



Meeting: Tuesday 8th February 2022

# MINUTES

## 1. Apologies & Attendance

- CMC welcomed everyone to the meeting
- In Attendance - Chris McEwan (Chair), Pat Lemon (Vice-Chair), John Hamilton (Treasurer), Cameron Ritchie (press), Erica Muirhead, Graham Samuel, Jack Worden, John McMillan, Tom Trotter, Karen Garrott, Erica Muirhead, Morgwn Davies, Robert Flood (Knox Academy), Tom Riddle (Knox Academy), Rab Moran, Stuart Crawford (Lib Dem Candidate), Theresa Laing, Falko Burket, Malcolm Vickers, Shamin Atkhar (ELC Councillor), Craig Hoy, Dawn Alexander (minutes), Jon Cooper (Haddington Heritage Project), Emma Jackson (Keep the Heid – Mental Health Café).
- Apologies were received from Jim Graham, Stuart PE-Win, and Karla Green (HBCP).

## 2. Adoption of Minutes from CC meeting Tuesday 8th January 2022

- Spelling error for bench for 'Deano' should be 'Dino'
- Licensing and Planning – first paragraph, Morgwn provided an update for an email from JH – remove this.
- Update to say DB handed over responsibility temporarily
- Listed buildings take out 'are'
- JW proposed the minutes RM seconded the minutes.

## 3. Guest Speaker

- a. Jon Cooper - Haddington Heritage Project
- JW introduced JC to the meeting as the Project Coordinator for the Haddington Heritage Project.
  - The purpose of the project is to put Haddington on the Scottish Tourist Map; educate the community on the 16<sup>th</sup> Century history of Haddington and create a virtual museum/interactive experience, alongside the production of educational materials such as books, town maps, artwork, and business maps.
  - The project will last for 5 years and the aim is to increase Haddington's Tourism by 50,000 visitors each year.

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- The project is currently building collaborations with local schools and would welcome suggestions on how to engage with the community.
- The project is currently applying for funding and any suggestions on funding opportunities would be welcome.
- Activities in 2022 include Wreath Laying Memorial Service (June 28th), The Siege Symposium – HHS and Scottish Battlefields Trust (July 1st), Surveys Spring/Summer 2022 (The Great Haddington House Hunt, The Wall Work, A Bridge So Far, The Deconstruction of St Mary's, The Amisfield Siege Camp & Fun Ramp (September 2022), Education Packs/Story Telling 2022 with Tim Porteous, ELAF – Talks and Seminars.
- The CC discussed how they could support the project. The following suggestions were made; inform local businesses' about the project to encourage them to engage with any upcoming activities, advertising the project on the CC website, providing matched funding, inform the Project of any funding opportunities.

b. Keep the Heid Mental Health Cafe - Emma Jackson (request for funding)

- EJ is the founder of Keep the Heid Mental Health Café. EJ suffered from depression for 20 years and found talking therapies was great however, there was no support groups in Haddington. The café can provide a structure to individuals who suffer from depression. EJ has crowdfunded £1500 to run the café for a trial period, which started in November and will last until mid-March. The café starts at 7pm at the Trinity Centre in Haddington with tea/coffee, a mindfulness session and then a discussion on mental health run by a professional facilitator. The café has had great feedback to date with many 6 regulars now attending. Funding applications have gone in to local partnership and EL health and well-being fund to keep the café running and produce flyers etc. that will be circulated via a Royal Mail, mail shot.
- The CC discussed how they could support the café. The following suggestions were made; application to the Common Good Fund, flyers being included with Lammermuir Larder food packages, information being shared on the CC website and Facebook pages, matched funding from the CC.

**Action – Dawn to send information on match funding, printing costs and the Common Good Fund.**

#### 4. Matters Arising

- a. Proposal to create a 6-month rotating Chair & Vice Chair for the Association of East Lothian Community Councils
- There were no objections to this proposal. PL proposed this and RB seconded.

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## b. Haddington Community Council - Vacant secretary role

- CMC is unable to keep doing this on top of his current role. PL added it is a simplified role than it used to be, it is mostly checking the HDCC email ensuring documents are circulated, no minute taking etc. is required. GS put himself forward for this role. PL proposed MV seconded this.

## c. Election of new PLO and assistance

- MD agreed to step into the PLO role. PL suggested asking SP to act as deputy. MD declared his brother works for ELC in the finance department.

## d. Meeting locations

- CMC advised meetings would take place in the Bridge Centre from next month.

## 5. Community Reports

### a. Knox Academy

- YPI final took place today, five teams participated and the winning team was Muirfield riding Therapy who won £5,000 for this charity. Thanks to SA for stepping in as a judge. SA added this was a fantastic event and we should be proud of the pupils at Knox Academy. SA and TR thanked RF for organising this event year after year.
- RF advised school staff have met with Thomas Sheriffs to develop a partnership with them. Any other business interested in developing partnerships with the school should get in touch.
- RF has started a games school at the club on a Monday and Thursday lunchtime (board games and card games).

### b. Haddington Business Community Partnership (HBCP)

- Update was circulated with the papers of the meeting

### c. Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership

No update meeting on Thursday. GS standing in for EM due to work commitments

### d. Tenants and Residents Association Updates

- There was no January meeting as SP was sick however this has been rescheduled for next week.

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- There were three reports of ASB emailed in which SP forwarded on to ELC and 1 complaint about the digester plans.
  - e. Police, CAPP and PSP
- Update was circulated with the papers of the meeting.
  - f. Youth Network
- GS did not attend the previous meeting however will get an update and embed these in the minutes.
  - g. Blooming Haddington
- RM watered the Fiji plants and the potato boxes.

## 6. Correspondence

- a. Thank You Day – this was circulated with the papers for the meetings.
- b. A letter was received from UK Hearts about defibrillators – CMC suggested SS look into this.
- c. JMc asked if the CC need the backing from the community councillors, they could be copied into emails for support.
- d. Gambling Statement of Principles – CMC suggested the CC review this and make comments if they want the CC to respond to this.

## 7. Councillors Corner

- a. Traffic Safety
- Traffic Safety - this was an issue raised by SP via email, JMc advised he has responded to SP and this went to the Road Safety Forum today. JMc will provide an update at the next meeting.
- CMC asked if the Community Councillors had defined their roles yet. TT is anti-social behaviour, JM Gardening and Roads, SA will be Landscape and Countryside, CH Roads, Landscape and Gardening. CH mentioned he is stepping down in June. CMC suggested they could revisit this after the elections.



- The CC discussed the issue of street lighting in Haddington, there are currently 10 street lights not working out of 23 and this issue has been reported repeatedly. TT added that as far as he was aware these had been fixed, JMc provided a further update that the street lighting team noted issues with fixing these and they make take a few weeks to resolve. SA and FB agreed to do a walk around to pin point the exact lights not working. JMc advised he would follow up on this issue.
- The CC discussed the defibrillators in the town and having ones which were accessible out of normal business hours. FB added he would be happy to have one attached to his business via a glass box if this was possible. There was also a suggestion to have one outside the doctor's surgery which would also increase the communities knowledge that this was available.

Action – CMC to look into the options for getting defibrillators. MD to look into what the planning issues are for attaching a defibrillator to FB structure.

## **8. Treasurer's report**

- The report was circulated with the papers of the meeting.
- The latest total for Christmas lights £8,900, which includes investment for new trees therefore won't be a recurring cost.
- The CC have received a £400 donation from the St Mary's Playgroup, this has to be used for two portable sinks for the events group.
- £750 has been paid to Lesley Hodge for the defibrillator for the Rugby Club.
- The paperwork and electronic files have gone to the auditor for the yearly audit.
- CMC advised the cherry picker cost has increased and there has been a discussion with one of the other community councils around sharing this cost.
- JW noted the Haddington Heritage Project can't receive grants at the moment however would like to have a discussion with JH on how to receive grants/funding. JH advised there should be no issue with the CC receiving funding and holding this for the Project but will look into this and confirm.

## **9. Licencing & Planning**

- CMC thanked SP for organising the PAS planning session. It was very informative and CMC suggested anyone who did not attend should try to attend any future sessions.
- MD advised the Pear Tree Nursery on West Road have put in a retrospective application has gone in. They have put in internal walls, have put in a pram shelter outside, external door from the garden to the toilet, increasing numbers from 94-95, and for an advertising sign that is outside. MD advised been two years since they have done the work and asked if there

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were any issues with this. No issues were raised.

## 10. Community Council Subgroups

### a. Events Group

- The Events group have started looking at dates and planning
- CMC asked if the Community Council would like to donate £2,000 to the events group to start them off for the festival week. No objections were received.

### b. Resiliency.

- MV advised Scottish Power have not yet recompensed people for the lack of power last year unless they are phoning up to request this.
- PL mentioned an offer of help was given to SS for the CC and ELC to write a letter to Scottish Power. SA added that she would be happy to provide Sandy Baptie with feedback.

### c. Haddington Tourism Development Group – this should be removed.

## 11. Any Other Business

- MV thanked the councillors for the exciting things happening in Athelstaneford Ford including refurbishment of the park, groups in the village hall and resilience.
- EM asked if there was a loop induction system that could support her in the face-to-face meetings. GS suggested the Pool Hall might be easier to hear. JM advised if Erica has an iPhone, which can support the hearing.
- FB noted at the CAPP meeting last Monday everyone was talking about Anti-Social behaviour. Can an article go into the courier so that people see this and keep reporting? CMC advised we have this on our website. CR agreed to do something for the press. SA is more than happy to provide more posters. GS advised he also has a lot of the anti-social leaflets that he'd be more than happy to hand out. GS to drop some off to EM. CMC suggested these also should get into the notice board. JM suggested the CC take over the notice board.
- More work is taking place on Neilson Park.

Action - JM to look into who currently has the key for the notice board and ask if it can be handed over to the CC.

**Next CC Meeting: Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 7.00 pm**

**Next Events Group Meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022**