

**Minutes of the Gifford Community Council meeting held
on 13th August 2018 in the Todrick Room, Gifford Village Hall**

Present	Craig McLachlan (Chair) David Griffiths Eric Thomson	Jo Allen Andrew Hamilton	Wendy Ferguson Nick Morgan
In Attendance	Councillor Shamin Akhtar Daisy Allen (Assistant Secretary)	Councillor Brian Small	4 members of the public
Apologies	Mark Hardy PC Lorna Bairden	Adam White	Councillor John McMillan

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 7th July 2018 were amended to make it clear that items 2.9 and 2.12 refer to Castle Mains Golf Club. Proposed Dave, seconded Eric.

2 Matters Arising

- 2.1 2.1 Jo had asked a colleague to look at the Gifford Village web site. He reported that it was fit for purpose, if a little dated, but could be updated and improved slightly. Via the Association of Community Councils, Jo has asked if other community councils can recommend someone to take on the web site. She has been given four recommendations to follow up **ACTION: JA**
- 2.2 2.2 Craig hasn't asked about using Area Partnership funding to repair the step on the path between Station Road and Tweedale Crescent, but he will do so at a future meeting. **ACTION: CM**
- 2.3 2.3 Nick has spoken to the Area Partnership Manager, Stuart Gibb, who has agreed we should ask Amenity Services to improve the entrances into the park. **ACTION:NM**
- 2.4 2.7 Some trees have been cut from the river, nearer the bridge, but there are still others further up stream. There are differing opinions of where the boundary is between the estate and Council land.
- 2.5 2.9 The potholes have been fixed on the junction to Castle Park Golf course.
- 2.6 2.14 Jo did ask the organisers of Ironman to contact the care organisations. She also leafleted the houses on Main Street about parking.
- 2.7 2.16 Data protection (GDPR) will be discussed at a future meeting. **ACTION: JA**
- 2.8 4.1.2 Craig has still to mention the overhanging trees on the Eaglescairnie road to the Tree Officer. **ACTION: CM**
- 2.9 6.1 The paper copy of the responses to the traffic consultation has been given to the person who requested it.
- 2.10 6.2 John McMillan is hoping to arrange a meeting with Roads colleagues to discuss the future maintenance and liability of the speed cushions, assuming that the Community Council pays for their installation. **ACTION: JM**

- 2.11 8.2 Craig has asked Nick Ferguson to sort out the rough nail head on the bench in the park. He is not sure if he has managed to do anything about it.

3 External Reports

- 3.1 Police:** an update of incidents between 10th June and 12th August had been sent to us by PC Bairden.
- 3.1.1 Overnight of the 4th and 5th of July the police received several calls regarding a loud party at Yester House. All the relevant information was passed to the Noise Team at the council.
- 3.1.2 There have been several minor traffic accidents over the period.
- 3.1.3 On the evening of the 15th of June the craft centre at Pishwanton wood was broken into and tools were stolen. A vehicle was seen parked nearby and a couple of adults were seen in the woods near to the centre. If anyone has any information please contact the police.
- 3.1.4 Overnight on 22nd of July a shed at Longnewton Cottages, Gifford was broken into and 3 bikes costing a substantial amount were stolen. Enquiries continue to identify those responsible.
- 3.1.5 On the 13th of July a complex fraud was reported to the police by a customer of the TSB. The police want to remind everyone not to give out any personal details or passwords and make sure the person you think you are speaking to on the phone actually is who they say they are. Our informant was very aware and was not happy with a phone call she received purporting to be from her bank, and due to her diligence, limited the amount of funds stolen.
- 3.1.6 On the 15th of July about 0025 hours a boulder was thrown through the windscreen of a red car in Walden Place, Gifford. Any information please contact the police.
- 3.1.7 On the evening of the 19th of July a window was smashed at the BT exchange in Gifford. One youth has been identified so far the others will be soon.
- 3.1.8 On the evening of 31st of July a quad bike was stolen from Howden farm. Anybody with any information please contact the police. Enquiries continue to trace a blue transit van and the occupants.
- 3.1.9 On the evening of the 9th of August at Yester Estate, a road roller was stolen and recovered. Enquiries are continuing to trace the youths involved.
- 3.1.10 Proposed date set for next CAPP is Monday 17th September 2018 at 6.30pm at Haddington Police Station.

3.2 East Lothian Council:

- 3.2.1 Councillor Akhtar reported that the Local Scrutiny Plan for East Lothian has been produced by Audit Scotland and shows no significant risks. http://audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/report/2018/lsp_180404_east_lothian.pdf
- 3.2.2 East Lothian Council's Housing Strategy has been launched. https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/27326/east_lothian_local_housing_strategy_2018-23
- 3.2.3 The End of Year Financial Review has been approved.
- 3.2.4 The East and South East Scotland City Regional Deal has been signed off. <https://news.gov.scot/news/edinburgh-and-south-east-city-region-deal>

4 Internal Reports

4.1 Roads, Lighting and Signs:

- 4.1.1 Dave reported that a good job has been made of the repairs made to the roads leading towards Longnewton and Castle Park.
- 4.1.2 A member of the public reported damage to the road surface on either side of the traffic calming bump in Old Mill Lane. Dave will talk to the Council about this. **ACTION: DG**

4.2 Planning:

- 4.2.1 No new applications this month.
- 4.2.2 Eric raised his concerns about planning conditions not being adhered to and a lack of consistency with how this is dealt with. He asked if this could be brought up at an Area Partnership meeting. Craig will take this up with Douglas Proudfoot in his capacity of Chair of the Area Partnership. **ACTION: CM**

4.3 Finance:

- 4.3.1 There is £9,589 in the account.
- 4.3.2 Local Priorities Funding of £1,750 is available, which could be put towards traffic calming measures.
- 4.3.3 Jo reported that approximately £400 has been received from the Coop Local Community Fund for the benches in Bleachfield. We will receive some more at the end of the year.
- 4.3.4 It was agreed to donate £250 to the local Duke of Edinburgh Award group.
- 4.3.5 It was agreed to donate £250 to Yester Primary to buy books for the library.
- 4.3.6 It is anticipated that the safety audit for the traffic calming in the village will cost £1,000.

4.4 Area Partnership:

- 4.4.1 The last meeting was on Thursday 19th July.
- 4.4.2 The Haddington Medieval Big Day will be on 25th August. The organisers are looking for volunteers to help on the day.
- 4.4.3 The Adverse Childhood Resilience video showing was well attended.

4.5 Lunch Club:

- 4.5.1 There were 32 people at today's Lunch at the Tweeddale Arms.

4.6 Community Woodland:

- 4.6.1 There will be a guided walk in the woods on 23rd August.
- 4.6.2 The AGM will be held on 27th August.

5 Cycle Events

- 5.1 Jo updated the meeting on the recent Ironman event. There were many issues which gave cause for concern. These included the marshals not turning up until 10.30, no formal consultation with local businesses, a car driving along the path behind the church and then crossing Duns Road during the event, the organisers didn't contact the carer organisations and the road closure signs were wrong.
- 5.2 The organisers had promised to sort out most of the above, but didn't do so. Jo, in particular, has put in a lot of effort to try to minimise the disruption to the local community. She had arranged the route for people to be able to leave the village, she had leafleted the houses and businesses on the Main Street and she had to contact the carer organisations. Many of these local concerns were raised last year, so the organiser should have resolved them.

- 5.3 Adam and Jo had had a good meeting with Douglas Proudfoot. He is looking to have a system for events to try to minimise the impacts they have on communities. He recognised the high community costs and benefits.
- 5.4 It was noted that no one checks that the organisers do what they say they will do.
- 5.5 Humbie Community Council have reported that one in six businesses had been negatively affected, but it is unclear where these businesses are.
- 5.6 It was agreed that such events can be good if they are organised properly. We will be pushing for them to find a looped route for next year and reduce the length of time the village is closed to traffic.
- 5.7 Jo will talk to the local businesses and put together a report. Councillor Akhtar said to let Douglas Proudfoot know that the level of engagement was poorer than last year and give him examples of what was not done properly.
- 5.8 The members of the Community Council thanked Jo and Adam for their hard work.
- 5.9 Craig will prepare a bill to send to Ironman for all the time that Jo has spent on this.

ACTION: CM

6 Traffic Calming

- 6.1 Wendy reported that the consultation has been completed and shown that the majority of respondents were in favour of the speed cushions.
- 6.2 The next stage will be the safety audit, which will cover all three roads coming into the village.
- 6.3 We are still seeking information from ELC for the safety audit and we need some clarity on maintenance and liability.

7 Correspondence

- 7.1 No correspondence has been received since the last meeting.

8 AOCB

- 8.1 A member of the public had asked Wendy if the war memorial can be restored. Wendy will look into grant funding and will check costs, etc. **ACTION: WF**
- 8.2 Dave has been told that the cemetery will be full by September. Dave notes that the Feuars of Gifford own 57 acres of land and asked if they would be able to donate a couple of acres to allow an extension of the cemetery. It was noted that SEPA will need to approve any proposed extension. Wendy offered to talk to Stuart Pryde and Findlay Marshall. **ACTION: WF**
- 8.3 Jo reported that we will soon be receiving a free plaque commemorating Townhead Airfield.
- 8.4 Jo is organising a defibrillator for Yester Primary, which will also be available for that side of the village. It will have to be in a coded cabinet. There is a potential funder for this.
- 8.5 A member of the public reported the state of a garden in Park Road. The house appears to not always be occupied. Elizabeth Whiteford has twice written to the Council about this, but received no reply. She will send a copy to Craig.

- 9 Date of next meeting - 7:30pm on September 10th in the Todrick Room, Gifford Village Hall.**