

Dirleton Community Association

Minute of Committee Meeting on 17th December 2024

The meeting was held at 7pm in The Castle Inn.

Present: S. Paterson-Brown; Z. Trendell; T. Lonie; C. Hamer; J. Macleod; F. McClintock; D. Carter; D. Arnold; R. Sydeserff

Apologies: -

1. Administration Plans

Members

We have not received any notifications to opt out of the DCA and we have had some new members that have registered.

The email distribution list is separate from the DCA membership list.

Fees/Accounts

No fee is currently proposed this will be reviewed by June 2025 in time for a potential request for a fee in time for financial year end on 30th September 2025.

Funding may come from individual groups that form part of the DCA or possibly from a Market on the Green event.

Funds are available in the DVA / DCA account, which were boosted by the contribution from Open Gardens.

SPB to investigate interest rates with Santander for c.£10,000 investment.

Voting

Members can vote on any issue raised minimum of 8 members or 2% of membership for quorum

Correspondence

JM and SPB will be responsible for outgoing correspondence.

2. Dark Skies Event – DA

Heriot- Watt University will provide financial assistance. They have already paid for inclusion within the Science Festival Programme and brochure.

The event can no longer be held on Good Friday due to staffing issues. SPB to cancel the Kirk Hall booking.

An event will be held in association with the Astronomical Society at the end of January 2025.

An multi activity event will be held at Archerfield Walled Garden on Friday 11th April in association with the Science Festival. Suggested ticket limitation of 300 in the morning and 300 in the afternoon with a nominal fee of £3.

The Dark Skies event will move to weekend of 18th/19th October to take the opportunity of new moon at the end of the half-term holiday.

3. Village Hall - DC

The village hall was closed c.35 years ago. It could provide storage for various groups. The DVA registered a right to buy for the community and ELC have valued the hall at £2,000. There will be costs associated with refurbishment of the hall and Platinum Properties will be making an inspection in January 2025 to assess the structural integrity of the reinforced concrete skeleton of the building.

4. Heritage Lighting - DC

£10,000 has been received in pledges towards the replacement of the headers along Main Road towards the western end of the village as part of the planned Phase 4 upgrading works. We are now awaiting a response from ELC's lighting engineer regarding the scope of the works that this funding could achieve.

5. Local Place Plan - DC

DC has rewritten the LPP using appropriate terminology and cross referencing to policy. Further public consultation is required for the revised plan regarding the proposals for different zonations. Version 3 will be presented at the meeting on 20th February 2025.

6. RSPB Birdwatch Event - DA

The RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch involves a record of birds encountered in your garden over a single one hour period between 7 January and 14 February 2025. Proposal for as many residents as possible to submit their results to DA to undertake a local spatial analysis to inform the village. RS to check with HES regarding use of the castle grounds. Residents may off their garden up for those without outdoor space to contribute.

7. Archive

Some archive DVA documents are stored in ELC facility in Haddington. 1985-1995 paper documents are in a poor state of order.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be the sub-group meeting on 16th January 2025 followed by a public meeting on 20th February 2025, Castle Inn at 7pm.

Actions:

- a) **SPB** to cancel Kirk Hall booking for Dark Skies event in February 2025
- b) **SPB** to look into investment opportunities.
- c) **DC** to finalise the LPP for presentation on 20th February 2025.
- d) **CH** to prepare Curling Pond presentation on 20th February 2025.