

MINUTES OF MEETING 10th June 2025

DATE AND TIME	10 th June 2025 @ 19:30
LOCATION	Village Hall, Athelstaneford
PRESENT	Therese Laing (Chair) Jack Worden (Vice Chair) John Hamilton (Treasurer) Morgwn Davies (Secretary, PLO) Falko Burkert Stuart Pe-Win Robert Moran Cameron Richie (Journalist - EL Courier) Tom Trotter (Councillor) George McGuire (Councillor) Robert Flood (Knox Academy) Erica Muirhead Susan Forgie John Warren David Sissons Jim Graham Malcolm Vickers
APOLOGIES	Shamin Akhtar (Councillor) Stuart Baxter (ELC) John McMillan (Councillor) Christine Read Christoph Crepaz Mandy Harrington (VCEL) Ava San

ITEM	TOPIC	ACTION
1.	Welcome & Apologies	
	Thanks to Malcolm and David for arranging the meeting in Athelstaneford. Apologies noted.	
2.	Minutes: - of last meeting the 13th of May 2025	
	<p>Approved with following changes to be made:</p> <p>3a. John M not here to comment</p> <p>3e – Take sentence out for thanking Sam</p> <p>4d – Garleton incorrect spelling 2 instances</p> <p>9 – change to Athelstaneford ring-fenced £4000</p> <p>Proposed by Jim Graham, seconded by John Hamilton</p>	
3.	Matters Arising	
a.	Actions from May minutes	
	<p>Stephenson Bridge is now open</p> <p>Thank you cards issued to those who helped on VE day.</p> <p>Post Office – Shamin has passed on that the post office is staying in its current location in Haddington. Staff will remain in place if they choose to do so. Everything that used to happen in the post office will continue with slightly longer opening on one of the days. More stationary may be sold.</p> <p>Robert emailed the link for just giving.</p> <p>Team manager (waste Wallyford) responded to the large family vehicles going to recycle centres. Contact the waste department and they can arrange to take waste from large people carriers.</p> <p>Falko – Cross Lane – There are now 4 bins. HECTRA has a walk around with 4 or 5 council workers from different areas representing landscaping, preventative services etc at the end of June. HECTRA – SF asked if they could arrange the</p>	

	<p>skip. In Dunbar the council allowed a skip for the same purpose to be used without a permit. Skips cost around £600/weekend. Covers, scheduling, and overseeing of waste tipping, will be required to make sure the skips are used appropriately. Where the money will come from would have to be arranged along with management of who will marshal the skips.</p> <p>Camping/caravan park at Amisfield – still to be followed up.</p> <p>Still awaiting input on what should the other 2 pages contain on the anti-social behaviour app. Reporting of noise is not a good choice as people have opinions as to what constitutes inappropriate noise.</p>	
b.	Post Office	
	<p>Shamin has passed on that the post office is staying in its current location in Haddington. Staff T&Cs will remain in place. Everything that used to happen in the post office will continue.</p>	
c.	Place making Project	
	<p>Haddington & Lammermuir Area Drop-in Session</p> <p>From 11 Jun 2025 at 14:00 to 11 Jun 2025 at 17:00</p> <p>Haddington Library The John Gray Centre Lodge Street Haddington EH41 3DX</p> <p>Buildings involved in the place making project in Haddington, as part of a wider East Lothian initiative, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>John Gray Centre:</u> <p>This location hosted a drop-in event for the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre Buildings: <p>The strategy identifies the need for continued improvements to the repair and external appearance of buildings within the town center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former George Hotel (now George Court): <p>This landmark building was redeveloped into a mixed-use building as part of the CARS legacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheriff Court: 	

	This building is potentially becoming the new location for the police, freeing up the current police station for re-use.	
d.	Parking	
	<p>Parking group met before meeting to discuss the results of surveys so far. HDCC will take forward what transpires from surveys and liaise with the Council to put in place what has been asked.</p> <p>A Public meeting will be held and our 3 MSPs, Leader of the Council, rep from Federation of Small Businesses and lead for Economic Development invited to speak.</p>	
4.	Community Reports	
a	Knox Academy	
	<p>RF updated HDCC members on activities which students were involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10k run on Saturday 24th May raised more than £2500 for Cancer Trust. Well done to pupils and staff • The new timetable has started • Knox Academy's awards ceremony, known as the "Evening of Celebration," is scheduled for June 18th. It will be held at the school, and the event will be split into two sittings to accommodate more attendees. The first sitting (S1-S3) will be from 6-7 pm, and the second sitting (S4-S6) will be from 8-9 pm • Next year will be Roberts last year on HDCC so he will be creating a succession plan. • Thanks to Rosie and Chris for helping with shop windows 	
b.	Councillor's Corner	
	<p>RM Reported branches are growing over the road on Victoria Road and are dangerous as cars are having to swerve to miss them. Tommy will pick this up to get them removed.</p> <p>Falko reported all the lights at Nungate Bridge are out again. These are repeatedly vandalised. Tommy will follow this up too.</p>	<p>TT</p> <p>TT</p>

	All councillors recommend that as many of the public as possible become involved in the parking consultation.	
c.	HLAP	
	<p>SB provided the following update,</p> <p>Upcoming Meetings</p> <p>Next meeting, 12th June.</p> <p>Children and Young People Network Meeting: 19th June online between 3.30 and 5.00PM</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Network – 26 June 10.00 – 11.30</p> <p>EL Plan – Discussion on the policing review and asset review.</p>	SB
d.	HCTRA	
	AGM on Wednesday 18 th June. SF asked could as many councillors as possible please attend.	
e.	Police, CAPP	
	PC Marco Crolla has focussed on showing visibility within the community and reaching out to the vulnerable. Between 1st May and 6th June there were 370 calls to the area which resulted in the police recording 125 crimes. ASB on High Street and Ross' Close continues to be a problem as does Parking Issues on Victoria Rd and Neilson Park Road.	
f.	Youth Network	
	RM will attend the meeting on 19 th June at 3.30 in Teams	RM
g.	Blooming Haddington	
	Various gardening activities are continuing around the town.	RM

	TL thanked Blooming Haddington for the sterling work that they do all year round.	
5.	HDCC Subgroups	
a.	Events Group	
	Work has already started on next year's event (festival). It was a great success this year. The festival week will move forward 1 week to avoid clashing with the same weekend as Tranent. A huge thanks to all who helped.	
b.	Resilience Group	
	Meeting on 17 th June in Knox 7pm - 9pm	
c.	Parking	
	Please see Matters Arising	
d.	Town Centre Group	
	The town centre group is now working closely with HCTRA on the 3 closes and trying to secure premises for a Youth project.	
6.	Planning and Licensing	
	<p>The Cheese Lady will be selling wine in her shop.</p> <p>The Premier Shop has been told to remove their lights. Morgwn suggests switching them off until they are removed.</p> <p>Morgwn will be stepping down from being planning officer in September.</p>	MD
7.	Correspondence –	

	<p>East Lothian Council is updating its Open Space Strategy for 2025 and has launched a public consultation to gather feedback on the quality, quantity, and accessibility of open spaces. This review aims to protect and enhance publicly accessible open spaces and identify areas for improvement and potential new locations.</p> <p>Morgwn attended the Brunton at the Corn Exchange and enjoyed the Haddstock event.</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour in the park and the area around the park – younger children are involved normally around teatime. They are damaging tiles etc. Susan F reported this to the police with exactly what happened. Susan to follow up.</p> <p>Morgwn has requested that the form on the HDCC website be removed as there is too much spam being sent through. If people would like to contact HDCC, then email all@haddingtoncc.org.uk</p> <p>JM has sent a couple of emails to all@haddingtoncc.org.uk and these will be forwarded to all HDCC members.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>SF</p> <p>AS</p>
8.	<p>Treasurer's Report –</p> <p>JH reported</p> <p>Balance: £23,000 as of 6/25</p> <p>There has been notification of £15000 for admin next year.</p> <p>This will be the last year of Susan being external auditor – she has saved HDCC lots of money to date by not having to pay going rates.</p> <p>Funding requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1500 for Lammermuir Larder to fund a new initiative to open a food shop. Shoppers pay a nominal £5 and can then do their own shopping. This is also combined with advice for people to get relevant benefits. - VOTE 13 for. • St Mary's School have requested match funding for Chromebooks. They have raised £1406.09 to be matched – VOTE 10 for • History Society. There is evidence of a Royal Palace around the Pleasance. Laser could show the lie of the land under the doocot. They are asking for £1000 to fund an electromagnetic waves geological survey and a bit of digging. There has been no mention of match funding but this was seen as an extraordinary request. VOTE – 12 for • Carla from the Business Association has requested £239.63 for banners etc. This will come out of the monies which was set aside for 	

	Businesses when their Business group disbanded.	
9.	AOCB	
	David from Athelstaneford reported a car had rolled and set on fire by Brand Farm. This has been reported and David wanted to know if John M is progressing with the multiple accidents that have been reported here over the years. George will take this back and find out.	GM
11.	DONM	
	Tuesday September 9th at 6.30 pm in Knox Academy	