

**Minutes of the Gifford Community Council Meeting held  
9th January 2017 in the Todrick Room, Gifford Village Hall**

<b>Present</b>	Craig McLachlan (Chair) David Griffiths Alex Renton	Jo Allen Wendy Ferguson	Nick Morgan Adam White
<b>In Attendance</b>	Cllr John McMillan	2 members of the public	
<b>Apologies</b>	Andrew Hamilton	Cllr Ludovic Broun-Lindsay	PC Lynn Black

**1 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

After a correction, which had been e-mailed from Councillor Trotter, the minutes of the meeting of 12th December 2016 were agreed as correct. Proposed AW, seconded DG.

**2 Matters Arising**

- 2.1 The deadline for the Civic Pride Fund had passed prior to the previous meeting, so Nick and Dave were unable to apply to it. However, Councillor John McMillan offered to talk to Stuart Pryde to see if there was an under-spend. **ACTION: JM**
- 2.2 There hasn't been an Area Partnership meeting since the last Community Council meeting, but Craig will ensure that an extra clean for the gullies in Gifford is proposed at the meeting later in the month. **ACTION: CM**
- 2.3 Andrew has paid £250 to the Good Companions.
- 2.4 The green light is still flashing on the defibrillator. It will be checked twice a month.
- 2.5 Nick has invited the manager of the Community Payback Team to a future meeting, but is still waiting for a response.
- 2.6 Amenity Services have put grip strips on the ramp to the play area and cleared the leaves off it.

**3 External Reports**

**3.1 Police** - A report had been e-mailed covering the previous month:

- 3.1.1 On 1/1/17 an anonymous call received by police regarding a disturbance in Walden Place. On police arrival all was quiet, no disturbance found and no persons making themselves known.
- 3.1.2 On 17/12/16 a garage at a private dwelling house on Walden Drive was subject to a break-in and motorbike stolen from within. Enquiry ongoing.
- 3.1.3 On 21/12/16 a report to police of males acting suspiciously in vehicles at building site on Duns Road, Gifford. Police attended and area was searched for males but was negative.
- 3.1.4 On 22/12/16 a report of female being bitten by dog whilst posting letter at post box, Main Street, Gifford. Minor injury and dog had been tied up at post box. Dog warden notified to try and identify dog owner.

3.1.5 The next CAPP meeting will be on 6th February 2017 at 6.30pm in the Town House, Haddington.

**3.2 East Lothian Council** - There was nothing to report from East Lothian Council.

#### **4 Internal Reports**

##### **4.1.1 Roads, Lighting and Signs**

4.1.2 The road is breaking up opposite the road works on the Edinburgh Road. This can't be repaired until the roads works are completed.

4.1.3 New pot holes were reported near the 30mph sign on the Edinburgh Road and opposite the Coop.

4.1.4 There is only one street light not working, which Dave has reported to the Council.

4.1.5 Dave reported that the sign at the Newlands/Carfrae junction is missing two arms. There is also a warning sign missing and another dropped down the pole near Danskine. Dave will contact the Council about these.

**ACTION: DG**

**4.2 Planning** - There was only one planning applications in the area in the last month:

4.2.1 Retrospective application to reposition the driving range at Castle Park Golf Club. No concerns.

**4.3 Finance** - Andrew was not at the meeting to give the balance.

**4.4 Area Partnership** - There hasn't been an Area Partnership meeting since the last Community Council meeting.

4.4.1 The Area Partnership is keen to encourage more ideas from representatives.

4.4.2 When the Council took the levels for the location for the cycle racks opposite the coffee shop they realised that this location could cause flooding issues for the properties there during extreme wet weather. They have therefore suggested two alternative locations - directly outside the coffee shop, or in the corner of The Square. Concerns were raised about both locations and Nick was asked to look at possible locations outside the church. He will then contact the Council and report back to the Community Council via e-mail. It is important to make a decision within the next couple of days.

**ACTION: NM**

4.4.3 The steps at the corner of The Square are currently being converted into a ramp.

**5 Christmas Tree** - After discussion about the Christmas tree lights and switching on ceremony it was decided to set up a sub-group to look into options. Dave, Adam and Wendy will be on the sub-group, which will report back to future meetings.

**ACTION: DG, AW, WF**

#### **6 AOCB**

6.1 Jo suggested that it may be useful to have a Gifford Community Council facebook page. She will try to organise this with links to the Gifford Families page and to the web site. She will contact Alan about the existing site and consider what should be on the web site and if a new web site would be preferable. Wendy will help Jo with this.

**ACTION: JA, WF**

6.2 Adam reported that the Scottish Land Fund has awarded almost £300,000 to the Community Woodland Group. There is now an issue over the asking price for the woods, but it is hoped this will soon be resolved. The proposal includes funding for a part-time Project Manager post for three years. It is hoped to have a launch in the summer.

- 6.3 Dave reported that the Dog Warden has visited Gifford and put up notices about dog fouling, but it remains an issue in various areas of the village. Jo will make up a poster to put in the notice board. She will also contact the Courier and put together a press release. **ACTION: JA**
- 6.4 It was reported that a couple of paths on Yester Mains have been blocked. One with a pile of bales and one with a pile of manure. Nick will deal with this at his work. **ACTION: NM**
- 6.5 Concerns were raised again about the deer fence on Yester Estate and how it has cut off many tracks within the estate. There was much discussion about curtilage, privacy, planning and access rights. Nick will meet with the member of the public on Wednesday and thereafter contact Sandy Stewart at the estate. **ACTION: NM**
- 7 Date of next meeting - 7:30 on February 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the Todrick Room, Gifford Village Hall.**