



# Dalkeith and District Community Council

## Meeting, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2020,

### 7.00pm online via Zoom

#### Note of meeting

		Action
1	<b>Present</b> Ann Stewart-Kmicha (Chair), Andrew Watt, Kate Robertson, Cllr Margot Russell	
2	<b>Approval of note of last meeting</b> With some minor amendments the note of the previous meeting was approved.	
3	<b>Matters arising/action points from last meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Licensing Board had not met.</li></ul>	
4	<b>Update on Covid-19 response.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The Chair reported that the hot food deliveries had settled down into an established routine which was working well. Further "hot boxes" had been purchased to assist in delivery.</li><li>b) Publicity. The new Lord Lieutenant of Midlothian had been contacted and made aware of the work being done. He had sent a letter and video message of thanks to the volunteers on VE Day. Lynne Cochrane from MC had sent out a Tweet about Dalkeith Delivers, and it was hoped that Kevin Quinn of the Midlothian Advertiser would be able to write an article to appear in the Advertiser when it was published later in the week.</li><li>c) Volunteers. The volunteers were continuing to be nothing less than excellent. It was anticipated that they might be called upon to help out with emergency food parcels later on.</li><li>d) Prescriptions. These were now being passed to CLL staff or the Red Cross. This was because some of the Pharmacies had expressed concern over handing medicines over to strangers. It had not always been clear which organisation would be taking this on. However, these were all being processed by Midlothian Council staff. A further complication might arise as Midlothian staff were being moved back to their substantive posts.</li><li>e) There had been no requests for emergency payments.</li><li>f) Newsletter. An application to the Coalfields Communities Trust for funding for a newsletter had been successful. Joy Godfrey from Volunteer Midlothian was going to manage this. The Fire and Rescue service had offered to help with distribution.</li></ul>	

	<p>g) Food. A request for funding had been received from the food bank in Woodburn, which also runs in Penicuick. They received £1,500 per month from the Penicuik Storehouse organisation and were asking DDCC for a similar donation. Some members felt that while it would be good to support this food bank, DDCC should also support the Storehouse, the food bank run by churches in Dalkeith. One possibility suggested was to make donations to both in proportion to the number of families each was helping. More information would be sought from both before any decision was made.</p> <p>h) Future. Various issues were discussed including what might happen if the CLL staff and volunteers returned to their substantive jobs and how support activities might continue.</p>	AS-K
5	<p><b>Police Report – if supplied</b></p> <p>A brief report and summary of the Police position regarding the enforcement of the lockdown regulations had been received. PC Robertson was thanked for sending this. One question was raised regarding the use of the cells at Dalkeith Police Station, and the acting Secretary agreed to find out whether prisoners were held there or taken to St. Leonard's Police Station in Edinburgh.</p>	AW
6	<p><b>Councillors' Reports</b></p> <p>Cllr. Russell reported that various meetings were continuing using Zoom. There was a weekly briefing regarding the Covid-19 situation when the Chief Executive gave a report. There had been in the region of 2000 Shielding letters from the Scottish Government in the first instance, but there had not been much uptake for the food parcels that were being offered. She said she had not heard that CLL staff were returning to their substantive roles and would seek clarification on that. She welcomed the setting up of a temporary testing station at the Community Hospital and said she felt there was a need for a permanent one in Midlothian.</p> <p>There Had been several deaths in Care Homes in Midlothian, and the Care Commission were investigating. Midlothian has one of the highest percentages of population over 70.</p> <p>She reported that the Brown Bin collections had now resumed, and the council were awaiting permission from the Scottish Government to be allowed to open the recycling centre.</p> <p>One Dalkeith had been successful in their change of use planning application. The Clydesdale Bank building had finally been sold, but it was not yet clear what it was going to be used for.</p> <p>There were concerns about mental health issues that might be being exacerbated by the lockdown. She said that the Primary schools were doing a good job keeping in contact with families where there might be concerns.</p> <p>The Chair asked if Ward Councillors were meeting and if the democratic process for planning and licensing was being observed.</p>	

	Cllr. Russell replied that the Councillors were not meeting at this time and that the processes for planning and licensing were being followed though some, with the consent of the applicants, were taking longer than usual.	
7	<p><b>Community Council Priorities for 2018/19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jarnac Court/Town Centre regeneration</b> – Nothing to report at this time because of the current lockdown.</li> <li>• <b>Traffic management/parking.</b> – Planning was continuing to have the road from Edgehead to Dalkeith, the C24, made safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Studies were also being undertaken on the possibility of a cycleway from Elginhaugh to Ironmills Park and thence along Ironmills Road into the town. Parking in the centre of town seemed to be getting worse, perhaps because the attendants were not so present in the current circumstances.</li> <li>• <b>Engaging the community</b> – Nothing to report at this time because of the current lockdown. But it was noted that DDCC had a higher profile at present because of the work being done to support vulnerable people.</li> <li>• <b>Communications</b> - The notice boards are in use though the lock on the one in Eskdaill Court had proved troublesome.</li> </ul>	
8	<b>Common Good Fund</b> – Nothing to report at this time because of the current lockdown.	
9	<p><b>Reports from meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board.</b> The May meeting had been a most helpful meeting with Rob Light, the Head Commissioner of ICCAN, the Independent Commission for Civil Aviation Noise in attendance. He had outlined the role of this new body and answered the many questions put to him.</li> <li>• <b>Midlothian Federation of Community Councils.</b> MFCC was continuing to meet weekly in the current circumstances. Although most of the time was taken up dealing with the response to the Covid-19 emergency, other issues were not being overlooked. In particular, concerns over the abbreviated planning processes during the emergency were highlighted and the possibility that local communities might not have their voice heard. Particular concern was raised over large scale development applications. Some questions had also been raised regarding the progress, or lack of it, over Place Plans.</li> <li>• <b>One Dalkeith</b> – There was nothing to report, though it was noted that the evening of this meeting had originally been scheduled as the AGM for One Dalkeith.</li> </ul>	
10	<p><b>Consultations</b> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Police Scotland.</b> A survey of people's priorities for Police attention was on the Police Scotland website. It was noted this didn't close until March 2021.</li> </ul>	

11	<p><b>Correspondence (e.g. planning applications, traffic orders and licences)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Planning.</b> There were two applications that might need a response from the CC. One was a part retrospective application for a house on London Road and the other was for mainly internal works the Tower House at Bridgend, though it did include a request to replace a wooden sash window with an alloy wood-effect finish, to allow the installation of double glazing.</li> <li>• Traffic Orders - nothing to report.</li> <li>• Licensing. Morrisons had submitted a request to allow sampling of alcoholic beverages as part of publicity drives. It was noted that a very wide time slot in the day was being applied for. It was also thought that Morrisons had submitted a similar application a few years ago. It was agreed to check this.</li> </ul>	
12	<p><b>Any other competent business</b></p> <p>A response had been submitted with regard to the application by the Cavaliere to use open space at the rear as an outdoor eating and drinking area.</p>	
13	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>The next regular meeting was to be on Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup>, most probably online. The Community Councillors were to hold a catch up meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm</p>	