

Royal Burgh of Dunbar Community Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Royal Burgh of Dunbar Community Council held in the Gibb Room, Dunbar Library on Monday 21st April, 2008.

Present: S. Bunyan, W. Collin, G. Saunders, H. Coutts, J. Murray, K. Croft.

Apologies: A. Sneddon, G. Wilson, M Young.

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

Police: PC Hughes.

Community Wind power Ron Wood made a short presentation

- 1. Previous minutes approved.**
- 2. Treasurers Report.** Attached.
- 3. Police Report.**

PC Hughes attended the meeting on his new bicycle. He was now fully trained and you could expect to see him out and about on it frequently.

Concerns were again raised regarding parking around the town, especially at the primary school. The police would speak to the traffic warden and monitor the situation more closely.

Police were following a positive line of enquiry with regards to adults buying alcohol for under age youths. An off sales forum had been set up with all the off sales licensees in the town to work together to stop alcohol getting into the hands of under age drinkers. A meeting had recently taken place to set up the forum, but SB and GS had commented they were disappointed that only three licensees had attended the meeting. Anyone being caught buying alcohol for any one under age would be banned from buying alcohol at all off sales in the town. Anyone with any information can call Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

The police have reported that there had been several serious incidents with youth behaviour at the shows. A meeting was to be convened of councillors, community councillors and the police to look at possible solutions for the future. HC again raised his concerns about speeding traffic on Bayswell Road around the swimming pool, St. Anne's church area. A possible solution would be to put in place elderly crossing signs.

4. Community wind power

Rod Wood from the community wind power project gave the CC a very informative talk on what they were doing, and the investment they intend to make in the town (£100k per annum for the next ten years). He also stated that they had taken over the Blooming Marvellous shop and this was being turned into an advice centre and office, where people could pop in to receive energy saving advice. It was hoped that it would be up and running in the next few weeks. They were also looking at various other projects within the town and more details would be available in the near future.

5. Community Council Elections

Concerns were raised that a lot of people in the town did not actually know who the candidates in the CC elections were. Ways to improve this for the next time need to be looked into. Some ideas included a CC website, and the candidates being able to put out information with the postal voting papers. It had been noted that Ian Smith and Mary Young were not standing for re-election, and the CC wished to convey their thanks for all the hard work Ian and Mary had done in the past.

6. Local Priorities.

The awards made at the previous meeting were going ahead some further enquiries had been made Letters had been received from Kerry Rice and the girl guides regarding applications for the local priorities fund.

We had expended all the available money and were awaiting confirmation of the new grant these enquiries were held over till after the election.

7 The Town House. Work was going ahead as planned. The funding for the interior work has been secured. Exterior work is due to be finished by the end of the summer.

8 Bleachingfield/Community Centre.

ELC have approved funding, and after consultations have been completed, work is expected to start in 2009.

9 Planning Applications

Assembly Rooms. Discussions continue on plans for this site

. An application has been submitted for seven houses on the site of the old amusements near the East beach.

An application has been put in to develop the site at J&A Coachworks into houses.

10 Rail Links.

Paul McLennan had met with Transport Scotland on 25th March. He reported that it was a very positive meeting, and that the Transport minister was to visit Dunbar shortly to see for himself what the situation was.

11 Traffic Study.

A stakeholders meeting is to be held on the 21st May, with an exhibition to be held on the 26th May. Times and locations are to be confirmed.

12 New School Provision.

The final brief for the new school has been completed and everything is moving forward. The CC raised concerns regarding the safety, in particular of children, accessing the new school from the North side of the railway line. The CC is to

press for the re-opening of the tunnel under the railway at the Tree scheme end of the town. This would greatly improve access to and from the new school and the high school, as well as improving access for the proposed new housing development. It was agreed that Will Collin would write a letter stating our serious concerns to ELC.

13 ASDA money.

The request to the Scottish Executive regarding the section 75 agreement for money to be used on the proposed East beach play park is awaiting a decision. NH stated that there may now be problems with the location of the proposed play park due to a proposed housing development.

14 Correspondence. C/F

15 AOB.

High street scaffolding.

Concerns were again raised regarding the scaffolding opposite the Town House. Discussions were still ongoing with residents.

Planning application at Ashfield area.

Plans were due to be submitted in June/July. GS raised concerns regarding the access issues.

Spott road.

WC asked why there was no kerb in place on a large stretch at Spott road as debris was falling onto the road.

CCTV.

Consultation regarding the siting of cameras is to begin, and it is hoped CCTV will be in place by the end of the year. Dunbar councillors are to attend a meeting at the CCTV HQ in Macmerry on 24/04/08. KC, GS and SB will also attend on behalf of the CC. They will report back to cc re progress.

Corn Exchange.

Feasibility study regarding the future of the building to be carried out by ELC.

SCARF Presentation. 27th April. Halhill 1pm-3pm

Parish Church

WC: In the past ELC has paid for the cost of flood lighting the Parish Church. This is no longer the case. The cost of £700pa is too much for the church to pay so the lights will now only be switched on on special occasions. ELC have now agreed to continue to cover the costs so the lights will stay on.

Common Good Fund

NH/PMc are to get information about the Dunbar Common Good Fund for the next meeting. Statements and assets.

Lauderdale gardens.

Work was being carried out to improve the gardens.

Townscape heritage.

Work had been delayed on some of the street work/slab laying as there had been a delay in supplying the materials. Work at MacArthur stores had commenced, and NH informed the CC that there had been some very interesting discoveries made while the work was ongoing. Biddy Simpson, the council archaeologist, had stated that she would be happy to show the CC around all the interesting finds. Date/time to be arranged.

NH stated that there was still money left over. The intention is to have a maintenance week in the high street to do as many repairs as possible at the same time.

Pigeon problem at the railway bridges.

Scott Hood to investigate.

Sewerage leak at East beach road area.

This had now been repaired but there are still matters of concern

Lafarge.

Lafarge had been experiencing some problems regarding its emissions. Although there have been odours detected, there was nothing dangerous, but investigations are under way to find ways to prevent this happening.

Viridor.

The current Viridor application for their waste burning facility has now been withdrawn, but concerns were still raised that Viridor may submit a new application. This will be monitored.

Traders.

The traders were to carry out a study regarding the effects of ASDA on town centre shopping. They were also going to look at ways in which to encourage people to shop locally in the Town centre. The CC would pay attention to what was going, on and this would be put on the agenda as an item for the next meeting. WC said that the high street was a mess, and parking issues and congestion needed to be looked at.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 19th May in the Gibb Room, Dunbar Library at 7.30 pm, where the election of office bearers for the community council will take place.

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