



Minutes of Meeting: Tuesday 9th November 2021

Held at the Bridge Center, 11 Poldrate Haddington @7pm

1. Apologies & Attendance

- Apologies - Steven Spence, Paul Kinnock, Jack Worden, Katie Moor (Knox Academy), Karla Green (HCBP)
- In Attendance – Chris McEwan(chair), Fiona McEwan(secretary), Pat Lemon(Vice chair), John Hamilton(treasurer), Graham Samuel, Stuart PE-Win, David Barrett, Falko Burket, Therese Laing, Erica Muirhead, Jim Graham, Morgwn Davies, Rab Moran, Tom Riddle(Knox Academy), Robert Flood (Knox Academy). Diann Govenlock (ELC) Cameron Ritchie (Press) and ELC Councilors: Shamin Atkhar, John McMillan, Tom Trotter, Craig Hoy,

2. Adoption of Minutes from CC meeting Tuesday 12th October 2021

- Admin Job application posted on Indeed, our website and Facebook page. 30+ applicants most of which unsuitable due to location being down south. The rest being asked about Minute taking experience and hope to interview a few candidates soon.
- Shamin contacted the person regarding the dumping at back of retail park and chasing up to see who owns the land
- Athelstaneford Bushes have been cut back.
- Rab Motioned and Jim Seconded.

3. Matters Arising

- The updated Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils (known as 'The Green Book') was handed out to everyone. Thanks to Graham for producing them.
- Made In East Lothian – they were hoping to get the Ideal Garage Site. They are looking for volunteers to attend meetings (Stuart and Therese volunteered after meeting)
- Armistice – Select 4 for service, 2 for Ferguson and Stevie and Pat for Athelstaneford. John and Falko will lay the wreath at Ferguson Memorial. Rab and Stuart at St Marys Memorial and Rab said he will attend the Service.
- Volunteers for pipe band. Beating of the retreat – 4 yes so far. Chris Fiona, Rab and Therese.
- Athelstaneford Space. – Malcolm Vickers didn't get the invite in time. Postponed to next month.

4. Community Reports

- Knox Academy – Tom attended in person while Robert Flood joined by Video as he is restricted from attending in person. Knox's poppy Scotland appeal and activities are back on and will be out in force over the week collecting.

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Children in need activities going ahead as well as judging of the Window competition.

Robert added that they were having a poppy themed Bake Sale to raise extra money. The school concert this year will still be a virtual based concert.

- Haddington Business Community Partnership (HBCP) – See Appendix below.
- Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership - Diann. Last meeting was end of October where roads Service manager spoke to the group. Next meeting is 2nd December.
- Tenants and Residents Association Updates – HCTRA had received a number of completed questionnaires. Getting in touch with VCEL for PVG checks. History themed event being planned.
- Police, CAPP and PSP – no update this month. Police at COP26 and incident meant police couldn't attend. Shamin chaired.
- Youth Network – Various activities including Saturday night football which is being taken over by Haddington Athletic Football club and Friday afternoon at 4. Meeting next week.
- Blooming Haddington – 3 tier planters all done. More plants being done this week.

5. Correspondence

- Athelstaneford resident has been put in contact with Stevie and he is dealing with that.
- David Murray wants to speak about war graves. Extend invite?
 - i. Agreed to send invite for next meeting.
- Various Training and consultations sent out to everyone.

6. Councillors Corner

- Footpath at football club on Tynebank road to Mill Wynd– Jim, Graham and Erica holding a meeting in favour of a footpath. Good to get the Football club view, It was also highlighted at Local access forum.
- Footpath – Graham thanked John McMillan to the speedy fix regarding the complaints he made about the exposed manhole at Clerkington to Letham path.
- Graham also thanked Shamin for the Wood being replaced at the Wier bridge.
- Rab –brought up that the Entrance station yard has a deep pothole and needing tarred.
- Erica was pleased that the High Street pavements being repaired. This was something that was brought up from the walk about earlier in the year.
- Falko raised a few issues of concern with County councillors
9 out of 23 lights out in town center.
Falko has also had a number of customers speaking to him about enforcing alcohol Licencing and alcohol fuelled Anti-Social Behaviour that stems from it. River Tyne Wier Damage at the Victoria Bridge, Falko is to end photo to John McMillan.
Falko and Graham going to attend CAPP on behalf of the CC with Shamin to make sure these points are raised each month.



Brown street falling masonry being investigated. Adjoining land investigation ownership under investigation.

Chairperson mentioned everyone to use ELC's ReportIT website or contact centre, Call the police, community wardens or the antisocial Behaviour teams and record the Issue numbers so we can chase it up if its not done.

Was a mention of looking at stickers or posters to get across key messages such as how to report issues, Antisocial behaviour and faults.

- Recycling – consultation on learning estate of the new system.
- Lights around the Tyne River walkway. Lighting stopped at St Mary. Light pollution.
- Resurfacing the Carpark At landings. Yellow lines missing.
- David raised the issue about the river walk being rather dark with lack of lighting and Suggested that Solar lighting could be installed. John McMillan took that away to discuss with council officers.
- David has noted that CCTV is to be installed in Mitchell close.
- See appendix for John McMillan's detailed Update.

7. Treasurer's report

- Funding request for Haddington Society of Change Ringers for Co2 detectors and air purifiers. We had asked them to re-apply as they were asking for £850 @ 100% and we require matched funding for amounts over £250. Everyone was in favour of matched funding being donated and David had suggested he would see if he could help them with getting airflow professionals involved if they needed it.
- See appendix for Summary of Accounts

8. Licencing & Planning

- Meadow Park – Fencing plan withdrawn.
- Council will now send HDCC the Delegated and Expedited lists. We can ask District Councillors to call in any applications that we or the public are concerned about to a planning meeting. However, it's up to the individual District councillor.
- Property at Hope Park submitted a plan for an extension which was decide on no comment needed from the CC's Planning liaisons.
- Planning Aid Scotland training - Stuart has managed to get training on the planning system from Planning Aid Scotland.
- Scotland Planning Framework published this month.
- Mr Barrett was reminded to keep this part of the meeting to items Planning and Licencing Issues.

9. Community Council Subgroups

- Events Group
 - i. Looking to start up again but needing more volunteers.
- Town Centre Update

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- i. Brown Street was mentioned earlier in the meeting and Graham continues to work with Stuart and Shamin on resolving the growing list of issues.
- Haddington Tourism Development Group – Therese update in Jacks Absence
 - i. Spoke to headteacher of the Schools getting the kids involved in virtual tourism as well as tourism walks.
 - ii. Community archaeological DIG of the park at Neilson park.

10. Any Other Business

- Induction training for CC members – A number of email circulars going out to everyone re training being laid on from ELC. A request for members info was made again.
- Agenda Order - Mr Barratt had any issues with the agenda order. It was discussed and Pat highlighted that agenda has always been able to be altered to facilitate any visitors, members of the public or importance of any particular issues.
- Events group will contact VCEL about PVG checks and Disclosure checks.
- Callum Colhoun's 1100 mile fund-raising efforts were praised by everyone.
- Wendy Swan petition regarding delayed payments for cancer sufferers was brought up to raise awareness.

Outstanding issues from previous meetings

Date Raised	Description	Action	Status
October 21	Reappearing Parking Lines on Hardgate	John McMillan	Reported
October 21	New CC members Bio and Photos for website	Chris McEwan	Waiting on info
June 21	Local Priorities Budget. Will there be an Increase with new housing	John McMillan	
April 21	Athelstaneford Community Club within Village	Steven Spence	
Various	Brown Street – Building, Bins, Derelict land	Graham/Shamin	Ongoing

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Appendix

Treasurers Summary of accounts for November 2021

Account balance for month

- CC BoS Account balance: £24,775.42 as of 5/11/2021 (£20,475 net, incl CC £4,300 ring fenced pending payments)
- Events Group TSB balance: £369.68 as of 26/5/2021 (No cheque(s) pending.)
- Held in cash-box: £96.34 as of 5/11/2021 (CC cash = £41.01, Events cash = £55.33)

Highlights

- £300 donation paid to Bridge centre for their Xmas appeal.

CC BoS Account transaction highlights, since last report. £22,131 net total after pending deductions, not incl CC cash box.

- Have received reimbursement of Pipe Band wreath.

Events Group TSB Account transaction highlights, since last report. £369 net total after pending deductions, not incl Events cash box.

- <No transactions>

Ring fenced monies: £4300

- £4000 for Xmas lights refurbishment,
- £300 for Events licence

HBCP update

Some businesses in the town have made us aware of a marked reduction in footfall, whether this is to do with the new retail park or another rationale, its certainly could be a cause for concern and will be monitored.

We have been able through the economic development department to pass on a grant application for up to £1K (IEE) integrated employer engagement hopefully our members have taken the opportunity to apply.

Work has started at two empty units in the town (Rs Mcolls and Joe Forte) hopefully it wont be long before theses premises are trading.

As some of you will be aware , there was a number of serious incidents last Tuesday (by the same person) it left some business owners and members of the community distressed and alarmed, the network of communication namely our whatsapp group was once again invaluable , it enabled the group to share very quickly his description , his whereabouts and actually identifying him. We have reassurance from Police Scotland that they will not tolerate this behaviour and will deal with it robustly. The male has been arrested, appeared in court and

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remanded in custody. Thanks to Police Scotland our community police officers and community wardens for their continued support.

This year we seen the first Haddoween window competition, sponsored by Haddington Rotary Club, 22 businesses took part and the winning window went to a very well deserved Kodak express. This will be an annual event.

Christmas window competition, this years, light up your window for Christmas has been launched, judging will take place on 27th November , we would like to ask representative from the Knox Academy to Judge this very competitive competition last years response was wonderful, we are hoping to duplicate it this year.

Christmas flyers will be posted through every door in Haddington, Gifford and Athelstaneford within the next few weeks these are designed to encourage people to shop local, temporary banners have been suggested and Paul Kinnoch has kindly agreed to look into this, we are hoping to have a a similar design to the flyer and they would be erected at the entrances into town .

John McMillan Update

Good afternoon

Matters arising

River Tyne- latest update from Tom Reid, Head of Infrastructure.

No further update, the team have reported that they have carried out the immediate maintenance works to reduce risk. The overall study remains in progress and I await timescales and outcome. Tom's email below was sent to Mr East in response to his queries. Work has been carried out to reduce risk and the consultant's report is awaited.

Dear Mr East

Thank you for your email. The willow saplings downstream of the weir have been removed to mitigate flood risk from a significant rainfall event and I am awaiting an update from officers on any further works they have scheduled or feel are essential at present. Title investigations remain ongoing in respect of the East bank.

The removal of the sediment deposition, dredging and the provision of flood defences (walls / embankments) through the town, as well as Natural Flood Management and Upstream Floodwater Storage are measures being considered by Consultants undertaking studies for the ongoing Haddington Flood Protection Scheme. This is required both from a planning, financial and environmental perspective.

Again I await the outcome of this work and have asked for an update on timescales. Once I have further information I will ask officers to provide you with an update.

Matters arising roads-

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Issues at Meadowpark reported and officers,, police and Wardens aware.

Similarly reported concerns over lining around Sidegate

My own activities since last meeting

Following the death of Council Leader Willie Innes, Council meeting was cancelled as a mark of respect.

Planning, Licensing and Licensing Sub-Committee met.

Connected Economy Group (CEG) met and reviewed the overall support of £40million paid through ELC to support business in East Lothian, noted with partners such as DWP, Federation of Small Business and Chamber of Commerce the responses made to help businesses 'reset ' whilst we are still in emergency response mode, and to look forward to the recovery.

CEG also reviewed the disbursement of the Administrations extra £600,000 in the approved budget to support High Streets, Tourism and events, and grow businesses through working closely with Town Centre Business Groups.

CEG also praised the number of apprenticeships set up in ELC and across the County – 100 opportunities established during the last period during the pandemic.

The SOLE digital platform pilot in Dunbar was also discussed.

These papers are available for you should you wish to review the detail.

An announcement has been made from UK Government that £450,000 has been awarded to expand this idea to cover all towns and villages through designing bespoke digital platforms. More detail on this will come forward shortly.

The Gift Card has proved to be very successful and was recognised as the most successful in Scotland. Last Christmas £47000 was spent in local participating outlets. The card is now available through online purchase and cards can be obtained from some outlets to be 'topped up' online. Christmas promotion to begin soon.

Pure Malt

Pleased to attend the award of the Queen's Award for Enterprise last Friday by the Lord Lieutenant- the flag now flies over Pure Malt. This marks their innovation and international efforts as a major local employer, recently expanding their business and exporting to over 70 countries. A huge investment in buildings and future-proofing their business and building their reputation.

Tyne Close which is a project to develop business units is being explored as the lease is about to be signed between East Lothian Land (an arms length organisation of the Council) and ELC. This is the model used to develop 10 offices in Brewery Park (incidentally occupation never lower than 85% since opening).

High Street

A number of conversations (commercially confidential) to support individual businesses, and create jobs. I can forward footfall figures to anyone interested, but trends are affected by lockdown.

Recent figures don't suggest a drop in October. Transport officers worked closely with Prentice to establish a new town centre bus route and timetable.

Farmers' Market continues to be popular, although last Saturday in October was wet.

Events

Haddowe'en was a first and potential for growth to promote the town. Rotary sponsored the shield, and some popular Haddowe'en lapel badges.

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The visit of the Order of St John brought over 150 visitors to St Mary's , many of whom stayed for at least one night and it is estimated that this brought over £50,000 to the local economy as well as promoting the town.

Pipe Band celebrates its 40th Anniversary and will hold a Dinner(20th) and Beating Retreat on 27th November in Court St.

This coincides with the Saltire Festival.

St Mary's will hold a mini-Martinmas Fair on 20th November from 1000- 1230hrs.

Officers are working on a plan for Christmas Cabins.

Other business

The Learning Estate Strategy Review will be issued for consultation soon and this will provide an opportunity to comment on inter alia the future of our schools, and how our young people learn and develop and how buildings are used. Rural schools, outdoor learning and how to bridge the attainment gap and improve opportunities for all.

The Wallyford Campus development and the Instrumental Music Service have been recognised as leading edge.

The Recycling Initiative will be launched soon and this is an opportunity to increase the amount of materials we recycle and contribute individually to the climate challenge.

Vaccination programme continues at Community Hospital and with introduction of the bus to deliver boosters.

CAPP- despite our local officers being busy we managed to hold a CAPP meeting, but it remains important to report issues and incidents as they occur. Many thanks to Colin and Vivian.

Special mention of Callum Colquhoun and his donation to Poppy Scotland through his marathon efforts.