



Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Date & Time: Tuesday 13th December 6.40pm

Location: Zoom

Present:

Therese Laing (Chair) John Hamilton (Treasurer),
Jack Worden (Vice Chair), Jim Graham, Erica
Muirhead, Robert Moran, Tom Trotter, Robert Flood
(Knox Academy), Falko Burkert, Morgwyn Davies,

George McGuire, Callum Donohoe (Knox Academy
pupil rep), Hannah Pathirana (Knox Academy pupil
rep), Diann Govennlock (Connected Communities
Manager)

In Attendance:

Cameron Ritchie (Press Officer)

Item	Topic	Action
1	<p>Therese welcomed everyone to the meeting. Betsy Fowler joined the meeting as a prospective HDCC member.</p> <p>(Jim, Malcolm, Morgwn, Karen, John, Therese, Stuart in attendance for voting early)</p> <p>EM and JW using proxy votes in favour of BF joining the HDCC.</p> <p>BF joined the meeting and discussed why she would like to join the HDCC. The HDCC voted in favour of Betsy joining the HDCC.</p> <p>JG left the meeting,</p> <p>Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dawn Alexander (Minutes), Erica Muirhead, John McMillian	
2	<p>Adoption of Minutes from CC meeting November 8th 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shamin Akhtar was in attendance. <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">SA to confirm with ELC if due process was followed to remove the funding from the nursery.TL to share local place plans with the HDCCTL to share training Local Place Plan training dateMD to circulate community benefits proposal and questions to HDCCHDCC to review parking email shared by JW and send comments back.MD to set up a HDCC twitter account	

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	<p>g) JH to look into the facebook group and see if this can be changed to a page.</p>	
3	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a. Nursery parents (in attendance)</p> <p>Katie Berry and Ben Parkers who are parent representatives attended the nursery as parents from the Pear Tree Nursery in Haddington. Pear Tree is one of three Bright Star nurseries in Haddington.</p> <p>The Scottish government provide a ring fenced pot of funding to each LA for childcare for aged 3-4 and some eligible 2 year olds. This is approx 2.5 days per week for 3-5 year olds.</p> <p>ELC made the decision to withdraw the funding from these nurseries in August and parents were informed at the last minute and took effect on 7th October this year. There are now children who can't take their hours at the nurseries, they are being offered places at the local council nurseries. There is no other private option nurseries in Haddington. There is no information on why funded hours can't be used at Pear Tree. Parents believe the funding has been withdrawn due to an issue with one of the nurseries and their care inspectorate report.</p> <p>Looking for support from HDCC and ELC to understand what is happening and why this has happened. Have not had any response from any of the councillors except Tom Trotter.</p> <p>SA added that colleagues in ELC have responded when correspondence has been received. The Scottish Government have national standards which ELC must comply with. ELC was engaging with the nurseries to try and improve the standards however this has not happened. This is supported by the Care Inspectorate Report.</p> <p>JW expressed sympathies to the parents of the nursery however the HDCC was not the right forum for this to be discussed with councillors. JW suggested a specific meeting be set up with the nursery and ELC councillors. TT added the issue is with Bright Stars who have been informed what they need to do to have the funding reinstated. MV suggested if due process hasn't been followed then we should definitely challenge this, TL asked SA to find out if due process had been followed by East Lothian Council. GM supported TT and SA in their statements. FB asked if there were changes made to the nursery once the owners changed?</p> <p>Action - SA to confirm with ELC if due process was followed to remove the funding from the nursery.</p> <p>b. Sharon Boyle (in attendance) - sustainability</p> <p>Sustainable Haddington started in 2007 and we have now reawakened that group. The group is focusing on 3 key points, what they're planning, what's already achieved and what the plans are for the future.</p>	MV

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - doing - reducing waste, build community growing, support biodiversity - planning and the future - Lil festival, Olio app, linked up with supporting hedgehogs, allotments, link into community garden (7 plots available) <p>Sharon is happy to be contacted if anyone would like to be involved.</p> <p>Action - TL to share Sharon Boyle's email address.</p> <p>c. ALECC</p> <p>TL provided an update from the meeting.</p> <p>Local Place Plans (LPP) are community led plans prepared by a community body eg Community Council. LPPs must have regard for the Local Development Plan prepared by the Council. ELC have created an information guide which TL will share the website link to. TL and MD are attending a training event, there is another one that people can attend in March. TL will send details of March training date.</p> <p>Community Benefits - ALECC are looking into how these are shared across the towns in East Lothian and how the funding received is shared and applied for. A proposal is being drawn up and will be circulated for voting on. MD and JW are on the working group. HDCC will need to decide if they want to vote for this proposal.</p> <p>JW spoke to Chris Bruce from East Lammermuir who have already been receiving funding. They receive £5,000 a year which has risen to £100,000 per year.</p> <p>Belton will attend a HDCC meeting to give an update.</p> <p>MD added that any decision will only come into effect for any new benefits not any existing ones. There is also no requirement for the companies to provide community benefits.</p> <p>MD has been emailed a proposal with questions that he will circulate. This should be discussed at the next HDCC meeting.</p> <p>HDCC suggested we agree in principle and MD and JW attend the next meeting on this.</p> <p>d. Armistice Day</p> <p>TL thanked everyone for their help and support on the day. Next year, Lord Lieutenant would like to be invited to lay wreath at Memorial Garden.</p> <p>e. Parking</p> <p>JW has circulated an email for HDCC to review and provide feedback on.</p>	

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	<p>MV requested clarification on the provision of a shuttle bus between the new shopping centre for council employees. MV asked if the idea is that the council employees park in the shopping centre? JW said yes this is one suggestion for supporting the parking issues.</p> <p>JW is seeking unanimity that the HDCC are against charging for parking in the town.</p> <p>Action - Comments on parking strategy to be sent to JW.</p> <p>f. Survey</p> <p>TL, DA, MW and KG are going to meet in the new year to brainstorm how the survey will move forward.</p>	
4	<p>Community Reports</p> <p>a. Knox Academy</p> <p>Prelims have recently finished and end of term activities are taking place including the S6 panto and christmas dance.</p> <p>Working on distributing achievement ties which was brought in a few years ago. The LGBT+ group has received an award to recognise the hard work the school has made to become a more inclusive environment.</p> <p>Eco committee is busy planning the litter pick over which is a partnership with one of the Pear Tree nurseries.</p> <p>Partnering with Lil to organise a clothes swap, inviting teachers and pupils across the school to contribute to the circular economy.</p> <p>18th January we will be hosting an annual careers fair. This is a great event with over 50 organisations coming in who will set up stalls and chat to pupils.</p> <p>Knox's Diversity evening will take place on the 9th February.</p> <p>JW left the meeting.</p> <p>3rd December the S6 teams from the Young Enterprise were at the Gyle Centre selling their products.</p> <p>b. Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership</p> <p>The last meeting took place on the 1st December, these take place every 2 months and there are 2 reps from HDCC. The next meeting is 9th February 2023, DG will share the dates with KG for 2023. KG, SA, DG and the LAP Chair have had a meeting to discuss the area plan. The plan will be a refresh, SA has requested up to date statistics from the council to support in updating the plan. This will be shared with HDCC in due course.</p> <p>c. Tenants and Residents Association Updates</p>	

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	<p>. Haddington East are attending the panto as a group this month.</p> <p>d. Police, CAPP and PSP</p> <p>Emma (Police) was invited to the meeting however there was no response. MD has received the police report and distributed this. The next CAPP meeting is on the 19th December from 6.30pm.</p> <p>MV asked what the appropriate channel would be for requesting a review of the crossing at Athelstaneford school and could a crossing be put there for pupils. SA suggested MV get in touch with transportation at ELC. SA can send the details of what criteria is needed to get a new crossing.</p> <p>e. Youth Network</p> <p>The Children and Youth Network is due to meet on the 19th January however it may be postponed.</p> <p>f. Blooming Haddington</p> <p>AGM took place and the Chair will be Frances Wright and the Treasurer will be Graham Yarwood and there is no secretary, there are some new committee members and volunteers but more volunteers are required.</p>	
5	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Fraser has been in touch about the removal of the old bus stop. Helen has copied the CC into an email to ELC. There was a response saying this will be removed in January. • There have been comments about industrial units next to the retail park. • There was a few comments online about the Christmas lights being turned on early, however this was due to the rain. RM advised he 	

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	<p>has been involved as a helper on this and would like to thank Chris McEwen and the others for their support. TL thanked the Events Group for the sterling work that has been done to ensure the lights are looking wonderful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to update the website as according to the website there is no secretary or vice chair. TL advised DA would do this over the Christmas Holidays. • We also need to establish who has access to the HDCC facebook and whether this should be a group or a page. TBD under AOB. • SP has sent a card to Susan Farmer to thank her for her work on the audit. 	
6	<p>Councillors Corner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TL has circulated an email from JMc who has circulated the learning strategy and other documents which can be shared. • RM asked when the Town Hall Clock was going to get sorted. SA will follow this up. • KG raised concerns about speeding at Pencaitland Road, several members of the community have raised this. A response was received from Craig Hoy who said that traffic counts were done in 2017 and 2020 therefore there have been new builds etc has changed since then and it doesn't seem like anything has been done. There is also only one crossing and not one at Clerkington Road, because of people travelling fast. TT advised that any incidents need to be reported. SA advised this can also be raised at the CAPP meeting as a priority and there will be police presence there. BF asked if there were community volunteers that do the speed cameras. TT advised the police are discussing this at the moment. 	
7	<p>Treasurers report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JH circulated this prior to the meeting. 	
8	<p>Licensing & Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There seems to be a lot of retrospective planning permission coming in however these are all minor • An enquiry came in from Gavin Brown who has asked the council if they can use one of the industrial units at the retail park to put a gym in. The council turned this down and Gavin is asking for HDCC support to get this overturned. Some members thought this would have been rejected due to parking. MD to email GB and advise we are looking into it. MDP to email JMc to ask for more information on this. 	
9	<p>Community Council subgroups</p>	

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	<p>a. Events group</p> <p>TL thanked everyone for their contributions to the Christmas lights.</p> <p>b. Inclusion & Accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This group was set up to support those more marginalised in the community and how they can access the HDCC. The sub group has had interest but been sporadic. TL and KG have had a recent meeting to see how we can make this work better. It needs to have more ownership but HDCC and also potentially a HDCC sub group facebook page. There have been a couple of people starting in the new group from New Beginnings who have made great contributions. JH suggested holding meetings via zoom to encourage inclusion. KG advised the meetings have moved to the Community Hospital to allow the meetings to be hybrid. There was a discussion on whether or not a separate meeting was required, KG emphasised the group is about giving these people a voice and making it easy for them to feed into the HDCC meetings and the town as a whole rather than coming to HDCC meetings. 	
10	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TL asked if anyone would like to volunteer to set up a twitter account. MD advised he could do this. GMc advised the HDCC would need to figure out where the main audience is to determine what the best social media platform to use would be. FB advised we also have a notice board and website. TL advised now we have the notice board we can use this more. JH added that the person who hosts our website has asked what we want to do with the website as he is going to stop handling these. JH suggested we hand this over to Peters replacement and see if they are able to do this. MD added that we should have a twitter account and agreed he would take responsibility for this. We need to change the FB group to a page. JH to look into the facebook page. TL thanked all the staff at M&CO and offered her condolences about the shop closing down. 	

Next meeting: Tuesday 10th January 2023