

## **Royal Burgh of Dunbar Community Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 in the Gibb room of Dunbar library at 7.30pm.

Present: S. Bunyan, G. Saunders, W. Collin, J. Murray, D. Edmonds, K. Thomas, G. Wilson, K. Croft, M. Haddow, H. Coutts.

Apologies: A. Sneddon, A. Campbell, PC Hughes. J Murray apologised in advance for the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> June

Councillors in attendance: P. McLennan, J. Bell, N. Hampshire.

Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated. These were passed.

### Police Report.

PC Hughes would e:mail the police report to GS and it will be attached to the minutes of this meeting. It had been noted for the police that there had been an increase in drinking/parties at the John Muir country park.

The licensing board was to write to all publicans to make sure that they were informed of the new drinking bylaws.

### Treasurer's Report.

Kilvert is to present the Treasurer's report at the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> June, then hand over the accounts to Derek.

### Association of CCs AGM.

Steven and Gordon attended the meeting with the main focus being on the way forward for the community and planning partnership (CAPP). The two community councils that had already taken part in the CAPP had raised concerns about the way things were proceeding. P. McLennan was to arrange a presentation about CAPP for the community council at the August meeting.

### CCTV.

CCTV is going ahead as planned.

### Sustainable Dunbar.

Phillip Revell will come to the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> June to update the CC on the group's activities, and, in particular, the possible community buy out of Smith's the Bakers.

### East Lothian Environmental Forum.

Interested groups and individuals attended the recent meeting at Musselburgh community centre. Councillor McLennan reported that there was a lot of positive feedback, and a report would be available on the ELC website within the next three to four weeks. A further meeting of the Environment Forum would be set up for September/October.

#### Traffic Survey.

It was noted that the recent public meeting to discuss the traffic survey had been poorly attended. This was thought to be due to lack of advertising, and lack of promotion of the meeting. The traffic survey is on public display in the library for the next few weeks, and it is hoped that the Courier will run something on this to make people aware of it. It was suggested that there should be another well publicised meeting at the end of the consultation process as this is something which affects everyone, and the public need to become more involved.

#### The Battle of Dunbar.

Herbert Coutts recently attended a meeting about raising awareness of the battle of Dunbar, and where the site of the battle actually is. Herbert noted that the SNP government had made a commitment in its manifesto to preserve battlefield sites. There is to be a further on-site meeting. There may be other ways in which to promote the battle and the battlefield in the new Town House museum, and also with links to the Battle of Prestonpans society.

#### Signage around the Town.

The CC felt that signage around Dunbar was very poor. The CC was going to look at ways in which to raise funds for a major project to improve the signage around the town. Things that could be included were: Battle of Dunbar information, John Muir information, information for walkers and cyclists, information on the fact that Dunbar was the only East Lothian town that Robert Burns visited, and much more.

#### Local Priorities.

Probus Club had asked for £987.74 for a power point projection system including lap top. The CC agreed to this as long as the Probus club made the equipment available to other local groups.

Guides. As the guide trip was not until next summer it was agreed that this would be carried forward, so that the CC could be provided with more information.

Kerry Rice dancers. An application had been received from Kerry to help fund new dancing kits. The CC had been very supportive in the past, but felt that it could not make an award on this occasion.

Countess After School Club had made an application for funds to place planters around the Countess youth centre area. The CC regrettably refused this request, as it sadly felt that planters in this area would be a potential target for vandalism.

Countess Summer Club. £250 has been awarded to help cover some of the costs for the summer club.

Castle Quilters had applied for funding to cover the set-up costs of a charity event. As all the monies raised from the event would be given to charity, the CC felt that costs incurred should be taken from monies raised, and should not come from CC funds.

#### East Beach Play Area.

The CC felt that ELCs proposals for a landscaped garden were not what the residents of the area wanted. The residents were to be asked what they wanted for the area, with a view to the CC supporting their views. There appeared to be some disagreement between the landscape and countryside department and the planning department as to what could actually be put in. (Subsequent to this meeting, the CC has received a letter from the East beach regeneration group, and a meeting has been

called for the 17<sup>th</sup> June to which the CC has been asked to send a representative). This is to be discussed at the CC meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> June.

#### Councillors' Reports.

P. McLennan is to have a meeting with National Express on the 17<sup>th</sup> June. He hopes to discuss car parking and timetables amongst other issues. Paul will keep us updated. Paul has also had a meeting with the residents of the Countess Road area. Discussions were ongoing regarding what could be done about the traffic movement problems. It had been noted in a recent survey on Countess Road that, in a five day period, 12,000 cars had used the road at an average speed of 33mph.

Tourist Information. The town centre tourist information site would be open as usual during the summer, but there is to be a six week trial of a temporary tourist information office near ASDA at Spott Road to coincide with the English school holidays. This will give all businesses, museums, etc in Dunbar the chance to advertise themselves to potential visitors.

Jacque Bell reported that the signage on the A1 to Hallhill and Belhaven was still a problem. The problems with pigeons under the railway bridges were being followed up. There is to be more discussions and consultations regarding the reopening of the underpass at the Trees scheme. Jacque also noted that the ring road proposal from the new housing development side of the town to Belhaven had been taken off the traffic survey, and wanted to see it put back on. This was supported by the meeting.

AOB.

Civic Week. Preparations going well.

Christmas Lights. Derek explained to the CC that if they could provide a letter to the Christmas Lights committee saying what a good job they do, that this could be used by them to apply to the Royal Bank of Scotland to gain £250 funding.

Morag brought up the subject of a news letter. Stephen explained that Mary Young had always done the news letters in the past, and he suggested that we co-opt Mary Young onto the CC for this purpose. This was seconded by Kilvert Croft, and agreed by all.

Morag brought up the question of community involvement and in particular contact with the Grammar School. After some discussion it was agreed that we should suggest that the head boy and head girl be invited to attend our meetings. It was agreed that the chairman should discuss this matter with the head teacher.

The CC has agreed to fly the red ensign on the Town House on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September to commemorate Merchant Navy day. This date is also the anniversary of the outbreak of World War Two.

The next meeting of the Dunbar Community Council will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June, in the Gibb room of Dunbar library at 7.30pm, which members of the public are welcome to attend.