



Dalkeith and District Community Council Note of Meeting, Tuesday 10th November, 2020,

7.00pm online via Zoom

		Action
1	<p>Present and apologies Ann Stewart-Kmicha (Chair), Andrew Watt, Kate Robertson Cllr. Margot Russell, Cllr. Colin Cassidy Brian McGuff, Daniel Baigrie, CLL Team</p>	
2	<p>Approval of note of last meeting The note of the October meeting was approved.</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising, not on agenda elsewhere/action points from last meeting</p> <p><i>a) Defibrillators</i> BM had been in contact with various council officials to ascertain what stage things had reached. He was hopeful the two that existed and for which sites had been identified could be moved forward. Clarity over the situation with the Common Good Fund had been sought. AS-K said the funding had been awarded and supporting documents had been sent to them. It was agreed that DDCC should write to the relevant Council Officer. AW was to draft a letter and share it with the Community Councillors before sending. The contact was Verona MacDonald in Democratic Services. It would be helpful if the elected members also were to speak with Verona.</p> <p><i>b) Pub Watch</i> KR reported she had sent an email to the Secretary of Dalkeith Pub Watch but hadn't had a response but that was not surprising in the circumstances.</p> <p><i>c) Wester Cowden development.</i> KR had emailed Mhairi-Anne Cowie, Planning Officer, to ascertain the current situation. She had been assured that there was no need for the Community Council to re-submit their comments. No site manager had yet been appointed. KR would continue to keep the Community Council informed of developments. Some concern for the residents in Easter Langside was expressed should the Wester Cowden development commence before the current one was finished.</p>	AW
4	<p>Police Report A written report had been submitted giving a comprehensive picture. It was disappointing that the time taken to respond to the incident at Cowden Park</p>	

	<p>had been so long. This was partly due to when the incident was reported. A further difficulty was that it had not been possible to identify the black car that caused the damage, even after looking at CCTV footage, other than it might be a black Seat. It was noted that shortly after the Cowden Park incident a similar occurrence took place at Portobello. Cllr. Russell said potential barriers to prevent this sort of action were being considered. The theft of two cars in Mitchell St. highlighted the need for people to keep their car keys secure and not lying on the table in clear view. Prevention was better than cure and BM suggested the use of shed alarms. AS-K asked if there were any plans to organise any further campaigns to make security measures such as invisible markers, shed alarms etc. available to the public. BM said this had been done by the now disbanded Community Safety Team so in the current circumstances there were no such plans. BM said he thought there might be some suitable posters that could be put on the Community Council notice boards. BM said he anticipated there would be the usual seasonal campaign on drink-driving and he would keep the Community Council informed.</p>	
5	<p>Councillors' Reports</p> <p>Cllr. Cassidy began commenting on the success of the Aldi store planning application. He went on to say the work in Jarnac Court should be starting in December. He had walked round the town centre with Derek Oliver highlighting the work that was required. Derek Oliver had had some success with removing gulls in E. Lothian and was going to address this in 2021. It was hopeful that a Food Co-op could be started in the empty shop in Buccleuch St. but the building would need some renovation. The Food Co-op would work on a membership basis, rather than the walk-in method that most food banks utilised. The Guerrilla Gardeners had been working very successfully in Woodburn Drive and a large amount of assorted rubbish had been removed. The rules regarding rubbish would subsequently be enforced a bit more rigorously</p> <p>Cllr. Russell said work on the town centre improvements had been continuing. The lighting was now much brighter.</p> <p>She said she was meeting with Dr. Conlan regarding the deteriorating situation at Dalkeith Medical Centre. A post on Facebook had reported a wait of over 3 hours to get through. It was now possible for patients to book appointments online, once they had completed the paper application form. It was also possible to complete an on-line consultation and an example was given where using this had resulted in a very prompt appointment for treatment.</p> <p>Cllr. Cassidy reported that the artist Chris Rutterford, who had painted the Colinton Tunnel and the Mayfield Wall, had been asked to look at doing something in Dalkeith and he had expressed interest in doing this. Further discussion was now going on about what and where this might be done.</p>	
6	<p>Community Council Priorities for 2019/20</p> <p>a) <i>Jarnac Court/Town Centre regeneration</i></p> <p>The planning application for renovating the large block in Jarnac</p>	

	<p>Court has been submitted.</p> <p>b) <i>Traffic management/parking</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <u>Town Centre Parking</u>. It was noted the Wardens were very obvious in the town at present to ensure parking was in line with what is allowed. ii. <u>Woodburn Primary</u>. There were continuing issues with parents dropping off children at Woodburn Primary. The Police were working with the Head Teacher to try and resolve the difficulties. iii. <u>TTROs</u>. Some concern was mentioned regarding some recent TTROs which closed roads for work to be done, but the contractors doing the work never appeared. iv. <u>Bins</u>. A suggestion had been made that the bays outside Simply Fixit could be used for some of the large rubbish bins that currently occupy space on the pavement. This was being looked into. <p>c) <i>Engaging the community</i> There was still a need for new Community Councillors.</p> <p>d) <i>Communications</i> Need to update the notice boards.</p>	
7	<p>Reports from meetings</p> <p>a) <i>Midlothian Council meeting</i>. The next meeting was to be held the following week. AS-K had selected and circulated some relevant papers to the other Community Councillors and she summarised the relevant points.</p> <p>b) <i>Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board</i> AW reported that some research was being initiated regarding the pitch at which planes take off at Edinburgh Airport. The steeper they climb the more noise they make. However EAL currently were unable to provide the finance for this. An official complaint had now been made by a member of the Noise Board against the Chair over some remarks he had made about the Board member.</p> <p>c) <i>Midlothian Federation of Community Councils</i> The last meeting had been attended by Derek Oliver which had given all CCs an opportunity to raise further issues arising within their areas.</p> <p>d) <i>One Dalkeith</i> Nothing further to add.</p>	
8	<p>Consultations</p> <p><i>Fire and Rescue Service email</i> AS-K agreed to draft and circulate a response to this.</p>	ASK
9	<p>Correspondence (Planning applications, traffic orders and licences)</p> <p>a) <i>Planning applications</i></p>	

	<p>i) <u>Jarnac Court</u>. Some options appraisal had been done. The one chosen was the most expensive but reflected the poor state of repair of the building which might be dangerous and was the one that gave the longest anticipated life.</p> <p>ii) <u>Dalkeith Country Park. Outdoor activity area – Go Ape</u>. There was an application for this area which would be on the other side of the river from Fort Douglas. The Go Ape at Glentress had had a beneficial impact on the local communities.</p> <p>iii) <u>Dalkeith Country Park Town gate entrance</u>. This was an electric gate opening mechanism to replace the one that had been installed in a puddle!</p> <p>The proposed development of fish stocks in both the N. and S. Esk was mentioned and it was hoped that some sort of advantage for local people could be arranged.</p> <p>The Scottish Government Consultation response had been submitted on 6th November.</p> <p>b) <i>TTRO</i> None</p> <p>c) <i>Licences</i> None</p>	
10	<p>Any other competent business</p> <p>a) AW asked for clarification as to why the unspent portion of the money given to DDCC had not been returned. AS-K explained that she had been waiting for confirmation that the way she was reporting the figures was acceptable.</p> <p>b) <i>Donation</i>. AS-K said that in the past DDCC had always given a donation to the British Legion. It was agreed to pay the British Legion a donation of £200.</p> <p>c) <i>Junkies Adit</i>. Land had now been purchased. It was looking as if an Active solution might now need to be implemented. Manganese levels appeared quite high which would have a detrimental effect on the environment if it were to continue.</p> <p>Money was available to remove barriers to allow fish to pass.</p> <p>d) <i>Food parcels</i>. Cllr. Russell said that various procedures to provide food parcels to people who required assistance were being implemented.</p>	
11	<p>Date of next meeting Tuesday December 8th at 7.00pm on Zoom.</p>	