

Monthly Newsletter

**DUNBAR AND EAST LINTON
AREA PARTNERSHIP**



November 2025



Making Life Better

Christmas is approaching fast. Our Third Sector organisations are working hard to ensure that it is a happy time for all of us in the Dunbar and East Linton Area. This edition of the newsletter records some of these activities and also welcomes new members to the Area Partnership following the recent Community Council elections.

Changes in the Area partnership membership



Following on from the recent Community Council elections we welcome Bea Taylor and Jacquie Bell who will be joining as members of DELAP, representing Dunbar.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Dunbar Christmas Lights switch-on - Sunday 23 November
- Dunbar Grammar School Christmas Market - 27 November
- West Barns Christmas Lights switch-on - Saturday 29 November
- Christmas markets at Lauderdale Park - 29-30 November and 6-7 December
- East Linton Christmas Lights switch-on - 30 November

Christmas and the Angel Tree



The Area Partnership recognises projects that identify areas of inequality and need. The Rotary Club has for several years run the Angel Tree project, with the support of Council employees. This team effort allows the wishes of children, who might otherwise feel that Christmas has passed them by, with the generosity of members of the community.

Anyone wishing to participate can find “wishes” hanging on Christmas Trees in the BeGreen shop on the High Street, in the vestibule of St Anne’s Church or at Belhaven Church.

Christmas and the Angel Tree

Hundreds of people came to explore incredible art in Dunbar last month. Huge credit goes to the committee that planned and delivered this event, and to the artists who opened their homes to all and sundry. The volume of people who explored the town in search of the next art location on the trail was testament to the quality of our creative community. This was a project supported financially by a DELAP member through the allocation of CWP Energy Ltd community benefit monies.

It is definitely a project that Dunbar would like to see again.



Roads

Spott Road, from the turn-off to the industrial estate to the Kellie Road roundabout, has been resurfaced and looks good.

The road resurfacing work along the Belhaven Road, selected as the Area Partnership's chosen project, will take place this month.



Dunbar Banking Hub



The official opening of Dunbar's new Banking Hub took place on 13 November and the Hub is already a popular destination, greatly appreciated by local businesses and third sector organisations as well as members of the general community. It was good to see that parking was available outside the door.

AREA PLAN

East Lothian Council has asked us to encourage anyone who has applied for housing from ELC to respond to a survey. This confidential survey seeks to find out the current housing circumstances of the applicant and the needs of any others living with them. All relevant people should have received an invitation to participate in the survey, but contact details are 08000334843 or survey@craigforth.co.uk

Following our workshop, version 3.2 has been drafted to include extra data on Housing and some minor amendments to the Housing Action Plan.

Valencia



Behind the lorries in the picture stands the Valencia landfill site. No rubbish is being deposited there anymore. The last deliveries were made this summer.

Any lorries you may see going up there are carrying topsoil for the site.

The restoration plan has yet to be approved by East Lothian Council. The Area Partnership has a keen interest in the future maintenance and use of this site.

Tragedy struck during October when the top section of McArthur's Store was lost to fire. As always happens in our Area, the response has been hugely supportive and the steps to rebuild this historic building are already under way, a tribute to the energy of the volunteer Directors of the Harbour Trust.

McArthur's Store is a historic building of great importance to Dunbar's heritage and has been the centre of its fishing industry. Dunbar is so fortunate to still have an inshore fishing fleet, principally landing lobsters and crabs, and the loss of the stores is a blow to our fishermen.

Donations, big or small, go towards supporting Dunbar's fishing community and restoring this historic working building for future generations.

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/19527#!/DonationDetails>



Railway Station access

It is an important part of the Area Plan to see improved access to public transport, and it is great to see that the improved access to the Southern platform has now been completed. Our hope is that this will encourage active travel to and from the railway station.

Parking charges

There is still no update. The Area Partnership will determine what action to take when it understands what is in the proposal.

What is known is that the ELC proposal is not the same as the summer consultation document and that, in the meantime, the Community Councils in DELAP and the neighbouring areas are reinforcing the views of the community which were positively against the imposition of parking charges.

Grants

The Shed at East Linton has been supported by the Area Partnership.

To commemorate Armistice Day this year the Shed had poppies displayed in some of their flower boxes.



Viridor

Viridor's next outage has been moved back from **May to September 2026**.

Viridor continues to run its We Share Initiative, supporting many of the Area's clubs and third sector organisations, as well as key civic events.

The Community liaison group learned that Viridor is currently increasing its level of soil sampling to keep SEPA and the community informed of the expected improvements in the level of dioxins. Although not believed to be dangerous, the increase in dioxins following Valencia's fire in 2023 was not good, and the Area Partnership is grateful to Viridor for monitoring this for us.

THANK YOU FOR READING!