

GULLANE AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

(Representing Aberlady, Dirleton, Drem and Gullane)

www.gaddabout.org.uk

MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28 May 2020

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

Present	Tom Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
	David Tait (DT)	Dirleton
	Malcolm Duck (MD)	Aberlady
	Frank Neate (FN)	Aberlady
	John Hendry (JH)	Gullane
	Gordon McLelland (GM)	Gullane
	Les Sibbald (LS)	Gullane
	Dorothy Arthur (DA)	Gullane
	Karen Chapman	Gullane
	Martin White	West Fenton

In Attendance ELC Councillors, Jeremy Findlay (Cllr JF) and Jim Goodfellow (Cllr JG), Bonnie Macmillan, GACC Secretary

Item	Title	Action By
1	<p>Sign On, Welcome and Apologies TD welcomed all to the meeting, the first to be held online due to Covid 19 restrictions, and noted it was quorate. Apologies were received from Hugh Smith (Drem), Cllr Jane Henderson and PC Paterson.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the January meeting were approved and all present were in agreement with decisions taken.</p>	
3	<p>Matters Arising and Actions from the Last Meeting</p> <p>Cut-out Policemen – the cut-outs have been seen in a few different places, PC Paterson will come to the next GACC meeting and speak about the plans going forward in regard to the cut-outs as well as addressing the end of year report. We will carry this forward until further notice.</p> <p>Drem Station Parking and Traffic – TD has been in communication with the relevant ELC officials about parking controls to be introduced on the roads outside the station to help with traffic control. This is on hold at the moment due to Covid 19 restrictions.</p> <p>Village Gateways for Aberlady – There was a recent meeting between ELC officials, Liz Forsyth (LF) and GACC representatives. LF felt the meeting was fruitful as ELC officials weren't averse to enhanced markings. LF, Aberlady GACC representatives and TD to discuss how to consult with villagers about what they prefer to see happen in regard</p>	LF/TD

<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p>	<p>to village gateways. TD expressed optimism about further progress with ELC on this matter. This will be carried forward as it has been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions.</p> <p>Aberlady Burial Ground Space – There is currently enough burial space for approximately 3 years. MD has spoken with Martin Andrews (MA), Factor of Weymss and March Estates, about the possibility of the estate providing additional land for burial. MA will look at possible areas with Lord Weymss when he visits the estate in the near future. MD to continue consulting with MA and report back to GACC when there are further developments. Ongoing discussions have been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions; we will carry this forward for discussion at a later date.</p> <p>Aberlady Footpath from the Pleasance to the Bothy - There is a path on the south side of the A198 that begins at the Pleasance, but it doesn't go all the way to the Bothy. There is a perceived need for a path that carries on to the Bothy so that walkers don't need to cross the road to/from the existing path on the north side as this presents a hazard. There were various ideas brought up regarding the path, MA and MD to continue discussion and MD to report back to GACC. Ongoing discussions have been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions; we will carry this forward for discussion at a later date.</p> <p>Aberlady Memorial Garden Hedge – LF has met with interested parties and they have reached a compromise. The hedge will be cut flat and angled at the entrance to widen it a little and increase visibility of the garden from the footpath/road. The Aberlady Village Association has agreed this should go ahead. FN will speak with ELC officials to request the work be carried out. This has been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions.</p> <p>Gullane Car Charging Points - GM has had confirmation from ELC that the car charging points will go ahead in August this year. This has been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions.</p>	<p>MA</p> <p>MD</p> <p>MA/MD</p> <p>FN</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Membership There remain 2 vacant seats for Aberlady. Interested parties should speak to MD. TD and MD to speak about this and issues surrounding Aberlady membership.</p>	<p>TD/MD</p>

5	<p>Local Priorities Fund (LPF)</p> <p>JH reported that the application submitted by Gullane Bloomers for the Bluestanes Project has been approved for £500.</p> <p>The application for funds to help supply a third defibrillator in Aberlady has been approved in principle for £500 contingent upon the remaining funds needed to purchase the defibrillator being acquired.</p> <p>GM would like photos of these projects to post on GACC social media, KC to liaise with recipients.</p>	KC
6	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The Treasurer's report which was circulated before the meeting was approved. A discussion followed about the funds GACC received for Covid 19 Resilience activities. Cllr JG suggested that going forward there may be an increase in funds to assist area residents that are in need. MD, DT and GM to monitor the situation and report back to GACC at the next meeting.</p> <p>Sharon Saunders, Head of Communities and Partnerships at ELC, had advised that the GACC administration grant for 2020/21 had been fixed at £817, to cover hall charges, Secretary's honorarium, public liability insurance premium, etc, and the figure for the Local Priorities Fund had been held at last year's figure of £6350. Payment would be made to the Treasurer shortly. Any underspend on the Local Priorities Fund for 2019/20 could be retained by GACC and added to this year's figure.</p>	MD, DT, GM
7	<p>Police Report</p> <p>TD summarised the main points from the police report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It will be posted on the website. It has been noted that some people may need to be reminded to reinstate their car insurance after pausing it due to Covid 19 restrictions. GM to add post to social media to remind residents to do this.</p>	GM
8	<p>Village Reports</p> <p>Gullane – GM reported the lack of garden waste collection and street sweeping. There are also street signs that are missing letters, GM to compose a list of concerns for TD to progress with ELC (Eamon John). DA will be speaking to CALA in the near future about construction plans going forward and report back to GACC.</p> <p>An enquiry had been received from a member of the public about the problems of speeding at the approaches to the village and on the main street. It was accepted that this is an ongoing problem. Cllr JG recommended that where speeding is witnessed it is important to note the registration number of the offending vehicle and for this to be reported to the community police officers for action.</p> <p>Aberlady – FN reported that the Aberlady Bloomers have begun to add planters and flowers throughout the village. FN also reported on his correspondence with Scottish Water He is going to progress his</p>	GM/TD

	<p>complaint to the next level as a private citizen.</p> <p>MD reported that GACC has an image problem among some residents in Aberlady. MD and TD will discuss this further. This is a matter that will need community discussion when the Covid 19 restrictions allow.</p> <p>Dirleton – There has been an ongoing problem with water pressure in parts of Dirleton. Scottish Water hasn't been forthcoming with answers or a plan to remedy the situation. Cllr JG suggested it would be a good idea for GACC to write to Scottish Water on behalf of the residents of Dirleton and to copy the local MSP. TD will speak with DT to formulate the letter.</p> <p>Drem – no report</p> <p>West Fenton – no report</p>	<p>TD/MD</p> <p>TD/DT</p>
9	<p>Website and Communications</p> <p>GM reported that traffic to social media has been steady. The websites set up by the Resilience Teams are getting a good amount of traffic.</p>	
10	<p>Planning</p> <p>There are four current planning applications that affect Dirleton.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Archerfield Links application, which includes 2 house plots on the edge of the village green. This application is still under consideration by ELC. 2. An application for the refurbishment of Auburn House, facing onto the church green, which includes the redevelopment of the old laundry building as holiday lets and garages. This is under consideration by the ELC planners. 3. An application for a riding stables development on ground north of the church by a company owned by the purchasers of Auburn House and the old laundry building. This is under consideration by the ELC planners. There has been a new planning document submitted. TD will investigate and report back. 4. The Newmains Farm Steading application, which involves several issues. Scottish Forestry has served the developer with a restocking direction, which is being appealed by the developer, and which TD is monitoring. The closed off right of way - ELC has now acknowledged this as an established public right of way and is considering issues relating to a diversion of the relevant section. TD is monitoring the position with them and with the community police officers regarding behavioural issues as between the developer and local residents. <p>In Gullane, the developer has addressed concerns over the Hamilton Road application, with a new plan put forward. After consulting the community, GACC has made representation in response to the Mallard Hotel demolition application. MW will report on this at the next meeting. Representations have also been made in respect of the Ivy Cottage application in Gullane. MW will report back at the next meeting</p>	<p>TD</p> <p>TD</p> <p>TD</p> <p>MW</p>

11	<p>North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership (NBCAP) Not meeting at the moment due to Covid 19 restrictions. TD is circulating relevant correspondence when received by him.</p>	
12	<p>AOCB KC is to consider if GACC should continue with the current Zoom platform for online meetings or change to a different format and will advise what is best. MW reported on the survey about Scottish bathing water quality. The consensus was that GACC believes the suitability of Scottish bathing waters should continue to be monitored. MW will step down from this group and FN will replace him.</p> <p>Resilience Team News All teams will continue to monitor the needs of the local communities. Cllr JG suggested the need in our communities due to circumstances related to Covid 19 will most likely increase as we go forward.</p> <p>Gullane – In the early stages of lockdown most help was needed with food shopping and prescription collections. This has slowed due to the shielding food parcels, more online delivery slots opening up with the major food retailers and with Gullane Pharmacy having stepped up its ability to make local deliveries. There is an ongoing hub in the Village Hall, with bread making supplies, games, dvds, craft supplies and scrub bags on offer.</p> <p>Dirleton – There has been an increasing need for a food larder in Dirleton and this has been organised and maintained by the Resilience Team. It is housed in the primary school at present, but needs to find other accommodation as soon as possible pending the school’s preparations for reopening. DT and Cllr JG to speak about possibilities for a new location or the possibility to stay in the primary school. The Resilience Team has also been delivering food shopping and collecting prescriptions as needed.</p> <p>Aberlady – MD reported that in Aberlady the emphasis is on neighbours helping each other. The village as a whole has pitched in to help those in need. A local foodbank has been set up that residents can use for necessary supplies.</p>	<p>KC</p> <p>DT/Cllr JG</p>

The next online meeting will be on Thursday 25 June at 7:00pm. If members of the public wish to raise any issues for discussion at the meeting, or beforehand, these should be sent by email to gaccsecretary@gmail.com