



Gullane Area Community Council (GACC)

Thursday 25th April 2024 (7pm) at the Aberlady Kirk Stables

In Attendance:	Apologies from:
<u>Committee</u> Malcolm Duck (MD), Chair Rebecca Hughes (RH), Vice Chair Alan Fraser (AF) Karen McDougall (KM) Alasdair Muir (AM) Simon Paterson Brown (SPB) Zena Trendell (ZT) Martin White (MH) <u>Councillors</u> Cllr Liz Allan (LA) Cllr Carol McFarlane (CM) Cllr Jeremy Findlay (JF)	Ruth Butterworth (RB), Secretary Haydn Edwards (HE) Frank Neate (FN) Doug Haig (DH) - ELC
3 members of the public (plus 1 from 19.20pm onwards & 2 from 19.30pm)	

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minutes of the previous meeting (28th March 2024)
<https://www.gaddabout.org.uk/minutes/>
[Following minor amendments MW agreed the minutes and AM seconded.](#)
3. Declaration of Interests: No declarations of interest were made.
4. Matters Arising:
 - 4.1. Quiet Route – Gilsland to Kingston Update (MD) – None made.
 - 4.2. TTRO Lack of Notice Update (MD) – emails relating to the topic (the Scottish Open event in July) were circulated prior to the meeting. Council members agreed that during planning for the event they have raised concerns and are starting to be listened to, however, further considerations need to be made (particularly regarding temporary road signs and bollards). There are plans for an online discussion specifically regarding the parking plan for Aberlady (MD attending).
 JF raised a request made by a resident living in Drem for a temporary 30mph speed limit through the village during the golf open week. It was agreed to raise this during the online meeting.
ACTION: To arrange an online meeting with all relevant parties (MD)
 - 4.3. Traffic Speed Wardens (AM/ZT) – briefly discussed at the previous meeting and information circulated. At present there are 3 volunteers from Drem (AM included), therefore, council members agreed to proceed with the project. The local Chief Inspector was informed of our positivity (by MD) and empowerment of local residents.

JF raised concerns by East Lothian Council (ELC) regarding the safety of individuals and liability insurance, however, was reassured that the project will include separate liability insurance and appropriate training for the volunteers (by AM & ZT).

ACTION: ZT and AM to progress Traffic Speed Warden project

4.4. Parking in Gullane [90-minute zones] (MD)

MD contacted the individual concerned (use of 90-minute parking zones outside of business in Gullane – raised at the prior meeting by a member of the public) and discussed the issue. It was then agreed with ELC for parking wardens to visit more regularly each week as a deterrent. Feedback from the complainant has been positive. This has started with positive results.

4.5. Public Toilets (MD)

MD has asked ELC how the GACC can help generally going forward. Regarding the maintenance of public toilets. It was noted there are a large number of visitors to East Lothian, particularly in summer months, and there are concerns surrounding the impact of budget cuts threatening the upkeep of refurbished public toilets.

5. Action Log – please note actions in log (website version not up-to-date) highlighting: Noticeboard (Aberlady) work has been completed. 2 noticeboards in question; 1. The community council has an outstanding invoice to pay (this will be processed in due course) relating to the repair of one noticeboard, 2. The potential for a new noticeboard in Aberlady but a funding request has not been submitted as yet.

Parking figures at Yellowcraig were circulated prior to the meeting. There was a reduction in overnight parking during the summer months in 2023 following the implementation of fines.

6. North Berwick parking proposals – No update but remaining on the agenda.
7. Cala Feedback – no update provided.
8. Core Path – Drem to Gullane (AM/AF) – Background was provided on the potential of a cycle/footpath between Gullane and Drem. The campaign itself is almost 20 years old. Several Sustrans reports have been commissioned (partly by ELC) during that time, with the final report stating that all options within their remit are not feasible. Change in land ownership took place, resulting in a change in position on the path. Key concerns remain regarding an extension to the East side of road (also raised by Sustrans and ELC). There are other options available despite funding and construction challenges. With approx. £30k costs incurred, for reports and initial building (at the mid-section). The local residents are seeking member support to enable progress (there have also been queries to JF on the topic).

AF and AM met with Ian Monk (noting the 4 options available are not feasible).

MD emphasised that the community council is a neutral party on this issue, however, would like to act as an external agent of change to help the situation progress.

It was highlighted that this topic should be on the 'On the Move Group' agenda as well as it relates to active travel (Liz volunteered to action & liaise with AF). AF and AM will lead on this for GACC.

ACTION: A meeting will be arranged to include all key parties including Jonathan Kinna with an aim to make progress.

9. Outreach Post Offices – MD was informed of a proposal relating to outreach post offices in Aberlady and Gullane. The current Post Master (from East Linton) has released their contract and from May 2024 a Linlithgow based Post Master will operate both outreach services (2 ½ hours per location on Thursdays). Once all the facts have been gathered the local community will be informed via social media and village newsletters.

ACTION: MD to write to Sam Robertson for clarity

10. Local Priorities Fund – no applications made.

11. Treasurers Report – this was circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted there was a repeat submission from Drem regarding their Christmas lights. GACC does not fund repeated annual applications.

ACTION: AM to discuss with the applicant.

12. Police Report/CAP (Community & Police Partnership) – no report submitted. The next CAP meeting is on 29th May. There followed a general discussion on road safety due to a car crash in Gullane that day and the ongoing issue of fly tipping at Drem.

ACTION: Fly tipping to be raised with the police at the next CAP meeting (ZT)

13. Village Reports:

13.1. Aberlady – 3 topics were discussed. 1. An item to be raised with the North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership (NBCAP) regarding the need to resurface a footpath locally known as ‘Coffin Lane’ (potentially community payback will fund the necessary tarmac), 2. Maintenance of the public toilets as there is current uncertainty as to who has responsibility for this. It is acknowledged that Scottish Water own the toilets, yet it is thought ELC had an arrangement to maintain them (an issue regarding lost paperwork is hampering progress and funding is required to upgrade). It was noted that birds nesting had delayed upgrade in 2023. 3. The premises previously known as, ‘Duck’s Inn’ is scheduled to reopen under a new name in June/July 2024.

13.2. Dirleton – The valuation of the village hall is still pending but imminent. This will enable decisions to be made regarding next steps.

13.3. Drem – AM has engaged with the residents of Drem. Topics raised included speeding traffic, the cycle path between Gullane and Drem, road signage and fly tipping. The initial fly tipping issue had been addressed by ELC removing the waste. However, more rubbish has been left at the lay-by and nearby field. It was noted this is the landowner’s responsibility, yet the difficulties of repeated dumping were recognised. Cameras to act as a deterrent were suggested. Local resident, Jonathan Kinna thanked the community council for its support and financial contribution relating to the local table tennis club. As sponsors of the new equipment, he will inform MD when publicity photographs are to be taken.

13.4. Gullane – There was an incident at Gullane Village Hall in the dark when an elderly lady fell leaving one of the classes. Recognising she has visibility issues it has

since been proposed that a motion sensor light is installed. To date there's no response from the Trustees.

JF raised the concerns of a Gullane resident regarding the 'Big Blu' mobile eatery parking at Goose Green Park. Discussion followed about the vendor requirement for traders and pitch licenses (JF will contact ELC regarding this). Council members are supportive of local businesses with the correct licensing arrangements in place. In this instance, there are questions regarding the choice of location and concerns about the expansion of temporary businesses in the wrong places.

13.5. West Fenton – No issues were raised.

14. Website & Communications (MD/ZT) – Responsibility for the website & Facebook page is changing due to Gordon McLelland's retirement. ZT will commence running these following training from Phil Coll in the next few days. All are grateful for Phil's input.

15. Planning:

15.1. General – A summary of rejection reasons for short-term lets was circulated prior to the meeting (by MW). The data demonstrates concerns around noise/disturbing neighbours as the main reason. It was noted that a recent appeal to the Scottish Government for a short-term let in Dirleton was upheld.

15.2. Local Development Plan (East Lothian Council LDP) – ELC will submit initial findings regarding their LDP to the Scottish Government gateway at the end of June 2024. It is anticipated that the LPP's under development will inform this.

15.3. Local Place Plans (Association potential/submissions to ELC) – Members encouraged the sharing of draft/completed LPP's to inform and encourage collaboration. Discussion centred on an LPP for the whole GACC area, if necessary. MD will clarify this. In the meantime, it was agreed that two representatives from each LPP area will meet online within the next week to discuss.

16. NBCAP (North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership) Meeting – meeting next week.

17. On the Move Group – no meeting to report this month.

ACTION: To develop a list of meeting dates that members attend (RH)

18. AELCC (Association of East Lothian Community Councils) Meeting – no meeting to date.

19. Any Other Business:

19.1. Brown bin collection reminder to the public

19.2. Wind farm fund (reported in February 2024) – Discussion focussed on progress of the fund and the potential dates for releases.

ACTION: SPB to contact Chris Bruce (Chair of Lammermuir CC) for an update.

19.3. Councillors were encouraged to publicise the need for more members. Applications are made via the website, the secretary or Chair.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 30th May (7pm) at Dirleton Kirk Hall