



Royal Burgh of Haddington and District Community Council

Date & Time: Tuesday 11^h November 2023 at 7 pm

Location: Knox Academy

Present: Therese Laing (Chair)
Jack Worden (Vice Chair)
Morgwn Davies (Correspondence Secretary, Planning Liaison Officer)
Susan Forgie (Minutes Secretary)
Malcolm Vickers
Falko Burkert
Stuart Pe-Win
Betsy Fowler
Erica Muirhead
Robert Moran
David Barrett
Christine Read
Diann Govenlock (connected Communities)
Robert Flood (Knox Academy)
Hannah Bateman (Knox Academy)
Connel Bunting (Knox Academy)
Natalie Campbell (Knox Academy)
Cameron Richie (Journalist - East Lothian Courier)
George McGuire (Councillor)
Tom Trotter (Councillor)
Shamin Akhtar (Councillor)

Apologies: John Hamilton (Treasurer)
James Graham
Christoph Crepaz
Craig Douglas
Stuart Baxter (Connected Communities Manager)
John McMillan (Councillor)

Item	Topic	Action
1	AGM 2023 WELCOME TL welcomed everyone to the AGM. She referred everyone to the Chairperson Report. The chair thanked the Community Councillors, the four ELC Councillors, the Area Partnership, Knox Academy, and	



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	<p>all the other community groups who have supported her throughout the year. It hasn't always been an easy year. Most of the office-bearers are new and have been learning on their feet. The Chair underlined that HDCC members all volunteers sharing the same aim, to make Haddington and Lammermuir District the best it can be for everyone in our communities. HDCC has continued to foster deeper community links and the report highlights some of the areas where it has played an important role.</p> <p>JW thanked the chair for all her hard work during the year and highlighted the difficulties she had experienced in dealing with a situation where there was no formal prearranged handover. He stated that the chair had, however, picked up the pieces and things continually improved throughout the year with large turnouts for events such as Remembrance Day. He also noted that the ELC and Knox Academy had both commented on improved relationships with HDCC</p> <p>Election Of Office Bearers</p> <p>TT thanked HDCC for all of its work this past year.</p> <p>Election Results</p> <p>CHAIR - Therese Laing (FB/SPW) - elected unopposed. VICECHAIR - Jack Worden (BF/SP - elected unopposed. TREASURER - John Hamilton (EM/RM) - elected unopposed. SECRETARY - Morgwn Davies (JW/CR) elected unopposed. PLANNING LIAISON OFFICER - Morgwn Davies (MV/RM) - elected unopposed.</p> <p>Annual Accounts</p> <p>In JH's absence, TL proposed to postpone this until the next meeting which was agreed.</p>	



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2	<p>TL proposed changing the order of the meeting and bring Planning forward in consideration of the deputation who attended because of concerns about the planning application for a family park at East Fortune. This would allow them to choose whether or not they'd like to stay for the whole meeting.</p> <p>East Fortune was discussed at the HDCC meeting in March 2023. At that meeting, it was agreed that another meeting should be held in the village of Athelstaneford so that the villagers could have their say. The Planning subgroup met recently and emailed their findings to CC members. She handed over to MD.</p> <p>MD presented the Planning subgroup decisions,</p> <p>Brown Street: The Planning subgroup had no objection to the demolition of the building in Brown Street.</p> <p>East Links Family Park: The Planning subgroup's recommendation is to object to the relocation to East Fortune of East Links Family Park. The subgroup's draft response has been circulated and unless the CC says no, the objections will be submitted by Friday 10th November 2023. The objections are:- the lack of public transport, no pedestrian access, only 8 bike racks versus 200/250 car parking spaces and it doesn't comply with the LDP or NPF4, volume of traffic will be much higher and impact on the village of Athelstaneford, traffic coming from the west will go through East Linton, loss of arable land, development creep, the proximity of some of the features to the village.</p> <p>The Planning subgroup decided to object on this basis, overwhelmingly guided by the view of local people. It was not an ideal location for a family park because of access routes.</p> <p>Decision: Unanimous agreement to object. MD would send letter of objection to ELCC.</p> <p>Further Discussion: DB said that such a large development should be called in to a full planning committee meeting. MD said that the local community has asked the CC to object, and it has. Application will definitely go to planning committee because of the size.</p> <p>MV The objections shared at the Athelstaneford meeting were sincere. The feeling that they don't want the development to go ahead is strong and genuine. The CC is here to listen to these sincerely held views and they have shown that they understand the impact of the development. Thanks to the CC for their decision.</p>	MD



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	<p>TL thanked all the residents who attended and said that she hoped that HDCC had represented their views and concerns.</p>	



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3	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>P3 paragraph 6: should read individual community councillors (and not individuals)</p> <p>Minutes from CC meeting Tuesday 10th October 2023 adopted.</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday</p> <p>TL thanked everyone who walked the parade or helped marshal it. There was a good turnout and many positive comments.</p> <p>FB asked if the parade end at the War Memorial at Memorial Park in the future.</p> <p>TL to explore for next year but cited problems with blocking off the crossroads.</p> <p>JW thought this was a good point and the CC would have to deal with the traffic issues involved.</p> <p>SA Thanked everyone involved, especially the Knox Academy pupils who helped serve teas and coffees in the West Church.</p> <p>VOiCE</p> <p>TL reminded everyone that at the June meeting, when they still didn't have a minute taker, she asked if anyone knew of an App which could record meetings and then transcribe to Word. At the June meeting, DB had offered to look into it. DB has suggested using Voice but as we now have a Minute taker TL wondered if there was still a need for it.</p> <p>DB had asked to circulate a training date, which had been done. To date TL has received no other names to join DB on the training. One of the areas DB thought it would be a useful tool for the Local Place Plan. TL will ask CC to discuss this further at the Town Centre subgroup meeting.</p> <p>DB also explained that it was a tool for wider community engagement and to assess outcome measurements.</p> <p>There is an online training session on Thursday 9th November from 10-12. SF to try and attend.</p>	<p>TL</p> <p>TL/CC</p> <p>SF</p>



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	<p>Climate Change Strategy</p> <p>BF has checked the links and found them all to be legitimate links to recognised documents. Sees no reason not to support the document. CC should read the document and agree to support it. MD to organise this.</p> <p>Voting</p> <p>TL emphasised the importance of voting for/against issues. When emails are sent that require a reply, this will be in the subject line so it can be seen immediately.</p> <p>Funding Officer</p> <p>DB suggested a funding officer be appointed to access monies from Communities Scotland. TL thought this was a good idea which would also be very useful for the Town Centre subgroup.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>TL</p> <p>TL/CC</p>



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4	<p>Community Reports</p> <p>a. Knox Academy – Poppy Scotland was a huge success for pupils. Encouraged the inclusion of younger pupils who get a lot of useful experience from taking part.</p> <p>The quiz night with OKC was a successful evening and great fun. The pupils would like to take part in the OCK Burns Night in January 2024.</p> <p>Pupil Council: Going well. Pupils’ voices have been very loud and it is great to see S1 and S2 taking part so effectively.</p> <p>The Pupil Council is issuing a new framework, the UN Sustainable Development Goals. This has proved a good way of provoking discussion in the council which is for younger pupils but has representation from all parts of the school.</p> <p>Children in Need: The pupils are going around the primary school and are helping at St Martinmas at St Mary’s in exchange for a donation to C in N.</p> <p>Grease The Musical: This will take place in June 2024 and will be the first big event since COVID.</p> <p>Young Enterprise: Raised over £150 at a bake sale. The balance is to go towards producing tote bags with a logo on it. They will be at the Gyle on 2/12.</p> <p>YPI Final The judges were TL and GM. The judges agreed that it was really difficult to judge. GM and TL said the presentations were excellent and congratulated all involved. 5 Teams took part and the winning team, Love Oliver, won £3k for their chosen charity.</p> <p>b. Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership</p> <p>DG informed the group that on 26/10 the Partnership had proposed changes to their standing orders to facilitate reaching a quorum. On 30/11 there were a few applications for funding.</p>	



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	<p>A Sunday night group aimed at young men is being piloted. This is in response to mental health issues and the high number of suicides among younger men.</p> <p>Child and Youth Network meets on 7/12. It is currently mapping provision to identify gaps. It is looking at the spaces that are available to run activities.</p> <p>Library services have reported positive engagement with their youth-based activities.</p> <p>Health and Well-being Network meets on 14/12 and is considering provision for older people.</p> <p>Area Partnership reps are JW and CD. No subs are appointed but MV offered to be an unofficial sub.</p> <p>SPW pointed out that subs are really important if reps cannot attend because it affects the quorum and therefore, the ability to approve funding applications.</p> <p>c. Tenants and Residents Association Updates</p> <p>HETRA Update circulated. The community police officer, Craig Purves attended HETRA's last meeting.</p> <p>TL discussed the recent Resilience Training session with HETRA and it was agreed that members should try and write a resilience plan. TL to send Emergency leaflets to secretary of HETRA to post on social media.</p> <p>HCTRA's next meeting is 20/11/23</p> <p>d. Blooming Haddington</p> <p>AGM is on 18/11/23.</p> <p>TL thanked Blooming Haddington for helping Marshall at the Remembrance Day parade.</p>	



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5	Correspondence Nothing to report	



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	<p>ELC do have a programme for works but they do not share it, even though they should.</p> <p>f) FB - the bins on the High Street are always full. Operatives say that some businesses are using them for commercial waste. Can the councillors check which businesses use trade waste? FB asked if the councillors could explore this.</p>	



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7	<p>Treasurer's report</p> <p>John's report was emailed to everyone and there would be an opportunity to discuss it next month.</p>	
8	<p>Licensing & Planning Licensing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) An application to sell off-sales alcohol from the Premier Store at 90 High Street was approved by ELC Licensing Board. b) Application for licence at Wemyss Place was approved. c) Application for change of use to a Nursery at Hospital Road. MD said there was no need to object, JW asked how many parking spaces and how many children would attend since this is an already busy area. TL felt the CC should find out more. 	MD
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Town Centre to be discussed at next meeting. b) Inclusion and Accessibility: BF proposed that this group become a working party that became active as and when issues arise. JW supported this proposal. BF has sent out an email and will organise a meeting in January c) Events: TL - Thanks must go to Lorraine Dickson and her team of volunteers for the splendid firework display. The Christmas window competition will be judged on Saturday 25th November at 10:30 by pupils from Knox, CR and Pat Lemon. <p>Christmas lights switch on 26th November. JW is chief marshall and other marshalls are required. Radio Saltire will be playing from 16:00. Haddington Community Church choir would be leading the singing from 16:30 and Santa and his elves from Knox Academy would switch the lights on at 17:00.</p>	



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10	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) BF has requested that no emails be sent to her personal email address. b) Haddstock - the CC is happy to support Haddstock with the finance they requested.. c) Resiliency Plan - TL The resiliency plan needs to be updated. A single point of contact information was sent last December but the HDCC plan has not been updated since 2020. HETRA is most probably going to write one for the Nungate. Could HCTRA and HETRA work together on this? BF volunteered to work on the resilience plan. d) David Barret - the Chair apologised to DB whose email address had been blocked by the previous Chair. This issue had been resolved a few weeks ago and DB had also been asked to use another email address. DB said that he was delighted it was resolved since he had done a huge amount of work that he had not been able to share. e) Special Meeting: Despite being asked on many occasions not to send emails to personal email addresses DB was continuing to do this. TL advised that a special meeting will be held to discuss this and many other emails and letters that the CC has received from DB. This meeting will be held within the next 4 weeks. 	<p>TL SPW BF</p>

Next meeting: Tuesday 12th December Knox Academy @ 7pm