

GARVALD AND MORHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting, 23rd August 2021
7.30pm at Garvald Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

In attendance: Phillip White (PW) (Chair), Anna Derricourt (AD), Ian Middlemass (IM), Ian Smith (IS), Hazel Clark (HC), Caroline McGregor (CM), David Murray (DM), David Ramsay (DR), Shamin Akhtar (SA)

Apologies: Craig Hoy, John McMillan, Garry McGregor

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

SA reported that Garvald is next on the list for the establishment of a 20MPH road scheme and that there would be a consultation exercise. SA stated that she will request the road usage statistics generated by the temporary road sensors in Garvald. PW asked about the possibility of rumble strips. DR expressed concern of possible noise generated by the strips. SA said she would check.

CM reported that Garvald village hall now had two security cameras.

SA stated that she would look into the progress of the moving of the Morham HGV warning signs and the Garvald bike to school scheme.

3. Community Council Elections and How to Promote

PW outlined the diet for the forth coming Community Council elections. There followed a discussion on how best to publicise the event.

4. Update from Ian Middlemass, Treasurer Community Council Elections and

IM reported that the balance in the bank account was £24,355.18. IM acknowledged the grant application of £820 for Morham village hall.

5. Update from Haddington & Lammermuir Area Partnership

PW reported that the meeting had been postponed until the 26th of August.

6. Report from Philip White Garvald Neighbourhood Watch

PW reported that PC Boyd had informed him that there were no crime incidents to report and that there might be a free session of bike marking during his visit to Garvald in September.

7. Garvald & Morham Hall Updates from Representatives

CM reported that:

- Child drama classes and table tennis sessions were now taking place in the Garvald hall.
- Enquires are being made regarding solar panels and a heat pump for the hall. Details to be sent to SA.

DM reported that:

- External painting of the Morham hall had been delayed.
- The cooker for the hall had been purchased and the required gas tank had not yet been installed.
- A gradual opening strategy will be provided by the County Council.
- Booking enquiries had been received from bike clubs but the hall is not yet ready.

8. A.O.B

CM reported that because of falling attendances and income, partly as a result of the pandemic, the Church of Scotland had decided to close 3,000 churches, including those in Garvald and Morham, which will be offered for sale. Haddington would reduce down to one minister.

CM further reported that Friends of Garvald church have written to the Church of Scotland to highlight that the building has been improved, is used for other purposes and to request that their decision be reviewed. The Church of Scotland is due to consider the request at a meeting on the 24th of August.

IM highlighted that he regularly uses the red and blue recycle bins and that he and his neighbours do not want the new proposed recycling boxes. It was also pointed out that the communication from the council regarding the new recycling arrangements was confusing. SA said that she will check but stated that the new arrangements will be an improvement to recycling.

HC highlighted in a letter to the GMCC Chair the forth coming Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the theme of which is "plant a tree for the Jubilee". In here letter, HC proposes the following areas for tree planting:

- The Garvald hall orchard;
- Around the telephone exchange;
- The village green;
- The holly hedge at the bridge;
- The path in the Park; and
- The bench at the top of the green.

HC suggested the formation of a committee to include interested residents, Michael Foy (Tree Officer, ELC) and representative(s) of ELCC Landscape and Countryside. The committee would define the project and seek funding.

9. Date of the next meeting is Monday the 11th of October 2021 in Garvald village hall.