeting until further information had been received from ELC. <p>There had been some criticism and complaints regarding the signage leading into Gullane on the A198. The writing on the signs is very small. ELC, Economic Development Unit had arranged for the signage prior to The Open and MD advised that the idea had come from the golf group. The signs were a good idea but it was agreed that they should not be permanent. Some people are objecting to the signs in total but MD felt that only the last signs erected on the structure seemed to be a problem. Cllr B suggested that when a consensus is reached as to what signage would be acceptable that he is emailed and he will see what he can do.</p>	
7	<p>WEBSITE</p> <p>In the absence of FB there was nothing to report.</p>	
8	<p>VILLAGE REPORTS</p> <p>IM's email- JF will look at this.</p> <p>Gullane</p> <p>GF referred to a letter from Mr Clare regarding a barrier leading on to the main street and it was agreed that there is insufficient room for a motorised buggy/mobility scooter. Colin Baird from ELC will look into this. GF will write to Colin to request a change to the barrier.</p> <p>RA advised that the parking at the new Drs Surgery is working very well.</p> <p>Dirleton</p> <p>There are issues with the signs for the John Muir Way as they are sending cyclists on a different route to pedestrians and are in fact going the wrong way. TD will pursue this further with ELC.</p> <p>Shop – there is an ongoing problem with its viability and a meeting has been called for the third week in March. The owners are looking for Lottery Funding.</p> <p>Aberlady</p> <p>MD will speak to the Chief Executive of ELC and also Cllr McMillan regarding the signage leading into Gullane. The signs were very expensive. It was noted that the intention was to get visitors into the area but the best use of the signs must be discussed. It had been suggested by someone that the CC is anti business but the situation is quite the reverse. MD advised that he was involved in the original discussions for signage for major golf events to develop Scotland's golf coast and he had been advised that the Economic Development Unit Art Department had stated that the signage was fine. It was</p>	<p>GF</p> <p>TD</p> <p>MD</p>

