



## MINUTES OF MEETING

<b>DATE AND TIME</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025 @ 18:30
<b>LOCATION</b>	Knox Academy, Haddington
<b>PRESENT</b>	Jack Worden (Vice Chair) John Hamilton (Treasurer) Morgwn Davies (Secretary, PLO) Robert Moran Erica Muirhead Cameron Richie (Journalist - EL Courier) Stuart Baxter (ELC) Tom Trotter (Councillor) Robert Flood (Knox Academy) Sam Palmer (Knox Academy) Shamin Akhtar (Councillor) John McMillan Councillor) Susan Forgie John Warren David Sissons Christoph Crepaz Jim Graham Malcolm Vickers
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Therese Laing (Chair) George McGuire (Councillor) Mandy Harrington (VCEL) Christine Read  Ava San Falko Burkert Stuart Pe-Win Betsy Fowler

ITEM	TOPIC	ACTION
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; Apologies</b>	
	Jack W welcomed everyone to the meeting with a special mention to David Sissons. Apologies noted.	
2.	<b>Minutes:</b> - of last meeting the 11 <sup>th</sup> of March 2025	
	<b>Approved</b> Accepted with amendments to fun day date to be made. Proposed by Erica, seconded by Jim	
3.	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
a.	<b>New Members</b>	
	Morgwn clarified Betsy Fowler has stepped down. This was checked with Stuart and Therese.  Morgwn clarified given there are only 4 meetings and how recently we recruited for vacancies, that we can ask John to if he wishes to be a full member, John agreed and therefore will be a full member until the election.	
b.	<b>Community Council Elections MCD</b>	
	There will be a HDCC meeting in September - 9 <sup>th</sup> September. Elections are in October. There is only an election if more people apply than there are places to be filled on HDCC.	
c.	<b>Vision</b>	
	MV will send a draft email to TL outlining the roles and responsibilities of members and these will then be distributed to all HDCC members by MD.  <b>AP:</b> MV to send email to TL which will then be distributed	MV

<b>d.</b>	<b>Place Project</b>	
	<p>ELC are looking at all properties it owns. There is a suggestion that the community council responsibility could be passed to community groups, and the properties could be up for 'other use'. This could be a lease, rental or ownership. Properties covered are John Muir House, Nungate, John Gray Centre, the court building and others. The message is that the community has to get together to have a talk about what the buildings could be used for. They will need a business plan for the use of the property. There will be support from the Scottish Land Fund. Councillor John McMillan will take responsibility through the ELC to arrange visits to examples of properties where this has already taken place.</p>	
<b>e.</b>	<b>Local Development Plan, LDP; John McMillan</b>	
	<p>The LDP is with the Scottish Government being gate checked. This will continue for 6 months and will be out for consultation Q1 2026. This is notified to the Scottish Government to be examined afterwards. The LDP is a 10-year plan (2027-2037)</p>	
<b>f.</b>	<b>Boxing</b>	
	<p>A young entrepreneur is generously proposing to acquire a building from his own funds. He is committing £250,000 over the next 10 years for a building whose primary use would be for a boxing club. The boxing club will manage this place. It will be a SCIO or a CIC. There may be space for other community use. John McMillan was looking for the community council to put in the application to help save some money. After some discussion there was strong support from HDCC for a boxing club. A presentation would have to be given to HDCC before it could commit to putting the planning proposal forward.</p>	
<b>g.</b>	<b>Social Event</b>	
	<p>EM has booked Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> May 7pm, at Mazzolis (Tyneside).</p> <p><b>AP:</b> EM to book a table for 15</p>	EM

<b>4.</b>	<b>Community Reports</b>	
<b>a</b>	<b>Knox Academy</b>	
	<p>RF updated HDCC members on activities which students were involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knox Academy is proud to be the first school in East Lothian to achieve the We Care; Schools for Young Carers, 'We Recognise Care Award'.</li> <li>• Knox has received the silver Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA).</li> <li>• Knox Academy's S3 pupils held their final presentations for the Young Philanthropic Initiative (YPI). This gave My Name's Doddie £3,000 boost</li> <li>• Aubigny Twinning Scholarship - Bella Gold (S5) has been awarded the scholarship this year. Bella will spend a month in Aubigny over the summer perfecting her French through immersion in the culture and language.</li> <li>• S1-S3 activities week will be the 1<sup>st</sup> week of May. S3 will be going on an outwards bounds week to the Lake District.</li> <li>• Fund raising for Cancer Trust will take place via a 10k run on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May. RF will send the just giving link around HDCC.</li> </ul> <p>JH asked Knox to supply 3 pupils to play bagpipes in the VE Day ceremony. JH is also looking for pupils to lay wooden crosses on various headstones through the town as part of the ceremony.</p> <p>SF no longer requires knowing what questions to ask youths, for a survey to be carried out for the youth cafe.</p>	<p>RF</p> <p>RF</p>
<b>b.</b>	<b>Councillor's Corner</b>	
	<p>Roadworks at Hargate – Scottish water is digging up the road and have asked for an extension. Transportation is escalating this.</p> <p>Morgwn had been asked by the public about the closure of the cafe at Aubigny leisure centre. Morgwn sent the letter on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April but none of the councillors had received this. Morgwn will resend.</p>	MD

	<p>Christoph C asked Why was the Stephenson Bridge walkway being shut for so long. Councillors will look into this.</p> <p>John asked who is responsible for inappropriate parking? Tim Trotter will find out. TT thinks it is the council.</p>	<p>Councillors</p> <p>TT</p>
<b>c.</b>	<b>HLAP</b>	
	<p>SB provided the following update, <b>Upcoming Meetings</b></p> <p>H&amp;LAP Meeting: 24th April at 7pm, Bridge Centre Children and Young People Network Meeting: 8th May online between 3.30 and 5.00PM + VE Day Area Partnership Meeting – this Thursday at Bridge Centre 7-9pm There will be an update on the local outcome implementation plan. An ALA Plan update and details of the annual public meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May. Next meeting, 12<sup>th</sup> June. Health and Wellbeing Network – 26 June 10.00 – 11.30 EL Plan – Discussion on the policing review and asset review.</p> <p>I have asked ELC (Liz Gibson) to send out an email to CC's officers to discuss the Changes to Disclosure in Scotland which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April. There is a 3-month grace period but there are implications for all management committees and trusts, sessions can be booked in Eventbrite (Children and Vulnerable Adults) (PVG)</p>	SB
<b>d.</b>	<b>HCTRA</b>	
	<p><b>New TRA</b></p> <p>A new TRA is being set up in Haddington West and their inaugural meeting is Wednesday 7th May</p> <p><b>Garlton Building</b></p> <p>A meeting was held with James Bee (ELC: Housing Assets), Hub Southeast and community members to discuss taking this forward. ELC and community are on the same page regarding how the site should be developed and what it will be used for (Health and Well Being)</p> <p>ELC have agreed to plot the feasibility budget for developing the site to allow the community to conduct their own feasibility</p>	

	<p>study, The council will focus on a feasibility study of the building.</p> <p>HCTRA are preparing a draft proposal for the study and will share that with the council by the end of the month.</p> <p><b>Closes Project</b></p> <p>A meeting / walk around of the closes was held between ELC (Jamie Baker and Paul Zochowski), the Historical Society and community members.</p> <p>3 closes were identified as suitable for the pilot project: Ross's Close, Mitchell's Close and the close and open area behind Tesco.</p> <p>First Advisory Group meeting on Tuesday, 29th April</p> <p>Youth Project</p> <p>Advice from Justine Bradd at Connected Communities led us to alter our questionnaire development plan. We are now working with Elizabeth Currie at Heavy Sound to take it forward as part of a wider feasibility study.</p> <p>Finding suitable premises is an ongoing headache.</p>	Councillor S
<b>e.</b>	<b>Police, CAPP</b>	
	<p>Speeding – Pencaitland Road. Parking around schools</p> <p>The next meeting has been scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> May 5.30 - 6pm</p>	
<b>f.</b>	<b>Youth Network</b>	

	RM will attend the meeting in June	RM								
<b>g.</b>	<b>Blooming Haddington</b>									
	There will be a stall at the farmers market Meetings are being help via zoom. Weeding and watering has been taking place.									
<b>5.</b>	<b>HDCC Subgroups</b>									
<b>a.</b>	<b>Events Group</b>									
	<p>The Family Festival Fun Day will be 31/5/25 to be held at Haddington Rugby Club. The Corn Exchange are also on board with this day.</p> <p>Susan is looking to replace Eventbrite. Amanda Sumner has looked into this and installed the free software which comes with the Event Calendar, but this is unlikely to provide enough functionality if payments are to be made as payments can only be taken from customers using PayPal or if the events group already has a Stripe account. The additional software to allow people to pay via credit card or apple/google pay is an additional \$149/year. Amanda's recommendation is to look at Ticketsource who are far cheaper than Eventbrite.</p> <p>Dates of future meetings</p> <table><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>28/04</td><td>7 pm Knox Academy</td></tr><tr><td>19/05</td><td>7 pm Knox Academy</td></tr><tr><td>29/05</td><td>7 pm Knox Academy</td></tr></table>			28/04	7 pm Knox Academy	19/05	7 pm Knox Academy	29/05	7 pm Knox Academy	
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<b>b.</b>	<b>Town Centre Group</b>									
	<p>Parking is in consultation period.</p> <p>It was noted that there should be a town centre meeting. There is not a great deal of detail on the parking plans. No detail of whether parking charges will be imposed. This was discussed at length.</p> <p>HDCC needs to take a stance on parking. Jack W will take a look at the letter previously sent. This should be an agenda item for next month's meeting.</p>	MD								
<b>c.</b>	<b>Resilience Group</b>									

	The meeting is next Monday.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Planning and Licensing</b>	
	<p>MD felt there was no need for HDCC to comment on any of the planning submissions – they were all minor.  Letham Mains Holdings requested a change of use from a non-public facing plant nursery to possibly a shop.  Comments on this application were sent to the council.</p> <p>No licensing matters to discuss.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Correspondence –</b>	
	<p>Haddstock are offering HDCC 2 tickets for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June. Other tickets can be purchased for 20% off if you are a member of HDCC.</p> <p>An email was received from the twinning association inviting representatives from HDCC to attend Twining Association events. John and Therese attended the opening of the Aubigny Sports Centre extension and Morgwn attended the Ceilidh.</p>	MD
<b>12.</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report –</b>	
	<p>JH reported  Zurich Insurance has been paid  Wreaths have been paid for  Twinning Association paid</p> <p><b>Balance: £ £25,000</b> as of 22/4/25</p> <p>Website license renewal - £600-£700</p> <p>History Presentation by JH resulted in a £20 donation to HDCC</p> <p>Community Bank charges will start at £4.25/month</p> <p>Festival charges</p> <p>VE Day charges (bunting/wreaths)</p> <p>John will handover as the new treasurer takes over.</p> <p>Susan Farmer will do this year's audit for the last time. A letter of thanks should be written to her.</p>	



<b>13.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
<p><b>a.</b> MV circulated an email about roles and responsibilities.</p> <p><b>b.</b> Amanda Sumner will be leaving HDCC admin role as of the last meeting in September. She stated she was happy to continue with the website until someone could be found to replace her. Susan Forgie says she has someone who will take this over for a small fee. She was advised to contact John Hamilton about this. Amanda also brought up that maybe an AI program could replace the meeting minutes part of the admin role. Agreement was met with a trial to be taken at the next 2 meetings.</p>		
<b>14.</b>	<b>DONM</b>	
	<p><b>Tuesday May 13th at 6:30 pm in Knox Academy</b>  <b>Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Athelstaneford Village Hall</b></p>	