

PRESTONPANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Est. 1975

✉ prestonpanscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

🌐 www.community-council.org.uk/prestonpans/

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Agenda for Tues 26th April 2022 at 7pm in Town Hall

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Adoption of previous minutes
4. Matters arising
5. Seagreen 1A Substation Update
6. Treasurer's Report - Inc funding requests
7. Secretary's Report
8. Ward Councillors' updates
9. Area Partnership update
10. Social issues
11. Built heritage discussion
12. Any Other Competent Business

Date and Time of Next Meeting Tuesday 28 June 2022 at 7pm
in the Town Hall.

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Meeting held on 26th of April 2022 at 7:00pm in the Town Hall, Prestonpans

Present - Janis Wilson, DJ Johnston Smith (Chair), Cllr Neil Gilbert, Andy Stevenson, Tam Gibbons, Graeame Hutchison, Joe Simpson, Iain Whyte, Cllr Colin Yorkston, Elaine Anderson, Michelle Ritchie, Tony leach (Treasurer), Emma Brown (ELC), Jane Park, Alexander Park, Aniqua Choudhry (ELC CDO), and guests from the Destiny Project.

Apologies - Alan Sneddon

Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The meeting opened with Andy talking about his organisation, the Destiny Project. (See their Facebook page for more information). Among other things, he discussed asking candidates to challenge poverty at a local level, health walks, and space at train station for reflection. The kids want to speak more about mental health, they feel unsafe at school and unsafe walking around the streets. Perhaps the community council can write to the school. Can all the council candidates sign the pledge on poverty alliance website?

Minutes - proposed by Graham seconded by Andy no matters arising

Treasurer's Report – the audited 2021/22 accounts are with East Lothian council. We have £11,500 income from ELC. A few thousand carried forward. We spent £4,500 on funding applications and £4000 on tree lighting installation. We receive £800 from East Lothian lottery. £6800 on the Christmas tree balance. £550 to blooms. £86 to insurance. We have £22,025 in the bank of which £10,680 pounds is restricted. The third tree has been agreed upon with council officers at a total of £4700 for installations for the tree on station road. Over £6000 in Christmas tree lights budget. Conclusion - go ahead with this. We could undertake a public survey to do more trees. Walking football - no company email or bank account. Emma brown suggested the money can be donated via the port Seton group - try this in the first instance,

Brass band request. Ask them to fill out an application.

Michelle said it would be good to know the demographics of the groups we are supporting

Secretary's report – nothing to report.

Councillors' Report - Colin - Jamie Baker still responsible for Civic Square. Prestonpans sign - Alan Stubbs said sign would be moved the top of Manager's Brae - builders will pay for this. The land beside Moodies Wynd to be a cemetery.

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Neil - Cables coming into various substations. Shoreline is now further back than used to be. Whoever brings in cables can you bring us flood defences as there is erosion at Morrison's Haven too.

Bloomers group disbanded, UPMO taken responsibility of community garden. Owen Smith taken over, can we have a think about if anyone wants to take this on board.

Joe asked about refugees - there are 37 families mainly in the east of the county - disclosure is ongoing - no dedicated members of staff dealing with this.

The Chairperson asked Colin to pass on our thanks to Fiona O'Donnell for her service as a Councillor as she demits office at the election.

Area Partnership – annual public meeting 11th May. £66,000 pounds of applications reviewed can vote on a project you want to see. Overview of achievements and heritage projects event at Prestonpans community centre - details on area partnership website

Social issues – police report 189 calls, 27 declared to be crimes. This is a decrease on every other month for months. Next administration must make more noise. No police coming to our meetings from now on but sending reports. CAPP to be attended by the police- Alan Sneddon attends. Graham expressed his concerns about the state of Prestonpans - cables making a mess, no notification just arrive and start working. Roads with new tar being dug up again – can the community council write to council about this? Outwith our remit.

Michelle asked as a community council how do we resolve this? The suggestion was to write to the Courier to voice our opinion. Joe said we have no power, but we can bear witness to folks' displeasure - value acknowledging this stuff. Minutes to be uploaded to CC Facebook page monthly.

Preston Tower - no change from last month. June /July before gardens reopen. Doocot looking lovely. Scaffolding still not up on tower. **Civic Square** – met with stonemasons regarding plaque -August September get the square back.

AOBC – Graeme - planning application to Wilson Ave. Amendment to planning application for flats above Margaret rose shop - looking at four flats now

Seagreen to partner with Prestonpans and Port Seton Galas - should ask them to pay for one of the trees. Invite Seagreen to a meeting and ask if contribution would be possible.

DJ acknowledged that everyone is suffering from cash squeeze - what can we do to help? June for example – could all Saturdays be a Prestonpans yard sale month? Needs further discussion..

Meeting finished 20:45 - next meeting Tuesday 26th of may 7:00 PM Town Hall.