

**Minutes of the Gifford Community Council Meeting held
on 14th August 2017 in the Todrick Room, Gifford Village Hall**

Present	Craig McLachlan (Chair) Alex Renton	Jo Allen Wendy Ferguson	Nick Morgan Andrew Hamilton
In Attendance	Richard Pearson	Paul (from Iron Man)	5 members of the public
Apologies	David Griffiths Councillor John McMillan Councillor Brian Small	Adam White Councillor Tom Trotter PC Lynn Black	Eric Thomson Councillor Shamin Akhtar

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 10th July 2017 were agreed as correct. Proposed Nick, seconded Jo.

2 Matters Arising

- 2.1 2.5 Councillor Akhtar spoke to Jim Martin, who assured her the gully by the school would be cleaned before the start of the school year. So far this hasn't happened. Councillor Akhtar will chase this up. **ACTION: SA**
- 2.2 2.10 Wendy will send the e-mail address of the church minister to Nick. **ACTION: WF**
- 2.3 3.7 Jo has contacted Bill Laird and sent him feedback about the Iron Man event.
- 2.4 5.1.1 The pot hole on Main Street and on the Edinburgh Road have been filled by the Jet Patcher. There is a new pot hole on the Yester Mains Road.
- 2.5 5.1.4 Councillor Akhtar has contacted Keith Scott about the missing sign at Tweedale Avenue. He says it is in hand, but Councillor Ahktar has asked that this remains an action point until it is replaced. **ACTION: SA**
- 2.6 5.1.5 Councillor Akhtar has tried to contact Callum Redpath about the surface of The Avenue. He has been on leave, so she will continue to try to contact him. **ACTION: SA**
- 2.7 6.2 Nick had suggested changes to the questionnaire to Andrew, which had been undertaken.
- 2.8 7.1 Nick has been in touch with Stuart Pryde about the missing picnic benches in the park. They have been removed because of their poor condition, but ELC have no plans to replace them. Nick has obtained information about replacement benches and picnic tables. These can be provided in galvanized and powder coated steel at a cost of £550 for a bench and £600 for a picnic table. For an additional £50 a plate can be welded in place for a memorial plaque. This would allow someone to have a plaque fixed to a bench in the future for a contribution to the Community Council. Any foundation and installation work could be undertaken as part of the Amenity Services contribution to the Area Partnership. Jo suggested that we could apply to be considered for the 5% cashback funding from the Coop. She will look into this. It was agreed that we should concentrate on the missing benches, rather than any new ones at this time. Nick will check how many are needed. **ACTION: JA/NM**

- 2.9 8.1 It would appear that the new hole in the hedge by Inglisfield has been created by Hugh Broad as part of the path network.
- 2.10 8.2 Nick has had a look at the entrance to the core path at Danskine. While he acknowledges that it is a bit narrow, there are no criteria that core paths have to conform to and no obligation to make the entrance any wider. It may be possible to have a wider gap made, but the landowner would have to be in agreement.
- 2.11 8.3 Dave has been in touch with Amenity Services about grass cutting in the cemetery. There has been particularly strong growth of grass this year and the wet weather has been causing the squads difficulty, with the dates they visit Gifford timetabled in advance.
- 2.12 8.4 Jo has been in touch with Bill Laird to invite him to a meeting to discuss cycle events. He is on leave this week, so isn't able to attend the meeting but will attend a meeting in the future. He is only aware of two events coming up later this year - the Poppy Scotland event and the Tour of Britain. The Community Council has been informed about both of these events and they have been well organised in the past. Jo will invite Bill to a future meeting. **ACTION: JA**

3 External Reports

3.1 Police: A report had been sent prior to the meeting with the following incidents:

- 3.1.1 On 15 July a report of a minor assault having occurred on Main Street, Gifford, after youths left a party in the Walden area of the village. Male was punched to the face. Positive line of enquiry and suspect to be traced and charged.
- 3.1.2 On 17 July a report of a theft of 2 energisers from an allotment at Southport Cottage, Gifford, valued at £600 total. Enquiry ongoing.
- 3.1.3 On 18 July there was a report of doors of a vehicle parked in Walden Place having been 'keyed'. Enquiry ongoing.
- 3.1.4 On 19 July a report of a 1 vehicle collision on the B6369 Haddington to Gifford road approaching the village. Vehicle has lost control on a right hand bend and collided with trees. Driver of the car and his young son uninjured. Young male passenger sustained minor injuries. Both young males were wearing seatbelts but found not to be in proper child restraints- driver charged with these offences.
- 3.1.5 On 23 July Report to police of a vehicle travelling through Gifford towards Duns Road whereby full cans of cider were thrown from the vehicle. Area searched for vehicle with no trace.

3.2 East Lothian Council:

- 3.2.1 No report from ELC, other than the matters arising that Councillor Akhtar had informed Nick about.

4 Internal Reports

4.1 Roads, Lighting and Signs:

- 4.1.1 Dave had previously reported that nothing had changed from the previous meeting. The outstanding actions were still outstanding as noted above and no new potholes had been reported.
- 4.1.2 The trees are still obstructing the street lights on the Edinburgh Road. These should be attended to before the darker evenings. **ACTION: AH**
- 4.1.3 It was noted that there are a lot of weeds along the edges of the pavements in the village. Craig will ask Stuart Pryde about this. **ACTION: CM**

- 4.2 **Planning:** There were no new applications again in the Gifford area this month.
- 4.3 **Finance:** Nothing new to report this meeting. The balance stands at £8,700.
- 4.4 **Area Partnership:** There is still a large amount of funding available through the Area Partnership. There haven't been many applications, so Craig encouraged people to think about projects that the Partnership could fund. The main aims of the Area Partnership are to address inequalities and poverty.
- 4.5 **Community Woodland:**
 - 4.5.1 The AGM will be on 28th August.

5 Cycle Events

- 5.1 Richard and Paul from Iron Man attended the meeting to hear any feedback about the event. Generally, it was felt that the event had gone better than expected. The people who looked after the feed station enjoyed the experience.
- 5.2 Jo had arranged for Lilliesleaf Lane to be used as an exit for vehicles from the south of the village, which made a great difference. Jo was thanked for the effort that she had put into this. She said that there was no guarantee that this road would be available for any future event.
- 5.3 It is planned that the event will run again next year on 1st July. Richard suggested that Gifford could be used as a spectator hot spot. A local field could be rented for car parking. He asked that we keep in touch to help prevent any issues at next year's event.
- 5.4 The Community Council will gather suggestions and concerns and forward them to Richard.

6. Community Consultation

- 6.1 Andrew thanked all of those who had been involved with distributing the consultation.
- 6.2 There had been a level of support for a lunch club. A number of very useful comments had also been received about what other services are available from other organisations.
- 6.3 There is still quite a bit of research to be done about training and whether volunteers would need to be police checked. Craig will discuss Area Partnership funding with Jane.

ACTION: CM

- 6.4 There had been 115 responses about traffic calming. 104 of the responses were in favour and 11 were against. Andrew circulated the comments that had been received. There were a number of suggestions such as moving the 30mph signs, or installing chicanes, which have previously been discussed at meetings.
- 6.5 A sub-group will be set up to take this forward. Wendy, Jo, Nick and Andrew will meet to discuss what the next steps should be.

7. Correspondence

- 7.1 Suzie Vestrie had sent an e-mail asking if the defibrillator had been hard-wired into the garage and asking about training. Mark at the garage has previously said that it is plugged into a socket that is never used for anything else. Andrew checks that the battery is charged before each monthly meeting. Jo will talk to Mark about hard-wiring the defibrillator and get in touch with Suzie about a possible training event.

ACTION: JA

8 AOCB

8.1 Nick has been working with Yester Estate who have suggested that a new pedestrian entrance could be made into the woodland off the Edinburgh Road. Nick has been taking this forward at his work. The new gateway will need planning approval. It was agreed that the Community Council will make the application and pay for it. **ACTION: NM**

8.2 Nick has suggested to the Area Partnership that they could fund the production of a new paths leaflet for the village. It was agreed that the Community Council were in support of this and Nick will take it forward. **ACTION: NM**

8.3 A member of the public raised concerns about a number of trees that have fallen over the Gifford Water upstream of the bridge on the Edinburgh Road. Nick will take this up with Yester Estate. **ACTION: NM**

9 Date of next meeting - 7:30 on September 11th 2017 in the Todrick Room, Gifford Village Hall.