

Dirleton Village Association

Minute of Meeting of 16th September 2021

The meeting was held by video conference due to COVID19.

Present: David Tait (Chairman), T. Drysdale, K. Cornwell, F. McClintock, B. Thomson, C. Hamer; J. Macleod; A. Orr; M. McNie; B. & V. Nimmo; R. Taylor; J. Savadi; T. Dixon

1. Apologies: D. Carter

2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes not available for meeting 19/08/2021. **CH** to issue.

3. The Renaissance Club – Primary Dunes Restoration Project

Representatives of The Renaissance Club (**RT, JS and TD**) detailed their proposals for removal of buckthorn and other self-seeded trees that have encroached onto the dunes over the last 50 or 60 years. They are struggling to find a community woodland plan of sufficient size for the 6.6Ha of compensatory tree planting proposed. However, a potential site in Fife has been identified.

4. Membership

DT has put out feelers for additional committee members but as yet has no response.
Treasurer – **BT** has agreed to continue to fulfil the role but does not intend to get involved in committee decisions.

5. Gullane Area Community Council

TD confirmed that his 4-year term that was extended for a year to 07/10/21 will soon end and as such so will his ex-officio DVA committee role. The GACC now has a full complement of nominations and elections is not normally necessary. Simon Paterson Brown has been nominated as the second Dirleton representative. He is a retired surgeon who moved to the village in 2020.

Recycling has been delayed until mid-October. ELC will issue a letter.

6. Public Realm – DC provided an update by e-mail 07/09/21

Finger sign posts - **DC** to submit an application to the NBCAP for improvements

Kirk Green – Heritage lighting replacements for Church Green and the main Green delayed now up to 26 weeks for the supply of parts. Anticipated start now late October.

KC queried what would happen if the lights don't arrive in time for Christmas lights to be connected. **FMcC** confirmed they would be powered by the existing connection then switched over.

Grassing and topsoiling repairs now complete.

Replacement of the Countryside Noticeboard. Waiting on the Council to carry out the work. No date available.

7. Planning

Auburn House and laundry - no news, still pending.

Archerfield Links & East Lodge - no news, still pending.

Castlemains – **CH** update provided from an e-mail provided by M Teague of MNM Developments. Site compound construction works to commence 27/09/21. Pre-commencement conditions to be satisfied prior to commencement of development. No plans to use the heritage lighting. **CH** to approach ELC to try and get a joined up approach. *Newmains* – **TD** confirmed that the ELC legal team has now changed for the Right of Way assessment. The tarmac surfacing of the drive from Ware Rd may be in breach of planning consent and increase flooding potential and he has raised this with the ELC planning enforcement officer. **CH** suggested a technical surface water attenuation solution. The driveway can't be annexed as garden grounds unless planning permission for change of use from its present designation as countryside is granted. Not known if this is intended. *BT overhead to Yellowcraig Caravan Park* – **TD** has asked if conservation area consent is required for this. Reply awaited. **MMcN** enquired about consideration of a wireless microwave link.

8. Treasurer's Report

Mail drop requesting membership subscriptions is complete. 32No. membership renewals with £565 subscriptions received by BACS. £110 received from the Open Arms + other contributions.

John Findlay art sale – DVA can only reclaim gift aid on direct contributions, not on contributions from other bodies. **AO** met with **JF** and **DC** and agreed funds raised are to be evenly split between DGN and DVA. **DT** agreed.

Gift aid hasn't been claimed for 2 years. **BT** looking into a claim for 2021.

MMcN enquired what happened to the funds allocated for replacement of the Kirk railings. The church session didn't want them replaced as their absence is a memorial to the war effort.

9. DVA

DT outlined proposals for three projects:

- More input from the youth
- Further development of the key stakeholder's project initiated by R Aberdein.
- A new community discussion day to update the 5 year plan. **JMacL** suggested this might be an annual event to get a "shared vision".

DT requested input into developing a new mission statement to set out what the DVA do.

10. Christmas Lights

FMcC requested funds from **G Savadi** of the Renaissance Club and **JS** agreed that he would make a substantial contribution. **FMcC** to provide **JS** with a note of funding agreed and funding required by end of October.

FMcC still pursuing other potential funders such as Archerfield. North Berwick GC have rejected a request. He is yet to ask the F & Gs

JMacL suggested residents and DVA should contribute and suggested a DVA contribution of £2,000

KC stated DVA have significant funds available and should make a contribution.

TD was against a significant DVA contribution and favoured saving funds for the potential acquisition of the Kirk Hall. He suggested a figure of £2,000 might be appropriate

BT suggested a cost benefit analysis should be carried out if we need to safeguard funds. The majority vote was for a DVA contribution of £2,000

11. Key Stakeholders Group

DT to issue an invite to stakeholders for a meeting 30/09/21 at 7.30pm. **JMacL** said she may not be able to represent DART as she has a prior meeting arranged for the Lunch Hub.

FMcC to represent Fete & Games, DSP?

12. On-line Discussion Forum

DT to get feedback from **DC**

13. War Memorial Re-Dedication

DC has no information. **DT** to issue by Mailchimp. **TD** said we should seek to include B Kane and this view was supported by **BN**.

14. Long Grass Removal

Grass has been cut and left in piles below the Doo'cot for clearance and use in scarecrows. **AO** to remind people by Mailchimp as there have only been 3 entries registered.

15. AOCB

- **JMacL** suggested funding should be sought to bring Wifi into the Kirk Hall.
- **DT** suggested a Zoom meeting link to NBCAP should be on the agenda
- Gullane Village Association (GVA) has taken on the lease of the scout hall.
- **DT** setting up a meeting with L. Scott of GVA, coordinator for Gullane Area Resilience Group.
- Village Website – Some issues addressed. Need to appoint an editor. **DT** doesn't yet have access.
- **KC** inquired when committee meetings would recommence in the Kirk Hall.

16. Date and time of next meeting-

7.30pm Thursday 14th October in the Kirk Hall.