

Dirleton Village Association

Minute of Public Meeting on 15th June 2023

The meeting was held at The Castle Inn.

Present: S. Paterson-Brown (Chairperson); S. Low; C. Hamer; T. Lonie; F. Dingwall; J. Thomson; V. & B. Nimmo; T. & C. Drysdale; P Du Vivier; A. Breckon; D. Holloway; K. Cornwell; B. Thomson; A. Scott; C. Tweedie; R. Campbell; I. Oliver; A. Orr; N. Steel; R. Sydserf

Apologies: F. McClintock; J. Macleod; B. Ford; S. Oliver; H. Wager

DT has resigned from the committee and Community Council due to other commitments and we are now seeking a replacement.

1. Minutes of meeting 20th April 2023 approved as correct. Proposed by **SL** and seconded by **VN**.

2. **Matters Arising**

Mobile Mast

Feedback received from ELC Telecoms is that they are looking at various options.

It is understood that The Renaissance Club are considering a mast which might benefit the village.

Internet Access

IO moved into the Glebe in 2020 and has IT experience. The current Digital Line System (DLS) is copper although there is Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC) at the exchange and Fibre To The Home (FTTH) to the new Castlemains Gardens properties. Dirleton is not in the Openreach plans to offer FTTH. Dirleton should be eligible for Fibre Community Partnership Grant – Cost to the customer would be calculated following confirmation of the number of residents interested, available grants, community or Openreach contribution. An alternative that **IO** and **SL** are considering is Starlink – ultra fast broadband via satellite c. £750 installation and £75/mth. **SL** suggested getting political pressure particularly considering those now working from home. **SPB** actioned to issue a questionnaire.

Dirleton Common Ground Area / Yellowcraig's Car Park

Message sent to Robbie MacEwen (ELC Ranger) requesting clarification of proposals. No response yet. **TD** confirmed the land is owned by ELC and was conveyed to the County Council as an amenity to the village. **TD** will review meeting minutes archived at the John Gray Centre to try and clarify. Article in East Lothian Courier regarding access to camper vans. **SPB** to contact ELC for confirmation.

Road Safety Project

No response received from ELC roads department to DVA submission.

Old Village Hall

Meeting requested with ELC. There will be legal issues to address if the hall ownership is to be transferred to the community. Need to form a SCIO or Ltd company. Asbestos may not be as bad as perceived.

Dirleton Castle

Rachael Sydserf of Historic Environment Scotland will provide an update at the end of the meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report - SPB

There is currently c. £15,000 in the DVA account. Income of £2,417 from subscriptions this year to date is £498 with a further £794 from donations and grant for tree planting of £1,164. Outgoings for the website administration fee.

The membership subscription cost was halved this year and we are considering scrapping it for 2023/24.

4. Food Bank - TL

There was a disappointing response to the Dirleton contributions at the Amalfi collection point. Possibly request that a notification is added to the school newsletter.

5. Planning - CH

[23/00487/P](#) Auburn House and the Gallery – Amendments to planning internally to reflect structural limitations and externally garden wall has been condemned structurally. The wall will be demolished and rebuilt with reclaimed stone and lime mortar. CH to review and advise.

[19/00895/P](#) and [21/01382/P](#) – New Mains Steading. TD confirmed that we have had no response to the diversion of the RoW. ELC appear to have agreed the RoW diversion but the path is not fit for purpose and is in poor condition.

6. GADD Community Council - SPB

- A new representative is required following DTs resignation.
- ELC are to distribute wind farm grants to CCs for distribution to individuals struggling with business or life in general.
- Recent pressure on Scottish Water to stop CSO discharges to the sea. Aberlady Bay CSO is being investigated by SEPA.

7. Fete & Games

Event on 24th June. Volunteers required at 9am to set up.

8. Committee Actions

- **CH** - No response received from ELC regarding out of date fingerposts. Follow up required.
- **CH** - No significant change to ash die back on tree opposite Amalfi. Follow up required.
- **CH** - Kirk Hall – no further progress. Churchgoers say it's not for sale. SCIO or Ltd company required for ownership. Gullane Village Association is a SCIO. **AO** suggested it would be better if this wasn't headed up by the DVA.
- **JM** looking into internet options for the Kirk Hall
- **JM** - Welcome Pack issued to new residents. **CH** to add to website.

AOCB

- There may be parking restrictions associated with the Scottish Open Golf Championships w/c 10th July.
- Hops in the Garden event at Leuchie House 2nd August.
- ELC have issued a new Local Development Plan consultation document.

Next meeting

The committee/sub-group meeting will be on 20th July and public meeting on 17th August both the Castle Inn.