

**GULLANE AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

(Representing Aberlady, Dirleton, Drem and Gullane)

[www.gaddabout.org.uk](http://www.gaddabout.org.uk)

**MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24 September 2020**

Minutes are subject to adoption at the next meeting

<b>Present</b>	Tom Drysdale (TD)	Dirleton
	David Tait (DT)	Dirleton
	Malcolm Duck (MD)	Aberlady
	Frank Neat (FN)	Aberlady
	John Hendry (JH)	Gullane
	Gordon McLelland (GM)	Gullane
	Dorothy Arthur (DA)	Gullane
	Karen Chapman (KC)	Gullane
	Les Sibbald (LS)	Gullane
	Martin White (MW)	West Fenton
	Hugh Smith (HS)	Drem

**In Attendance** ELC Councillors; Jim Goodfellow (Cllr JG) and Jeremy Findlay (Cllr JF);  
Liz Forsyth (LF), Chair Aberlady Village Association and Bonnie Macmillan, GACC Secretary.

Item	Title	Action By
1	<b>Sign On, Welcome and Apologies</b> TD welcomed all to the online meeting and noted it was quorate. Apologies were received from PC Paterson.	
2	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> The minutes of the July meeting were approved, and all present were in agreement with decisions taken.	
3	<b>Matters Arising and Actions from the Last Meeting</b> <b>Cut-out Policemen</b> – A “cut-out” police officer has been handed to GACC to supervise its distribution throughout the local area. It has been used in Aberlady, Gullane and Dirleton and GM is to arrange to pass it to HS so that it can be utilised in Drem. The general consensus is that it doesn’t have a significant or lasting effect on speeding in the area.	GM/HS

3	<p><b>Drem Station Parking and Traffic</b> – 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 management. <b>This is on hold at the moment due to Covid 19 restrictions.</b></p> <p><b>Village Gateways for Aberlady</b> – There was a meeting in February between ELC officials, Liz Forsyth (LF), Chair of Aberlady Community Association, and GACC representatives. LF felt the meeting was fruitful as ELC officials were not averse to enhanced road markings. TD is in further touch with them and awaits their suggestions and guidance as to how to proceed. <b>TD is still awaiting a response from ELC.</b></p> <p><b>Aberlady Burial Ground Space</b> –Ongoing discussions about this with Wemyss and March Estates have been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions; <b>we will carry this forward for discussion at a later date.</b></p> <p><b>Aberlady Footpath from the Pleasance to the Bothy</b> - Ongoing discussions about this with Wemyss and March Estates have been put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions; <b>we will carry this forward for discussion at a later date.</b></p> <p><b>Aberlady Memorial Garden Hedge</b> – 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. There is some confusion within the Village as to the GACC position on the matter, MD will sort this out.</p>	TD  LF/TD       MD
4	<p><b>Membership</b> 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>	TD/MD
5	<p><b>Local Priorities Fund (LPF)</b> JH reported that the East Lothian Countryside Volunteers have met the grant conditions previously notified to them in connection with their application associated with the provision of a volunteers’ base at the Aberlady Bay local nature reserve and advised that the grant (£1500) can now be paid, KC to arrange payment. JH also reported that the application for the Dirleton War Memorial restoration has been approved and he is waiting to hear from Derek Carter, who is managing this project for the Dirleton Village Association, so that the grant (£2000) can be paid. TD will speak to Mr Carter about this. GM would like photos of completed projects to post on GACC social media, KC to liaise with recipients.</p>	KC      TD



	<p>together. MD spoke about his dissatisfaction with the way ELC implemented the 20mph zones in the local area. FN also thanked LF for her work in securing the Post Office outreach service.</p> <p><b>Dirleton</b> – DT reported that the lighting problem at the primary school has been sorted.</p> <p>DT has corresponded with the Recovery Group under ELC Connected Communities for guidance on what might be expected of the coronavirus resilience groups if we go into another lockdown. He is waiting to hear back from the Recovery Group and will report back to GACC at the next meeting. DART does not have a space to use as a base. GM noted that the local churches have not been helpful through all of this. TD will speak with a contact in the Dirleton Church to see if they can offer DART space if needed in the future.</p>	<p>DT</p> <p>TD</p>
9	<p><b>Website and Communications</b></p> <p>Nothing new to report, much the same as last month. The social media posts about planning applications draw the most views. GM would like photos from various village projects to use on GACC social media.</p>	
10	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>MW reported that there has been very little activity. The Broadsands (New Mains Steading), Dirleton, applications have been approved with a large number of detailed conditions. TD spoke about these. He noted the apparently high standard of work that has been carried out so far. He also reported that it seems that the diverted right of way will go around the back (North) of the site. TD reported that there is no decision yet on the Caledonian Heritable application which includes two house sites in woodland adjacent to the Archerfield East Lodge in Dirleton or the applications for refurbishment/extension to Auburn House, beside the Dirleton Church Hall, and the adjacent old laundry/gallery building on Manse Road.</p> <p>There is a new application by East Lothian Housing Association to demolish the block of two old workshops at 17 and 18 Castlemains Place, at the east end of Dirleton. TD reported that the DVA is not in support of this application because the design is considered to clash with the conservation area character statement and the design of the adjacent groups of single storey cottages. It was agreed that MW will submit a letter supporting the DVA's objections.</p>	<p>MW/TD</p>
11	<p><b>North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership (NBCAP)</b></p> <p>DT reported that at the Area Partnership's September meeting the Dirleton Bowling Club had been awarded a grant of £5000 which will facilitate their applying for significant grants from other bodies for the refurbishment of the clubhouse.</p> <p>TD reported that there was nothing else arising from the last meeting, but that we should continue to monitor the Spaces for People programme. There will be more consultation before the next phase of the programme.</p>	

12	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>MD spoke about the need for consistency in the Scottish Government’s messaging about Covid-19 and restrictions resulting from it. MD will compose a letter about this and send it to TD. TD will distribute it to others within GACC for comments.</p> <p>FN spoke about the difficulties older residents may have trying to use the government’s Test and Trace app. He is particularly concerned about the possibility of it becoming mandatory and the implications this would have for potential users who may lack technical skills. GACC will continue to monitor this issue.</p> <p>GM reported on the progress made in relation to the Gullane Village Association. A steering group is to be set up to take forward an agenda.</p>	MD/TD
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**The next online meeting will be on Thursday 29 October 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](mailto:gaccsecretary@gmail.com)**