

East Haven Together  
Annual General Meeting 1st September 2022  
6.30pm in the Bothy



**In Attendance**

Ian Bancroft (Trustee)  
Karen Andrew (Trustee)  
Lynne Fotheringham (Trustee)  
Christina Lyall (Trustee)  
Nicola Keen (Trustee)  
Wendy Murray (Lead Trustee)  
John Keen  
Jack Reid  
Anne Bancroft  
Peter Reilly  
Jacqui Reilly

**In Attendance**

Alasdair Murray  
Willie Reid  
Julia Clark  
Dick Kelman  
Charles Gist  
Sharon Cousins  
Gordon Lumsdaine  
Dareena Scott  
Jack Scott  
Gary McFadden  
James (Jimmy) Brown

**Apologies**

Joyce Morrison  
Andy Edward  
Stella Edward  
Carole McFadden  
Emma Forrester  
Greg Forrester  
Rochelle Neal  
Gavin Watson

NO	ITEM
1	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</b>
2	<b>Minute of last AGM</b> The Minute of the last meeting was proposed as correct by Nicola Keen and seconded by James Brown.
3	<b>Matters arising from previous minute</b> Although Craig Lyall was elected as a Trustee at the last AGM on 4th August he realised within a couple of days that he had too many other competing commitments so he stood down on the 8th August. Lynne Fotheringham was therefore co-opted on as a Trustee on 19th August 2021.
4	<b>Report of the Lead Trustee</b> Report of the Lead Trustee was made by Wendy Murray and can be read in full at the end of this report.
5	<b>Treasurers Report and Accounts; April 2021 - March 2022</b> The Treasurers report was delivered by Christina Lyall and can be read in full at the end of this report.
6	<b>Election of Trustees</b> Ian Bancroft and Karen Andrew both stood down at the AGM. More about the contribution made by Ian and Karen can be found in the Lead Trustee report. Two new Trustees were nominated and elected. Emma Forrester was proposed by Lynne Fotheringham and seconded by John Keen. Jack Reid was proposed by Peter Riley and seconded by Gordon Lumsdaine. Lynne, Nicola, Christina and Wendy all agreed to continue to serve as Trustees.
7	<b>Activities in 2022</b> <b>1. Dowrie Works</b> Jack Reid identified the leakage of waste from a contaminated land site at Elliot during the Great ABC in September 2021. EHT has undertaken investigatory work since that time to understand more about the historically contaminated site which has been polluting Angus waters for decades. EHT recently made a presentation to SEPA and Angus Council Environmental Protection Officers who intend to undertake a review of the site and consider its future sustainability.

NO	ITEM
7 Continued	<p><b>2. Dumping of Waste in Territorial Waters</b>  EHT led on work to highlight the dumping of Food Waste from Nato war ships exercising in territorial waters in May 2021. A report is available on the website for download. Work has since been undertaken to try and change the MARPOL regulations to make it a 'legal duty' and not just an 'obligation' for military ships not to dump waste during peace time. However, a letter from Grant Shapps the Transport Minister has indicated that there is little appetite in Westminster to change legislation at this point in time. We have concluded the investigation but will call the Government to account if we become aware of any further unnecessary pollution by military ships exercising off the Angus coast.</p> <p><b>3. Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations</b>  A Beacon was held for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 3rd June 2022 which took the form of a huge bonfire on the beach. It was lit by Sandy McKendrick the Deputy Lord Lieutenant who used to live in East Haven. Pipers from Carnoustie Pipe Band played 'Diu Regnare' which had been written especially for the occasion. John Keen provided hot dogs and refreshments. It was a great night and brought the wider community together for our first significant event since the Pandemic. Ian Bancroft raised a Platinum Jubilee Flag on the Heritage Point.</p> <p><b>4. Refurbishment of Public Toilets</b>  EHT obtained funding from the Community Health and Well-Being fund to refurbish and upgrade the internal of the public toilets. This has been a challenging project on many different levels and we are grateful to all the volunteers who committed so much time and effort in helping to paint them and remove waste from the site. We are waiting to hear whether an additional grant application to Carnoustie Golf Links has been successful as this will enable the installation of a ramp and other remedial work.</p> <p><b>5. Beach Award</b>  EHT successfully achieved another Beach Award in 2022 for the eight consecutive year. Striving for a beach award helps to drive up standards and keep the beach and amenity as clean and welcoming as possible. Some residents are out and about almost every day keeping the amenity litter free which really helps to change public perceptions and littering behaviours. East haven has also taken part in the My Beach Your Beach campaign this year.</p> <p><b>6. Great ABC</b>  The next great Angus Beach Clean will be held during weekend of 17th and 18th of September. Lynne Fotheringham will lead on the East Haven section of the clean which will take place at 1pm on Saturday 17th. Meet at the heritage Point. Named Drivers will take the ATV up and down towards Carnoustie and Arbroath to collect larger items over the weekend.</p> <p><b>7. Marine Litter Strategy Group</b>  Wendy Murray has been asked to sit on the Marine Litter Strategy Group (Marine Scotland) to represent both East and West of Scotland coastal communities.</p> <p><b>8. Year of Stories Weekend</b>  EHT obtained £500 of funding from SeaGreen to hold a 'Year of Stories' weekend on 23rd and 24th July. As 2022 is Scotland's Year of Stories it provided another opportunity to bring people together and raise awareness about East Haven's history and heritage. More than £500 was also raised through the Tombola and Refreshments for EHT funds.</p> <p><b>9. Beautiful Scotland</b>  East Haven has participated once again with people across Scotland to keep the areas where they live clean, welcoming and attractive. Volunteers take part in a grass cutting rota and also work together on a Thursday morning to maintain our beautiful community gardens. Work is also carried out to look after all our heritage areas, beach and public toilets.</p>

NO	ITEM
	<p><b>A Royal Gift</b>  During the Queen’s Platinum Celebrations a Landscape Artist called Thomas Heatherwick made a Sculpture of 350 native British trees outside Buckingham Palace. East Haven has been selected to receive one of the trees which will be presented to us in an aluminium pot embossed with Her Majesty’s cypher. The trees are being gifted to selected community groups and organisations who have made a positive and measurable impact. The tree and pot is a symbol of gratitude for our tireless efforts with a hope that it will bring pride to the community. We are indeed very proud to be selected to receive one of the trees and will let people know more about the presentation in due course.</p> <p><b>Community Resilience</b>  East Haven has had its own Resilience Plan since 2017. We are now part of a much larger resilience group across Angus where so many more communities have identified their risks and made plans to mitigate against them. EHT has attended various online meetings over the last year and an in-person meeting on 30th August at Eassie and Nevay village hall. We were able to meet with SSEN and share learning outcomes from events such as Storm Arwen. EHT has managed to obtain a resilience grant of <b>£6,844</b> from SSEN and this will place us in a stronger position going forward. The Bothy will become a Resilience Hub if the power goes off and we will have a large generator to charge phones and provide light etc. Also mobile heaters and cookers. The ATV will be restored and new anti-corrosion underseal applied. We will also purchase three solar powered lights which will give us an opportunity to evaluate effectiveness both in terms of light distribution and in preventing anti-social behaviour at the rear of the car park. A Defibrillator and Life Saving Session was delivered to residents by Dr Colin Fraser. This was extremely helpful and made us all feel more confident about our role.</p> <p><b>Free Period Products</b>  In an agreement with Angus Council we are now able to provide free period products from our public toilets. We are proud to be able to offer this important service</p>
8	<p><b>Eric’s Bridge</b>  Eric’s bridge was built in late 2013 to replace the bridge that Eric Duncan built many years ago. It was accidentally removed when NCN1 was built. In an enormous community effort and a great feat of engineering the bridge was rebuilt and opened by Eric himself in October 2013. However, nine years on and the bridge has sadly fallen into disrepair. Jack Scott and Stan Beattie have undertaken several inspections and arrived at the sad conclusion that the bridge is not safe or repairable. It was closed to the public in April 2022.  Jack explained that the major timber supports wooden slats and posts are largely rotten and unrepairable. It wasn’t helped by the fact that volunteers were unable to carry out the usual staining and preservation work during the Pandemic. That said, any staining may have only delayed the inevitable by a couple of years.  As the bridge is not repairable there are only two options;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raise funds to rebuild it and then establish a team of 4-6 volunteers to carry out monthly maintenance on and around the structure.</li> <li>2. Dismantle and remove the bridge.</li> </ol> <p>Two emails have gone out to residents in recent months asking if anybody is able and willing to be involved in a monthly maintenance team. There are not enough volunteers to undertake this commitment.  A discussion was held prior to those present being asked to show a raise of hands in support of dismantling the bridge. 66% of those present reluctantly agreed that the bridge would have to be dismantled.  EHT will proceed with making plans to ensure that this happens as quickly as possible.</p>

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	Finally we were reminded that although the bridge might not be there we will always have memories of the happy times we spent together building it and the great sense of achievement. It is recorded in the book, Memories O' the Ha'en which is now held in the national Library archives and we also have the video.
9	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carole has suggested that we try to improve accessibility down to the beach. This idea fits with EHTs sustainability strategy. Discussion was therefore held about various beach buggies that might support people with disabilities. Also about board walks and pathways. The priority has to be protecting the sand dunes from erosion but a board walk might nudge people into using a preferred path. This will require a funding application and further exploratory work. In the meantime, we can also take residents out in the ATV when we are beach cleaning.</li> <li>2. Wendy has been on a Seagrass restoration day at Kinghorne Ecology Centre. Seagrass stores carbon up to 35 times more quickly than the rainforest and projects against coastal erosion. We will ask the wild swimmers and fishermen to report any sightings in the bay area. If we do decide to proceed with any rewinding project we would have to bring in seed from Orkney.</li> <li>3. There was a brief discussion about sewage related debris and the importance of wild swimmers reporting ear and eye infections along with the usual stomach upsets. Lynne and Cllr have both picked up vast numbers of wet wipes all over the summer months.</li> </ol>
10	The meeting was closed at 19.40pm and everybody thanked for their contributions.

### **A Report by the Lead Trustee**

When I was looking back through the AGM minute of 2021 I was reminded of just how many challenges we faced as a community during 2020/21. From the disruption caused by the laying of the new gas pipe to bombs on the beach and Nato War ships dumping their waste it happened in East Haven. It is perhaps no surprise then, that East Haven was awarded the RHS Scotland Award for Overcoming Adversity in 2021.

At the end of the that year Storm Arwen and Storm Brendon brought community resilience into sharp focus. The village was without power for four days and there were significant impacts for people across the village. We subsequently consulted with residents and updated our Resilience Plan to ensure that people are better supported in future power outages. To assist in that process we have also recently obtained grant funding from SSEN of £6,844. This will enable the charity to purchase a range of equipment which will enable us to provide a stronger resilience response. It also brings the total amount of funding brought into the village since 2014 to over £215,000.

Although 20/2021 was challenging, it was also rewarding as we did achieve on many of the priorities identified by residents and visitors. We also received a Gold Award from Beautiful Scotland in recognition of the incredible contribution friends and residents make to maintaining beautiful gardens, community toilets, award winning beach and general amenity. The Beautiful Scotland Judges were back in East Haven on 11th August and we will find out what we have achieved on the 15th of this month.

People have made extraordinary efforts in 2022 to help pursue our charitable aims and to make the village more sustainable. Between 1st October 2021 and 31st July 2022 more than 2000 volunteers hours were committed with an economic value of more than £30,000. Our charitable motto is 'Play a Part, Make a Difference and Every Action Counts'.

There are many different ways in which people can contribute and every action, no matter how small helps to achieve not just local priorities but national and global priorities. Our charitable

aims are set out in a village sustainability strategy which can be downloaded from the web-site. It is our job as Trustees to ensure that everything we do links to the strategy so that we can be confident that we are doing the right thing at the right time in the best way possible. I am very grateful for all the work carried out by our Trustees; Ian, Karen, Lynne, Nicola, and Christina. Two of our Trustees are stepping down this year. Firstly, Karen Andrew who has been a Trustee for five years. Some of you will remember that Karen established the walking group which was really popular for a while. I would like to thank Karen for everything that she has contributed during her time as a Trustee. I also want to mention Alasdair as although he was not a Trustee he represented East Haven on the Community Council over the last four years where he undertook the role of the Planning Representative.

The other Trustee who is stepping down after thirty years as either a committee member or charity trustee is Ian Bancroft. I first became aware of Ian's work in the early 1990s when he was working on a project with Mel Ross and the late Steve Duncan to ensure that the village was not adversely impacted by the development of the new Waste Water Treatment Plant. At the same time they were also consulting residents about other challenges in the village and looking at ways of making improvements to the car park and beach area. Ian went on to take a lead role in ensuring that best outcomes for East Haven were achieved with other major projects such as the proposed Wind Farm at Netherkelly, the SeaGreen Project and the Biodigester Plant. In more recent years Ian was heavily involved in planning and delivering a number of East Haven 800 projects and has also repaired and restored boats, planters, sheds, flags and garden infrastructure. I know that I speak not only on behalf of the Trustees but everybody in the village when I say how grateful we are for everything he has done over the last thirty years. I will certainly miss all his technical expertise and advice as he has amassed a huge knowledge over the 48 years that he and Anne have been residents. Ian knows more about the infrastructure of the village than most of the Utility companies put together. I know Ian will continue to do what he can in helping with flags boats and gardens but in the meantime, I would like to propose a vote of thanks and offer this small token of our appreciation.

Wendy Murray, Lead Trustee

### Treasurers Report

You should have all received a copy of the Trustees report prior to the AGM. A copy can also be downloaded from the charity page of our web-site.

After a difficult year during the pandemic we managed to strengthen our financial position last year. At the end of March 2022 we had a balance of £12,694.68 in the account.

Of this £12,317 was held for specific projects and reserves including;

VAA Grant for Toilet Refurbishment	9870
Defibrillator and VETS reserves	897.00
SeaGreen Micro Grant	500.00
Public Liability Insurance 2023	250.00
ATV Insurance 2023	400.00
Accountant 2022	400.00

However, it did mean that we started the new financial year in April 2022 with a working balance of £377. Not a huge amount but enough to cover all our expenses. We were very grateful to all our grant awarding bodies which included the local Co-op, Angus Council and NatureScot. Also to

everybody who made donations in the public toilets. We introduced a PayPal digital payment system in 2021 and this is becoming a popular method of donating.

It should be noted that the charity also has assets of £14,000 and most of this value is held in the All-Terrain-Vehicle which we use for beach cleaning and other coastal emergencies.

Our accounts are independently examined by Accountant Greg Davidson and have been submitted to OSCR. If anybody has any questions we will be pleased to try and answer them.

Christina Lyall

Treasurer