

Open Meeting
Held on Thursday 6 February 2020
Town House, Buffet Room, Haddington
7.00pm-9.00pm

Attendees: S Pe-win, D Barrie, G Allan, D George, V Fletcher, M Scott, R Goldie, C Hargreaves, C Baxter, E Muirhead, D Dunkinson, C Hoy(Councillor, Haddington and Lammermuir), R Shearer, A Dunton, G Lohan, A Bellina, D Tomlinson, C Potter, M Wasniewski, F Burket, A Harrison, S Cairns

No.	Description	Action/Responsibility
1.	Welcome and Apologies	
	C Archibald, K Langer, K Black (Anti- social behaviour team, ELC), C Colquhoun (Community warden, ELC), C Duncan (Community Police Officer)	
2.	Previous minutes	
	Agreed and seconded	
3.	Introduction of HCTRA- Overview of ELTRAP and TIS	
	<p>Haddington Central Tenants and Residents Association have made an official application to register as a Tenants and Residents Association (TRA) with East Lothian Tenants and Residents Panel(ELTRP) and to join the Tenants Information Service(TIS).</p> <p>HCTRA consists of tenants, residents and some businesses who have come together to discuss local issues, foster community relations, raise awareness, and take action. We are all volunteers.</p> <p>Concerns have been raised previously at HCTRA meetings by tenants and residents who do not feel listened to. As a TRA we are part of a larger network - our voices can be heard. We are community- focused.</p> <p>S Cairns (ELTRP) is present tonight and can answer specific questions about Tenants and Residents Associations(TRAs).</p>	
4.	Open discussion regarding anti- social behaviour	
	Anti- social behaviour can include vandalism, rowdy behaviour, neo- nazi graffiti, damage to vehicles, drug-taking and drinking .	

This can be reported to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team on 01875 824307, Police 101 and 999 in an emergency.

It is important to report incidents and to continue to contact the Anti- Social Behaviour Team if you receive no feedback or action following a complaint.

CCTV

One suggestion would be for HCTRA committee to visit the East Lothian Council (ELC) contact centre in Macmerry to view the CCTV cameras in operation.

One resident was informed that a CCTV camera was 'pointing the wrong way' when they complained about youths gathering in Neilson Park.

Others have been informed that the quality of the CCTV footage is poor and lack of monitoring may be an issue.

Haddington East Tenants and Residents Association have visited the East Lothian Council(ELC)contact centre. They have seen CCTV monitoring and call handling in action.

It was a worthwhile visit. No more than 10 people at a time could visit and confidentiality is required. There is an opportunity to inform East Lothian Council of coverage issues.

CCTV coverage at the pavilion, near the tennis court Neilson Park seems to be positioned up in the air- could this be checked?

Youths start to gather in Neilson Park from 5pm onwards. A very good job is done by East Lothian Council Cleansing Services. There is lots of broken glass at the week-end. This can be reported to community wardens via the Anti- social behaviour contact number 01875 824307.

Community and Police Partnership Meeting Meeting(CAPP)

On 30 December 2019, some HCTRA committee members attended this meeting.

Police, Councillors, Youth Services, Cleaning Operatives, Community Outreach and others are present. Local residents and tenants can come to this meeting and raise issues. Policing priorities are agreed with those attending the meeting.

On Monday 6 February 2020, Community and Police Partnership Meeting (CAPP) HCTRA committee members raised the issues of parking violations/ priorities at Victoria Road, near the schools and anti- social behaviour at Ross's Close in Haddington.

There have been some positive changes implemented by East Lothian Council and Police at Ross's Close as a result of reporting to the anti-social behaviour team and at the CAPP meeting.

Other Anti- Social Behaviour in Haddington Town Centre

On Fridays and Saturdays from 5pm to 10pm, large groups of youths gather in Neilson Park with loud music playing. Litter and broken glass are left.

Youths gather in the bus-stop on the High Street- they shout and kick the bus-shelter. Police on patrol never stop. Bench seating is needed but seems to encourage anti- social behaviour. There is little police- presence between the park and bus-shelter.

The negative impact of anti- social behaviour on tenants and residents can be huge.

Police do not seem to have the power to move youths on. Police Scotland is able to apply for dispersal power.

A local resident described the lack of police support for a witness in a criminal/ anti- social behaviour case at Langriggs/ Ross's Close.

There are two known drug- dealers in Ross's Close and no action seems to be taken.

Tenants and residents can take a note of car number plates in cases of suspected drug-dealing; note the date and time and report to Police 101. This can be done anonymously.

At Ross's Close there are anti- social behaviour issues with youths accessing the stair to block 1-6 and menacing tenants/ engaging in criminal acts.

Discussion of what constitutes 'criminal anti-social behaviour' and 'low- level anti- social behaviour'.

If it is a behaviour that causes a problem for you- report it.

N Mitchell, Detective Inspector, Police Scotland to meet with Provost J McMillan to discuss these issues on Thursday 13 February.

Provost J McMillan has previously offered the use of local venues like the Jericho Café and Scout Hall for youth activities on the weekend if they can be staffed.

The effectiveness of CCTV currently operating In Haddington town centre was questioned.

Haddington Central Tenants and Residents Association (HCTRA) could create guidelines stating what we as a community consider anti-social behaviour to be.

Some areas in Haddington town centre are becoming 'no- go'.

We, as a community and TRA can ask police to be more pro- active- tenants, residents and young people feel unsafe.

Young boys in large groups can be intimidating. There is drinking and selling drugs in public. Individual tenants and residents have contacted their local councillors about this.

Provost J McMillan mentioned that there may be some movement in ELC budget regarding CCTV.

	<p>Previously, Knox Academy was part of the Problem Solving Partnership- perpetrators may not be Knox Academy pupils. Heads of local schools come to the Community Council to contribute and be updated.</p> <p>Haddington Central Tenants and Residents Association(HCTRA) committee members, D Dunkinson and C Archibald have had contact with schools regarding parking and road safety at Victoria Road.</p> <p>Victoria Inn- There are complaints of loud noise made by tenants there and drug- taking. We are unsure whether the Victoria Inn is part of Pub Watch.</p> <p>Reports about the conduct of a pub can be made to the Licensing Officer.</p> <p>Reporting anti- social behaviour can be done as an individual (Police 101, East Lothian Council Anti- Social Behaviour contact number 01875 824307).</p> <p>Reporting can also come from a group like Haddington Central Tenants and Residents Association (HCTRA) i.e at the Community and Police Partnership meeting(CAPP).</p> <p>HCTRA can request an update on the work of the Anti- Social Behaviour Team in Haddington town centre.</p> <p>Representation can also be provided by East Lothian Tenants and Residents Panel (ELTRP) at senior- level anti- social behaviour meetings.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Open Discussion regarding parking- school zone issues</p> <p>Lights at Victoria Road- these took two months for East Lothian Council to repair. They are no longer working and make the road very unsafe for children going to and from school.</p> <p>This issue has been raised at previous CAPP meetings and at the Road Working Safety Group meeting.</p> <p>Two separate spot- check sessions have been carried out by the police at Victoria Road.</p>	

	<p>A repair is scheduled to the lights.</p> <p>Residents report violations of the parking restrictions. There is no regular enforcement and persistent offenders despite schools informing parents.</p> <p>The sign-post with the restrictions is not properly visible.</p> <p>There are small improvements at Victoria Road but residents are still not able to exit their properties easily at the times when the restrictions are meant to apply.</p> <p>There are long response times when residents call Police 101.</p> <p>Tenants and residents and HCTRA committee members could attend the Community and Police Partnership meeting (CAPP) and request a review of the area.</p> <p>It may be worthwhile to contact the Courier to highlight the failure of the pilot scheme in this area.</p> <p>We can write as a TRA, check enforcement and highlight that Meadowpark has become very inaccessible.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Open discussion regarding town centre development- Whittingham Drive car- park, cycle lanes etc</p> <p>In the past, Haddington town centre has had a TRA. There was low attendance at meetings and a lack of interest. At this time there was serious violent crime and lack of police action.</p> <p>There have been some positive improvements to Haddington town centre but a lack of consistent development.</p> <p>The profile of crime and offenders has changed. Some offenders appear to be younger and involved in drugs- related offences.</p> <p>There was a consultation on town centre development led by P Forsyth (ELC).</p> <p>Questions and feedback from this consultation on 16 December are to be addressed at an Open Consultation on 25 and 26 February.</p>	

	This may address issues around what may happen with Tesco long- stay and some of John Muir House parking.	
7.	<p>HCTRA to join Steering Group</p> <p>There has been no further communication on this issue. Other organisations like Haddington Community Council and Haddington Business Partnership are represented on the Steering Group for town centre development.</p> <p>We will request that we are represented again.</p>	S Pe-Win
8.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Haddington Central Tenants and Residents Association (HCTRA) plan to invite relevant people to contribute to a discussion on Haddington town centre development plans and changes to parking. We will do this at our next open meeting.</p> <p>Tenants and residents would like to know the timescales of the plans and could submit detailed questions ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>At the 'Stakeholders Meeting' regarding Haddington Town Centre development plan and changes to parking/ transport consultation on 16 December 2019, consultants and officials present did not seem to answer questions directly.</p> <p>There were further questions about the physical detail of the plans, accessing the consultation on line, allocation of funding and time- scale for the submission of detailed plans.</p> <p>It would be useful for tenants and residents to have an overview of the process and time-scale within which key decisions/ submissions/ objections could be made.</p>	
9.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on: Monday 23 March 2020</p>	

	Main Hall Town House, 7.00pm	
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