

GARVALD AND MORHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting, 3 December 2018
7.00pm – Morham Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

In attendance: Penny Short (Chair) Phillip White (Vice) , Ian Middlemass (Treasurer), Ian Smith, Anna Derricourt, Kelly Wilkie (Secretary), David Murray (Morham hall rep) Sonia Lee, Mark Burns, Shamin Aktar, Councilors Brian Small, Tom Trotter.

Apologies: Councilor Macmillan

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes have previously been approved by e-mail and subsequently distributed by e-mail/internet.

Matters Arising

(a) Resilience Plan

Penny and Kelly attended the Resilience workshop in Musselburgh which was very interesting. The information and knowledge gained has been added to the Resilience Plan which Penny is currently working on. Once completed it will be circulated but it will be constantly updated and Penny will continue to be the Council's contact for Resilience matters with Kelly as Depute. A representative will be needed for Morham as the areas are so separate although the plan devised for Garvald will be easily adapted for Morham.

(b) Funding for Knox Academy and Yester Primary Schools

At a previous meeting it was agreed to grant £4,000 to Knox Academy and £4,000 to Yester Primary. Penny submitted applications for these and a cheque was sent to Yester Primary and gratefully receipted. A cheque was to be prepared for Knox which has been done and Penny circulated an email from the School Business Manager thanking the CC for the donation and confirming that he will keep us updated with how the funds are used.

(c) Maintenance of bench and play equipment in Garvald Park

Phillip was to look into getting play equipment painted but advised this has been postponed until better weather.

Action: to be looked at

(d) AOB

Path Along the NW Side of the Donolly Reservoir

Penny advised the CC that Caroline McGregor has taken a walk with Dave Hapgood and an excellent summary had been posted on the Garvald website explaining the background and asking for comments and suggestions to improve the walk from local people. Also included on the post was a link to Dave's description of the walk to Gifford which was really helpful and beautifully produced.

Action: Awaiting response from local people

(e) Children and Young People Sub Committee

Penny advised that a meeting had been held on Thursday 25th October with herself, the HT of Yester Primary, the Area Partnership Manager and Andrew MacLennan, to discuss the possibility of setting up a pilot scheme for Yester to allow pupils to be transported to cluster and inter-school events, educational trips and sports events within both the Haddington & Lammermuir ward and the East Lothian area. The pilot would aim to bring Yester pupils into a more equitable position with the rest of the primary schools in the Haddington and Lammermuir cluster. The meeting went well and it was agreed that Penny would submit an application form to the Area Partnership seeking £10,000 to set up this pilot scheme. This would be an evidence-gathering pilot, highlighting how many trips the pupils would miss out on if they did not have funding to allow them to hire transport, which will enable us then, after a year, to present the data to the Council to enable them to look at long-term sustainable solutions. The Children and Young People Sub Group, which Penny chairs, met on Thursday 29 November and fully supported the application which will now be presented by Penny to the Haddington & Lammermuir AP meeting on Thursday 6 December for their consideration. Penny noted that she was optimistic of approval as tackling travel deprivation was one of the main action points of the AP.

Action: Penny will report back to the next meeting.

(f) Meeting of the Association of East Lothian Community Councils of 30 October 2018

Penny advised that the main business of the meeting was a presentation by Iain McFarlane, the Council's Planning Service Manager. It was a very informative session with 13 of the 20 Community Councils in East Lothian represented. The questions and Iain's responses were very detailed and an audio copy of the session is available if anyone wishes to access it. The two main points from the meeting was that Iain is happy to be the main contact for planning matters or concerns raised by Community Councils and that the enforcement section of the Planning Department are so understaffed that they rely on local people to inform them if applicants are not adhering to proper and agreed conditions to planning applications or indeed if people are not adhering to the Conservation Village conditions that Garvald is subject to.

(g) Funding

The funding application from Laura Young had been resubmitted and a

cheque had been sent for £150 to the party entertainer for the children's Christmas party.

3. Update from Ian Middlemass, Treasurer

Ian advised the accounts are still with auditor and the current balance is £27556.10.

4. Update from Haddington & Lammermuir Area Partnership

Penny advised that the next meeting is this Thursday, 6 December, and will report back at the next meeting.

5. Garvald Neighbourhood Watch/Police Report

Penny read out the Police Report and no incidents had been reported but local people were asked that if they saw any vehicles acting suspiciously in rural areas they should note the registration and contact Police Scotland on 101.

6. Garvald and Morham Hall Updates

No one was present from the Garvald hall committee.

Morham: Unfortunately, there has been some joyriding up at Morham steading.

Action: If anyone sees vehicles acting in this way take registration and contact the police.

Recycling centre issue: Davie advised that the community are happy for the centre to be removed, and everyone to have their own recycling boxes/bins.

Action: Davie to email the council to confirm.

Davie advised there would be no Burns Supper next year. Mark is keen for there to be a defibrillator in Morham so Anna sent the application for Garvald's to help with the process and Phillip offered his help if needed. Morham Hall Trustees Mark, Sonia and Davie advised works on the Village hall were still being talk about and they would update us as soon as they have prioritised their list.

7. A.O.C.B.

- Oral history project – Caroline McGregor has passed on an update on this project. The oral histories are in the process of being posted online by Mark Mulhern from the University of Edinburgh. The website is <https://www.regionalethnologyscotland.llc.ed.ac.uk> and the first oral history to be posted was Hazel Clark's – <https://www.regionalethnologyscotland.llc.ed.ac.uk/spoken/hazel-clark>
- Insurance for defibrillator – it was confirmed to all Community Council that

all defibs bought and maintained by them were covered under the Council's public liability insurance. The only condition was that a proper log of checks and maintenance would need to be kept but Phillip confirmed he does this anyway.

- Garvald park path – Penny pointed out that the Council had provided a tarred path into the park from the bridge entrance which made the path wheelchair/pushchair friendly. She had thanked the Council and Stuart Pryde had informed her that they hoped to improve the whole path in the park in due course and asked if local people could throw down some road salt/grit in frosty or icy weather to keep the path safe.
- Ironman – Penny noted that the Ironman organisers had decided not to run the race in 2019 due to the low number of participants. She had attended a Community Engagement meeting on 31 October where local CC reps had the opportunity to share their views of how the event had been run last year with Richard Pearson from Ironman and various ELC reps. The news that the race would not run in 2019 had been announced that morning but it was still a useful exercise to discuss what could have been done better. Penny had taken the opportunity at the meeting to point out that the Council should consult and inform local communities **before** these events are actually organised. She stated that there was a lack of consultation for all events and a lack of information provided to local communities but that this responsibility lay with the Council, who are informed of events through the Safety Advisory Group process, not event organisers.
- **Bus Shelter in Morham:**

Sonia advised we are still looking into different structures and want something that everyone is happy with so are still in the discussion phase.

Action: Sonia will report back when a decision has been made.

8. Chair's Closing Remarks

Penny advised that Lilian Pryde was a great source of information regarding any Community Council queries. Enquiries/requests to fill grit bins should be directed to roadservices@eastlothian.gov.uk. Any planning issues should be directed to Iain McFarlane at imcfarlane@eastlothian.gov.uk. Any other questions or complaints should be directed to the Council Contact Centre – 01620 827827.

Penny noted that she would continue to work on the Resilience Plan and would keep it updated. She offered to continue to be the main emergency contact and the CC approved this. Penny said she was happy to continue to organise the Fun Day in Garvald as long as the CC committed to supporting her. The CC agreed their continuing support.

Penny noted that the CC would need to recruit a new member in the new year and pointed out that this would need to be someone from Garvald – there should always

be at least three Garvald members on the Committee but should really be four given the population of the villages. She also pointed out that the CC should ideally have an equal male to female ratio so preference should be given to female applicants.

She pointed out that the Association of East Lothian Community Councils should continue to be attended by a rep from the CC as it is a very useful organisation to be part of. The Area Partnership also need two people to commit to attending so Phillip will need someone to volunteer as a substitute.

Action: Anna Derricourt offered to be substitute.

In closing Penny noted that it had been a pleasure to serve on the CC for seven years and as Chair for six years. She pointed out that in that time the CC had achieved a fantastic amount and the community had benefited from many projects. She urged the CC to look at using the windfarm fund for long term projects to improve both villages and their facilities. As it is unclear how long the funding will last the CC should make the most of it while they can. She noted that it had been a pleasure to work with everyone on the CC and that she was grateful for their support and friendship over the years and wished the CC the very best for the future.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting date is Monday 4 February 2019 at 7.00pm in Garvald Village Hall.

10. Funding

Phillip advised he received one application from the Garvald Horticultural Society asking for £57.50 for a new base for the Garvald Community Cup this was approved by the CC.

11. Position of Chair

The Community Council discussed the vacant position of Chair and Phillip volunteered to take this. The CC unanimously approved this. Anna Derricourt volunteered as Vice Chair which the CC approved also.

Can I take this opportunity to thank Penny for all her hard work and successes throughout her time on the Garvald and Morham Community Council. She will be greatly missed and of course is welcome at any time to come along to our meetings!! Thank you and Good Luck.