

Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership

MINUTES

Meeting of the Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership,

11th June 2014, 7-9pm

in Haddington & Nungate Community Centre

Meeting Chaired by : Monica Patterson, Deputy Chief Executive, Partnerships and Community Services East Lothian Council (MP)

Members (and substitute members) present

Alastair Beck, Humble E&W Saltoun and Bolton Community Council (AB)

Amanda Herriott, Knox Academy Parent School Partnership (AH)

Ann McCarthy, East Lothian Health Network (AM)

Brian Baillie, Nungate Tenants and Residents Association (BB)

Brian East, Haddington Community Sports Hub (BE)

Cllr. John McMillan (JM)

Cllr. Tom Trotter (TT)

Craig McLachlan, Gifford Community Council (CM)

Emily Armatage, Haddington Community Council (EA)

Gill Colston, East Lothian Health Network (GC)

Hamish Hastie, Knox Academy Pupil Representative (HH)

Hilary Dickson, Haddington Community Development Trust (HD)

Lois Finnie, Knox Academy Pupil Representative (LF)

Nick Morgan, Gifford Community Council (NM)

Paul Darling, Haddington Community Council (PD)

Penny Short, Garvald & Morham Community Council (PS)

Rena Polson, Riverside Tenants and Residents Association (RP)

Rosemary Greenhill, Humble E&W Saltoun and Bolton Community Council (RG)

Others in attendance

Kaela Scott, Local Community Planning Officer, East Lothian Council (KS)

Meriel Deans, East Lothian Community Health Partnership (MD)

Veronica Campanile, Policy Officer, East Lothian Council (VC)

Apologies received

Abbi Robertson, Knox High School Pupil Representative

Doug Haig, Community Development Officer, East Lothian Council

Emma de Costa, Knox High School Pupil Representative

Ian Lawrie, Humble Primary School Parent Council

Phillip White, Garvald & Morham Community Council

Richard Jennings, (Interim Chair) Head of Development, East Lothian Council

Agenda Item	Key discussion points	Action
1. Welcome	<p>MP welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>MP extended a special welcome to the new members who had taken up places following the inaugural meeting- from Knox Academy, Haddington Community Development Trust, Haddington Community Sports Hub, East Lothian Health Network</p> <p>Everyone around the tables introduced themselves, and the group they represented.</p>	
2. Approval of the minutes	<p>The draft minutes were approved with no amendments</p>	
3. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB raised concerns about the influence Area Partnerships would have in relation to Council decisions/agendas – he mentioned the recent dismissive response received by the Community Council to the issue of catchment review raised with the Chief Executive. • MP replied that it was still early days for the Area Partnership and the process will allow the group to set priorities for the area, whilst there will have to be some alignment with The East Lothian Plan and Council plans. In this context the catchment review might become an issue for discussion. <p><u>Membership</u></p> <p>KS confirmed that invitations for membership had been sent to the 7 groups identified at the previous meeting and that 4 were now represented here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussions were continuing with the Business Association regarding nominating a member although they were interested - Still awaiting confirmation from Support from the Start regarding their capacity to take up membership - As of yet there has been no reply from the Rural Voice network and KS asked members if they had any contact in this area that may be able to assist in securing representation <p><u>Draft code of conduct</u></p> <p>MP reported that as there had been no comments forwarded regarding the Code of Conduct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BE questioned the expectation of selflessness given that, while fully appreciating the principle of not for personal gain, he, like everyone else on the Partnership is there representing the interests of a particular group - KS responded that yes, unlike work in a professional context, everyone was there because they were representing a particular interest and their advocacy for this interest was expected and recognised. She stressed however that this is 	<p>Members to identify contacts within the Rural sector that may be able to help</p>

	<p>where the principles of honesty and openness come into play.</p> <p>DECISION – the code of conduct was accepted.</p> <p>JM suggested it would be good practice to have the principles displayed at each meeting to remind everyone of these expectations and give people the right to challenge behaviour. It was agreed this was something that could be arranged.</p> <p><u>Communication</u></p> <p>Members had been asked to contact KS if they did not want their email contact shared among the group or if there was an alternate email address they wished to use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was agreed that, unless contact was made at the end of this meeting, email addresses would then be shared. - CM stated that given the unreliability of internet in the ward that mail and/or phone contact would also be useful. - KS agreed that if people wanted alternate forms of contact they should provide details at the end of the meeting. 	<p>Staff to prepare CofC for display</p>
<p>4. Beginning a strategic assessment of the needs and issues in the Haddington and Lammermuir ward</p>	<p>a) Presentation on key points from the Area Profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VC introduced a presentation on the key points arising from the ward profile as a framework for the group work to follow. • Copies of the presentation and the Area Profiles were distributed for reference. <p>The presentation is available at: http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/15614/haddington_and_lammermuir_snapshot_presentation</p> <p>This is a summary of the points from the presentation which particularly stuck out or surprised people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That 8% said their area had got worse in the last 5 years - that only 10% thought public transport was something most needing improvement - that areas in the ward are among the 10% most access deprived areas in Scotland - That emergency hospital admissions in this ward are significantly higher than in East Lothian overall. - Almost 30% in fuel poverty in Haddington Town Centre - The very high demand for social housing in rural areas. - Falling town centre footfall and % of empty shops. - 22% of adult population have no qualifications. - Post school education opportunities – 51% of school leavers in higher or further education - 4% think area is better than 5 years ago but 8% thought area had got worse; what do the vast majority think or don't they 	

	<p>care?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access deprivation - Lack of public transport in rural areas. - Housing problems. - Higher level of admissions to hospital from Haddington ward. - High number (14%) working from home. 	
	<p>b) Small group discussions exploring issues and priorities</p> <p>The discussion topics were presented on the back of the agenda, and were based on the four objectives and the outcomes of The East Lothian Plan 2013-2023. The structure allowed participants to each choose 2 areas they were most interested in discussing.</p> <p>A full Record of Discussion compiling the notes from each table is included as an attachment to these minutes</p> <p>Key themes emerging from the discussion (that might give us a starter framework for beginning to develop the area plan)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opportunities for children and young people 2. Community cohesion 3. Volunteering 4. Transport 5. Broadband 6. Access to health services 7. Strengthening the Local Economy <p>A more detailed discussion of these themes is included at the beginning of the Record of Discussion.</p>	<p>Members to review that the discussions were accurately recorded.</p>
5. Next steps	<p>MP brought the discussions to a close and thanked people for their active participation. She explained that the next steps were that all of the discussion notes would be written up and distributed to members.</p> <p>The themes that emerge here would be brought back to the next meeting and would help set out key areas of work for the Partnership.</p>	
Date of Next Meetings	<p>Wednesday 13th August , 7-9pm,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Members and substitutes are specifically invited to both attend this meeting as it will begin to look at priorities and set the agenda for the Partnership.</i> <p>Venue of next meeting: The Bridge Centre <i>(unfortunately a double booking means that we are not able to use the Nungate Centre for this meeting.)</i></p> <p>The Bridge Centre - 11 Poldrate, Haddington EH41 4DA</p>	<p>Please send any apologies to: h&l-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</p>

Contact: Kaela Scott, Local Community Planning Officer: h&l-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk 01620 827822

Summary of Discussions – Key themes

Key themes emerging from the discussion (in no particular order):

- 1. Opportunities for children and young people** – there appears to be a good range of activities for children and young people in Haddington (sporting / music/ extra-curricular) but there are some gaps. The rural villages identified difficulty in providing local opportunities for children and young people eg. after school and weekend activities, due in part to the often small numbers of children / young people in each age group in each area and limited transport between villages. The lack of effective and efficient broadband in large areas of the ward further impacts on young people's learning and social opportunities.
- 2. Community cohesion** – Is the Haddington and Lammermuir ward a community... or is it a case of Haddington being surrounded by a range of separate and distinct rural communities? More importantly should it be?
Alongside this broader question are a range of factors impacting on community cohesion in the ward including:
 - there is a historic lack of cohesion between Haddington West and the Nungate - whereas Nungate residents have many reasons to go to the town centre there are few reasons for people to visit Nungate;
 - school catchment boundaries across Humbie, Saltoun and Bolton and in Athelstaneford have an impact and may affect both people's housing choices and where young people feel they belong;
 - lack of social housing in some areas (and concentrations in others) makes it difficult for people to remain in their local area , something evidenced by the highest levels of Waiting List Pressure across the county being in these rural areas.
 - there are additional challenges for older people wishing to remain living in some of the rural communities due to a lack of suitable housing options and difficulties accessing health services / social opportunities.
- 3. Volunteering** – There is a strong tradition of volunteering across the community but it seems the pool of volunteers are becoming both older and harder to find – Are people being put off volunteering by it becoming bureaucratised? Is there the same culture of volunteering among 20- 40 year olds – for example participation in the Duke of Edinburghs Award develops a culture of volunteering among young people (and is under high demand in the area) but the lack of adult volunteers to lead groups restricts the numbers who can participate. Smaller communities also have had difficulty in providing enough volunteers to run local activities, but is it a question of insufficient volunteering or is it a question of providing more support to share volunteering across communities? How do we raise awareness of the value of volunteering and the opportunities available?
- 4. Transport** – The general consensus was that there is a lack of affordable and reliable transport within the Haddington and Lammermuir area and also for linking Haddington to Edinburgh. The transport issue affects access to local services, particularly for those who don't drive, and particularly limits young people's options in relation to work, study, leisure and independence. Further public transport is non-existent in some rural areas and all options need to be explored where commercial services are not viable. Affordable, frequent and reliable transport was also identified as key to expanding tourism and the strengthening the local economy.
- 5. Broadband** – Broadband provision is particularly poor or nonexistent in rural areas and is now virtually essential for everyday life – for homework, work and business, entertainment and keeping people connected with family and friends.

6. **Access to health services** - there were a number of concerns raised about access to health services - including pressured GP surgeries, difficulties accessing health services from some rural areas and questions regarding future provision in relation to the community hospital. There will be opportunities to explore these issues as part of the new Integrated Health and Social Care Locality Plans to be developed later this year.

7. **Local Economy** – it was acknowledged there had been improvements in Haddington Town Centre over recent years but that there was still work to be done to support local businesses to develop and be sustainable – enabling easy set up, promoting innovation, planning, broadband, business units, low carbon options. It was felt that there were opportunities to expand tourism in the town centre and rural areas of the ward, and to develop leisure, food and drink draws in the area.

Objective 1) To reduce inequalities across and within our communities

Fewer people across our community are living in poverty.

What has been getting worse?

- Gap has been getting worse
- Transport issues for non drivers or those relying on public transport. Limited to Haddington town choice – cannot choose outlying areas because of limited transport or excessive costs.
- Reduction in night classes. Used to be reams of opportunities.
- Private rent costs can be 50% of income for working lone parent.
- Poverty getting worse.

- Lack of social housing. People having to live in private rented accommodation.
- Affordable housing is in the wrong location – cost of transport etc. (Bolton).

What has been getting better?

PARKED ITEMS

- Housing need
- Post school education for those who leave without qualifications enables those people to get work.

We live healthy lives and the gaps in health inequalities are closing

What has been getting worse?

- Number of applications for social houses to rent is much higher than the rest of Scotland.
- Insufficient housing for the elderly in rural areas. Does this tie in with increase in falls in older people (stairs in housing).
- GPs surgeries stretched to capacity.
- Could this be linked to increased hospital admissions?
- Lack of accident and emergency in Haddington and surrounding area.

- No affordable NHS care home in Haddington.
- School catchment, Saltoun Humbie, children cannot access after school activities.
- Using the Royal for appointments rather than Haddington is a backward step.
- Lack of socially affordable housing. People cannot be discharged from hospital if there is not adequate accommodation.
- Pathhead surgery serves Humbie and East – no public transport.
- Emergency hospital admissions in this area are significantly higher than in East Lothian. Access to emergency services in rural areas is a real concern.

What has been getting better?

- New train service.
- Bus connection but not for senior citizens due to extra cost (Haddington to Wallyford bus).
- New community hospital due 2017.

PARKED ITEMS

- Internet/broadband.
- Social/health care issues for elderly allowing them to remain in rural community.

We can move easily between and beyond our communities to access services and opportunities

What has been getting worse?

What has been getting better?

- Transportation
- Buses (Rural) - Haddington to North Berwick are almost non-existent.
- No public transport in the Garvald/Morham area.
- Buses between Haddington and Musselburgh in the afternoon.

- Few opportunities for children /young people to access clubs/organisations locally.
- Voluntary Service Post Bus.
- Musselburgh to Haddington has been cut. X service does not always meet with Gifford.
- Access issues. Services centralised, moving to Edinburgh, only in one area.

- More things relying on volunteers.

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PARKED ITEMS

Overall priorities for this theme

1. Need for affordable housing
2. Transport issues – availability and cost. Also look at alternative solutions for rural areas where there is no/limited transport/not viable.
3. School boundaries re. secondary catchment (Humbie, Saltoun, Bolton)
4. GP surgery overstretched

Objective 2) To develop a sustainable economy across the area

Our town and village centres are thriving and well maintained places where people want to be.

What has been getting worse?

- Footfall.
- Empty shops.
- Parking – far worse since loss of traffic wardens (Haddington).
- Location of Council staff outwith towns.

- Loss of court.

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What has been getting better?

- Town centre is looking better.
- Cars.

PARKED ITEMS

- Existing businesses influence future businesses in the towns.
- Footfall measurement.
- Council workers - how many?
- Working from home – self employment.

Our business sectors are growing and a higher proportion of our residents are working in, and therefore contributing to, East Lothian's economy.

What has been getting worse?

- Costs of commuting/less local jobs.
- Broadband.

- Planning process better communications.

- Planning customer care.

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What has been getting better?

- Haddington Town Centre Action Group – brilliant.
- New Haddington hospital.

We are changing our patterns of consumption to reduce our use of finite natural resources

What has been getting worse?

What has been getting better?

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- Broadband.
- More coordinated support to help sustain local businesses.

- Maximise opportunities for local sub-contractors in building of new hospital.

Overall priorities for this theme

1. Easy to set up a business - planning, broadband, enforcement.
2. Sustainable businesses - Support ongoing/innovation/new businesses.
 - i. Business units – audit of High Street.
3. Leisure, food and drink.
4. Tourism – access from everywhere, including villages.
5. Low carbon.
 - a. What is sustainable?

Objective 3) To support people to develop the resilience they need to lead a fulfilling life

Children in our area get the best start in life and are ready to succeed

What has been getting worse?

- Very little opportunity for children to access clubs/organisations locally (in rural areas).
- Very few facilities available for children in rural areas.
- Lack of clarity about post integration of Health and Adult Social Care: who will manage health service for under 5s.
- Nursery places and catchment areas problematic particularly rurally – waiting lists and not enough places in the three rural schools.

What has been getting better?

- Integration into nursery schools (Yester) has been sensitively and successfully managed (in my experience).

People in this community have the skills, confidence and capacity to make positive changes in their lives and their communities

What has been getting worse?

- Cuts in things like library vans.
- Poor access to services like John Gray Centre from rural areas.
- Need for informed response to community requests.
- Proper feedback from Council.

- Feedback from Council about decisions - with reasons.
- Lack of volunteers.
- Demands on willing volunteers.

- People in rural communities can feel “disconnected” to main towns and feel that they need to “stand alone” – resilient – positive or negative?

What has been getting better?

- John Gray Centre.

Our young people have the opportunities needed to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens

What has been getting worse?

- Very little opportunity for young people to access clubs/organisations locally (in rural areas).
- Very little facilities available for teenagers/young people in rural areas.
- Rural learners. They need decent broadband so they can do their homework.
- Clubs are hard to approach and there are no youth clubs in Haddington.
- Bureaucracy of volunteering turns people off.

What has been getting better?

- Opportunities and willingness of people to volunteer and take part in their communities.
- Bridge Centre.
- Lamp House Centre.
- Haddington Pipe Band.
- Haddington Athletic has improved greatly.
- Many sports clubs in the area have improved. Rugby/table tennis/hockey.

PARKED ITEMS

- Pool times to gather young rural people and take them to things.
- Recruiting volunteers – Duke of Edinburgh and other activities.
- Details of volunteering activities.

Overall priorities for this theme:

1. Volunteering – awareness, opportunities, value of...
2. Communication – expansive, varied and transparent – importance of face-to-face.
3. Opportunities for children and young people – access and transport.

Objective 4) To ensure safe and vibrant communities

<i>What has been getting worse?</i>	Our area is a safe place – indoors and out	<i>What has been getting better?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lorries, heavy transport and agricultural vehicles through the villages and linking B roads.• Bad parking in old/new facility areas ie Whittinghame Drive football.• Drug issues.• Tourist access/parking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police restructuring lack of local focus.• Letting plans and rules.• Acceptable social behaviour defined.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CAPP meetings.• Parking management and signposting.

PARKED ITEMS

- Flexible and accessible transport.
- Why is Haddington Show not in Haddington? Link it to Haddington.
- Attempt to bring together different areas of Haddington ie. Nungate/West of Haddington.
- More social housing.
- Sharing skills and knowledge across and in communities.

<i>What has been getting worse?</i>	People in this area have access to high quality sustainable housing that meets their needs	<i>What has been getting better?</i>
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This topic was not specifically discussed.

<i>What has been getting worse?</i>	We have high quality natural environments and greenspace in our area that enhances the wellbeing of our communities	<i>What has been getting better?</i>
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This topic was not specifically discussed.

Our communities are vibrant, supportive and inclusive places

What has been getting worse?

- School rolls are down (East Saltoun & Humble) catchment issue. High school outside community – Drs, sports etc in Haddington.
- Difficulty of getting kids to places. Too few people to sustain activities.
- Knox Academy pupils in Pencaitland have to pay for transport to the school when it is just 1 mile more away than Tranent for Ross High. Ross High pupils do not have to pay because of the catchment.
- Cost of public Transport.
- Transport costs and routes availability hampering a vibrant community from progressing.
- Cost of Transport and routes impacting on local businesses because people from outwith won't or can't travel on public transport.
- Cost of housing.
- Drug issues.
- Lower community spirit in Haddington.
- Community cohesion (Bolton)
- Broadband speeds poor – children cannot do their homework.

- School catchments and new settlements to sustain small village schools.
- Public Transport routes and prices Haddington.
- Mobile library.
- Loss of local facilities (commercial).
- Trust in ASBO system low

- Communities within communities.

What has been getting better?

- Haddington Library excellent.
- Very good Council civic planting. Also Community Council and Haddington in Bloom.
- St Mary's Community Garden – brilliant.
- There have been more activities and sports sessions for youth groups.
- Haddington is getting safer, as highlighted in the powerpoint. Personally, I feel safe and included in the community.
- Good community spirit in Gifford.
- Bolton playpark is excellent.

Overall priorities for this theme

1. Transport – affordable, accessible, flexible.
2. School catchment – rural/small schools