

**GOREBRIDGE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**APPROVED MINUES OF MEETING**  
**17 FEBRUARY 2026, 6:45PM, GOREBRIDGE LEISURE CENTRE HUNTERFIELD**  
**ROAD GOREBRIDGE EH23 4TX**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Community council members**

Chair Gael Robertson (GR), Secretary Richard Horsburgh (RH), Treasurer Juliet Bruce Dickie (JBD), Ian Hewitson (IH), Alice Drever (AD), Lorraine Amedro (LA), Jac Frankitti (JF), Heather Webb-Nelson (HWN)

**Midlothian councillors**

Councillor Ellen Scott (ES)

**Visitors**

R Tappenden, W McEwen, M Cowie, R Rafferty, J Paget, R Laird, B Duncan, T Taylor, A Murry, J Muirhead, B Barclay, H Thomson, L Orr, S Gabowski, D Barclay

**WELCOME**

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:45 pm, welcomed members, and thanked them for arriving 15 minutes earlier than the usual start time. Members were reminded that the meeting would need to conclude by 8:45 pm, as we must vacate the Leisure Centre by that time.

The Chair also advised that there was an additional agenda item, as representatives from the Arniston Improvement Trust were in attendance to provide an update on the Goth.

**APOLOGIES**

John Campbell (JC), M Webb, J McFarlane (Police Representative)

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Approved – I Hewitson

Seconded – L Amedro

**MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not already covered on the agenda.

## **ARNISTON IMPROVEMENT TRUST – UPDATE**

Jim Muirhead and Bill Barclay attended to provide an update on the former Tavern building.

Trustees advised that updates had previously been limited due to ongoing confidential legal and commercial matters. The Trust regained possession of the building in early September following a lengthy legal process. On entry, extensive internal damage was discovered, including removal of fixtures, wiring and security equipment.

Immediate steps were taken to secure the premises, remove hazards and waste, isolate and replace the electricity meter (following confirmed tampering), install a new alarm system, and clear the building internally.

The matter was reported to Police Scotland and has been referred to the Procurator Fiscal. An insurance claim has been submitted; however, this is complex and timescales remain unclear.

Due to legal costs, loss of rental income, and ongoing liabilities for rates and utilities, the Trust is in a challenging financial position. Trustees advised that the potential sale of the bakery building may need to be considered to provide financial stability while matters relating to the Tavern are resolved.

Trustees expressed a wish to engage with the Community Council and wider community on the future use of the building and the longer-term structure of the Trust. It was agreed that a future public meeting would be arranged to allow broader discussion.

The Chair thanked the Trustees for attending and providing the update.

### **Action to be taken:**

- Community Council to liaise with the Arniston Improvement Trust to arrange a public meeting to discuss the future of the building and wider community engagement.

## **GOREBRIDGE MEN'S SHED UPDATE**

Ronnie Tappenden provided an update on the progress of Gorebridge Men's Shed and thanked GDCC for the opportunity to attend.

Thanks were extended to Christine Grahame (MSP) and Kirsty McNeill (MP), Cllr Ellen Scott as well as Dawn Barclay and the staff at the Beacon for hosting the group for almost a year.

The Men's Shed has been operating since 11 June last year, meeting weekly with 8–9 attendees. Its aim is to support men's mental health by providing a welcoming space to socialise and take part in activities.

The group is in discussions with Network Rail regarding use of the former Station House as a permanent base. Plans include a workshop, meeting space and community hub. The building has electricity but no water supply; reinstating water could cost £20,000–£25,000, and discussions are ongoing regarding this. The group would not move in until essential services are in place. Members hope to carry out much of the renovation work themselves.

A community survey, developed with Community Enterprise, has received 26 responses so far and will inform a business plan. It was suggested the survey introduction be reviewed to better explain the Men's Shed's purpose and social impact.

GDCC welcomed the progress made and looks forward to further updates.

### **Action to be taken:**

- GDCC to request a further update once discussions with Network Rail.

## **PUPIL ROLL PROJECTION SIC RESPONSE UPDATE**

Members noted that although the initial response from Midlothian House was disappointing, the outcome is positive for the Community Council. Midlothian Council confirmed it can no longer rely on Section 33 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act and that the pupil roll projection information will be released by 31 March and reported to a full Council meeting.

It was noted that this has taken over a year to achieve. Should the information not be released as stated, the Community Council retains the option to escalate the matter to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

### **Action to be taken:**

- GDCC Secretary to follow up with Midlothian Council if the information is not published by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March and initiate escalation procedures if necessary.

## **CRAWLEES ROAD SAFETY ISSUES (Meeting with Barratt Holmes)**

Gael stated that she and Richard attended a meeting with Newton Grange and Mayfield & Easthouses Community Councils and the developer, Barratt Homes. On Monday afternoon at the Dean Tavern)

Crawley's Road will be significantly redesigned and widened as part of Phase 1. The road will remain on its current alignment but will be widened, with new footpaths, a toucan crossing, and traffic lights at Suttersley Road and the A7 junction.

Due to engineering constraints, the safe route to school and cycle path will run behind the industrial estate rather than alongside the road.

It was felt that the developer had addressed the concerns raised to date. Regular updates on phasing have been promised. The industrial estate end is the responsibility of the council.

Overall, this was considered a constructive meeting, and progress will continue to be monitored.

### **Action to be taken:**

- GDCC to continue to monitor progress, request regular updates from Barratt Holmes and Midlothian Council.

## **MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES (MSLP2)**

There were no new planning applications to discuss. The main points raised were ongoing development-related road safety concerns.

Residents have highlighted issues with speeding, construction traffic, inadequate signage, and parking restrictions, particularly around Hunterfield Road and the River Gore View area — both key routes within Gorebridge.

Ellen confirmed these matters are already being progressed. Temporary traffic orders for parking and speed restrictions are in place, with some due to expire soon; council officers are aware and considering extensions.

Police Scotland will continue to monitor speeding in the area, and additional patrols and checks are expected.

There were also comments about missing or damaged signage being replaced with temporary laminated notices, which will need permanent solutions, and some concerns about skip and construction debris left uncovered.

No further planning issues were raised.

### **Action to be taken:**

- Cllr Scott to follow up with Midlothian Council on extending the traffic orders, replacing signage, and seek an update from Police Scotland on enforcement.

## **GDCC EVENT SUPPORT**

Members reviewed Remembrance Day and the Christmas Lights event. While planning had been completed in advance, some issues arose with implementation. Improved communication of agreed plans was identified as a priority for this year.

It was confirmed that Remembrance Day follows official protocol, adapted for the local community. Questions regarding inclusion of the National Anthem and Lord's Prayer will be discussed with the Parish Minister. The indoor church service option will be better publicised.

For the Christmas Lights event, adverse weather highlighted the need for a contingency plan. Options for a larger tree and additional street lighting will be explored. The event is scheduled for Sunday 6 December.

Small working groups will be established for each event to improve coordination and spread workload. The Secretary will continue to manage formal correspondence.

Event Coordinators agreed:

- Gala Day – M Davidson
- Remembrance Day – A Drever
- Christmas Lights – L Amedeo

### **Action to be taken:**

- Event coordinators to convene small working groups and report back to GDCC with initial plans, including communication and contingency arrangements, at a future meeting

## **MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL ISSUES**

### **Dog Fouling Issues / Enforcement and Campaign**

The Chair reported that discussions have taken place with the Midlothian Council Dog Warden and local veterinary practices regarding an anti-dog fouling campaign in Gorebridge. Both are willing to support a coordinated approach.

The Dog Warden requested that GDCC highlight locations where warning signage and penalty stickers require replacement, as many are damaged. It was noted that fixed penalties can only be issued if the offence is witnessed directly. Local vets may provide financial support for campaign materials such as posters or dog waste bags, particularly as Midlothian Council no longer supplies free bags.

Members raised ongoing concerns about persistent dog fouling in areas including Gala Park, Burnside Road, the route to Birkenhead and local parks, with particular impact on children's football activities. Options discussed included awareness posters (potentially involving schools), partnership branding, and community-led initiatives.

There was agreement that a coordinated awareness campaign is required.

#### **Actions to be taken:**

- Chair to liaise with the Dog Warden and local vets and bring a draft campaign proposal to the next meeting.

### **Newbyres Care Home – Nursing Cover:**

Concerns were raised at a recent Council Planning Review and Scrutiny Committee meeting regarding nursing provision at Newbyres Care Home. It was suggested that nursing cover was being provided by external or agency nurses rather than permanent staff.

It was clarified that Newbyres currently has full nursing cover in place. The home also receives support from nursing colleagues elsewhere within the wider system. Agency nurses are used only when required, for example during periods of high staff absence.

Members noted that this matter is covered in detail within Ellen's report. The report has been circulated to all Community Council members and will be attached to the minutes for reference.

#### **Actions to be taken:**

- Note the clarification regarding nursing cover at Newbyres Care Home and continue to monitor the situation through regular updates from elected council members and future reports.



## **MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL ISSUES (continued)**

### **Sure Start – Update and Concerns**

Sure Start provision in Gorebridge is facing significant funding cuts from Midlothian Council, leading to withdrawal from the Gorebridge and Mount Esk, Bonnyrigg Learning Centres. While Sure Start continues as an organisation, this will impact families currently using the service.

The lease for the Beacon is held with the Council, not Sure Start, so future use of the building is under Council control. Alternative uses are being considered, but no final decisions have been made.

Members noted that while nursery places remain available through other registered providers, the additional family support and early intervention previously provided by Sure Start—particularly for vulnerable children—may not be replaced. Around 11 children are directly affected.

#### **Actions to be taken:**

- GDCC to write to the local MP and MSP expressing concern about the withdrawal of Sure Start services and impact on vulnerable children and families.

## **LOCAL PLACE PLAN (LPP) – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Members discussed revised arrangements for community engagement on the Local Place Plan. It was agreed that the previously proposed formal event would not proceed, and that engagement would instead take place through informal on-street pop-up sessions.

These sessions would involve Community Council members speaking directly with residents in high-footfall locations, potentially using a gazebo and offering refreshments to encourage conversation. Posters and simple materials would be used to raise awareness and gather feedback from people who do not usually attend meetings.

Members noted that, although the Local Place Plan may carry less formal weight than originally anticipated, it remains a useful document for identifying and progressing community actions in Gorebridge.

Possible locations and dates were discussed, with Easter weekend ruled out. Late March or early April were suggested, subject to member availability, weather, and clashes with other local events.

#### **Action to be taken:**

- GDCC Members to review suitable dates and locations and report back with proposals.

## **COUNCILLORS UPDATES**

### **Councillor Douglas Bowen**

A written report from Cllr Bowen was received and circulated to the members.

### **Councillor Ellen Scott**

A detailed report from Cllr Scott was also received and circulated to the members. The report by Cllr Scott was described as comprehensive and helpful, particularly regarding:

- Road issues, including road markings and yellow line regulations
- Nursing provision at Newbyres Care Home.

Cllr Scott provided the following update on:

#### **Temple – Landslip**

- The ongoing landslip in Temple was noted as a serious concern. Further ground movement has occurred, including loss of part of a garden, with continued water seepage from the hillside.
- The Council is monitoring the site; it owns the road but not the land. Resident safety and road stability are the main priorities.
- Residents have been advised not to use affected garages, contingency plans are in place, and a leaflet will be issued to all households.

#### **UK Funding Changes and Impact on Local Organisations**

- Members discussed the end of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (ending 31 March).
- Concerns were raised regarding the replacement Local Growth Fund, including:
  - A 70% capital / 30% revenue split, which will disadvantage charities and third-sector organisations.
  - By 2028, funding value will reduce significantly compared to current levels.
  - Funding will be administered via the Edinburgh & South East Scotland City Region, increasing competition.
- It was noted this change may significantly impact local community groups and services.

### **Councillor Kelly Drummond**

No report submitted.

**Cllr Bowen and Cllr Scott's full reports are attached to this document**

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### **Councillor Kelly Drummond**

Nil return.

## **ROAD CALMING MEASURES / MAIN STREET ISSUES UPDATE**

### **Ongoing issues noted:**

- Parking congestion, particularly on Main Street and near the medical practice.
- Confusion around yellow lines and enforcement.
- Speeding concerns, though traffic calming from parked cars was acknowledged
- Damage to street furniture, including bollards and bicycle racks.

### **It was agreed:**

- These issues remain ongoing and will be revisited in more detail at a future meeting.
- Members were encouraged to continue reporting issues.

## **POLICE REPORT AND POLICE SURGERY**

**Period: 1 January – 1 February 2026**

### **Issues reported:**

- Vehicle break-ins.
- Disturbances involving scrambler and electric bikes on paths and roads.

### **Advice given:**

- Incidents should continue to be reported via 101 to ensure escalation.

### **Police engagement:**

- A police surgery is scheduled for Tuesday 24th, morning session, at the church.

**The full Police Report for February is attached to this document.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

A copy of the letter sent by Kirsty McNeil to the Chief Executive, Dr Grace Vickers, raising GDCC's concerns about Crawlees Road, was received.

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

The was presented the circulated to the members.

### **Treasures Report (17.02.2026)**

#### **Financial Position**

- Current balance: £2,198.76 as at 13/02 - split as follows:
- GDCC: £1,065.94
- Awards £1,132.82
- Intentional IT – Office 365 Total £211.68 pending awaiting invoice
- 2025/26 Funding still to be drawn upon:
- Railing Banner £100
- Noticeboard Repair £150
- LPP Review & GDCC Promotional Event £300
- 2024/25 Funding still to be drawn upon:
- Gala Day Banner £160

## **MIDLOTHIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FEDERATION**

There will be a full and comprehensive report given at the March GDCC meeting.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Meet and share – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 9.30 – 10.30.Vorie Hall.

### **AOB**

#### **Bus Services in Gorebridge and Birken side**

Concerns were raised regarding the current bus provision in Gorebridge and Birken side, which members described as “totally unacceptable.” It was noted that large areas of Gorebridge have limited bus access, and Birken side is effectively cut off from regular services. Members discussed ongoing efforts by Ellen to improve provision, and the potential need to raise public awareness through the press to prompt action.

Particular attention was drawn to the 800 bus, which has been missed in recent reorganisation, affecting residents who rely on it for access to key services, including healthcare. Issues were also noted regarding access to the station car park and the impact on people trying to reach medical appointments. Temporary bus stops implemented previously at Gore Avenue had not been maintained, leaving residents without adequate service.

It was suggested that a coordinated approach with Lothian Transport and Midlothian Council, potentially including a press statement, be considered to address the situation and ensure residents’ needs are met.

#### **Action to be taken:**

- GDCC to explore issuing a statement or taking other measures to highlight the inadequate bus provision in Gorebridge and Birken side and to work with relevant authorities to improve services.

#### **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

17 March, 6:45–8:45 pm. Please note that the venue will be Gorebridge Leisure Centre due the ongoing refurbishment of the Birken side Pavilion.

## Councillor Ellen Scott's Report

### Gorebridge – re parking on Main Street

#### **Double Yellow Lines** on pavement Main Street

Re. below, the lines they are referring to are additional kerb markings known as blips.

In summary:

**Double Yellow Lines** indicate no waiting at any time. Vehicles may stop briefly to allow passengers to board, or to load and unload providing no obstruction is caused (normally they give 5 mins).

**Double Yellow Lines with blips on kerb** introduce further restrictions on loading and unloading.

- **A single kerb blip** means loading/unloading is prohibited during the times shown on nearby signs.
- **Double kerb blips** mean loading/unloading is prohibited at any time, even for short periods.

The presence of kerb blips allows our Parking Attendants to issue penalty notices not only for waiting restrictions but also for loading contraventions. However, as loading/unloading is often required near shops/businesses this has to be considered in town centres.

### Bins

#### **Information stickers on bins**

Ahead of the changes to the recycling service in March, Midlothian Council will be putting a sticker on the blue bin advising which materials can be recycled. The new green bin already has information about what can be recycled embossed into the lid. MC have taken on board your suggestion about a sticker on the grey bin and will see if this is possible.

#### **Information leaflet**

As part of the communications plan, Midlothian Council will be sending an updated collection calendar to all properties across Midlothian in February. Included with the calendar will be a leaflet advising which materials can go in each bin.

#### **Elderly/disabled people needing additional space in their grey bin**

If anyone has a medical need such as incontinence pads, then they can request a larger grey bin via the Council's website. Midlothian Council will then consider their request on an individual basis against the criteria.

#### **Communal bins**

As part of the next phase of the delivery of the green bins, Midlothian Council have started the process of engaging with residents in areas where an additional bin is not possible. Audits have been carried out in these areas and solutions identified, which we will discuss with residents in the coming weeks.

**Parking on emergency** entrance to school playground [near Leisure Centre/Church/Beacon road] – This location is a dropped kerb, which means it is legally enforceable under pavement parking legislation. Rather than cause confusion

as there are not signs elsewhere on dropped kerbs [and residents assume they are not enforceable], I will speak to Mark regarding a laminated sign which may alert people.

**Persimmons – Arniston Grange Site** – There are still some ongoing complaints, the most recent being speeding from the new estate. I have followed this up with the police and our Roads.

**Persimmons – Kings Meadow Site** – there are ongoing complaints from the residents which I have followed up with the Planning Department as well as with Persimmons. I am awaiting a date for another meeting with them.

### **Gorebridge High School**

I am hopeful that a report on potential sites for a Gorebridge High School will be available soon. I will keep the Community Council updated on the next actions that will follow, but I will certainly be asking for a paper to be presented to Council to have a swift consultation with the community, as I do not want to lose momentum on this. If we can identify a suitable site we can at least progress with this.

**Crawlees Road** – as this is a current planning matter, I am unable to comment on this until the actual Planning meeting, when all the information is available. If Councillors comment on live Planning applications they must recuse themselves from the meeting.

### **Newbyres Care Home – in answer to questions raised by Gorebridge Community Council [answers in bold]**

- Q.The issue of nursing cover at Newbyres Care Home remains challenging, reflecting wider workforce pressures across care homes and community nursing services. **We have found recruiting and retaining nursing staff challenging – this is largely reflective of wider nursing workforce issues and is, we feel, further impacted by the type of work (nursing in Care Homes is not always viewed as attractive so the workforce is quite narrow) and also the location of Newbyres which is at the south end of Midlothian.**
- Q.Some information currently referenced on nursing input is dated and requires verification. **This relates to workforce tools which help us determine complexity of residents and the type of work nurses will do along with the numbers we need. We need to ultimately update that but it will also be determined by our bed based review (see below).**
- Q.An updated report, including reference to the most recent inspection and nursing inputs, is expected to be brought back to a future performance/scrutiny meeting. **It is anticipated that a report will be taken to the next Performance Review and Scrutiny Board. This report will highlight the outcome of the most recent inspection by the Care Inspectorate.**
- Q.Proposals relating to wider bed base and care home issues are expected to be considered by the Integration Joint Board (IJB) in the coming weeks. **Whilst**

**the IJB awaits budget offers from both Midlothian Council and NHS Lothian, it is anticipated that services will continue to be under pressure and, as such, we are working in the HSCP on a range of recovery actions. A number of these focus on how to make most efficient use of our Midlothian Community Hospital and how we manage the flow of people from hospital care and back into the community or into care homes. We are aware that, due to safety and risk issues, we have had a reduction in beds in Newbyres for around 3 years now (48 as opposed to 60/61). As part of this bed based review, we are exploring how we make use of the currently closed street in Newbyres (ie. the 12 empty beds). It is anticipated that further proposals will be brought to the IJB in March 2026. Q.In the interim, nursing support at Newbyres continues to be provided through district nursing and NHS health colleagues, rather than fully embedded nursing cover within the care home. I responded to this previously – we do have full nursing cover currently in Newbyres and they also receive support from nursing colleagues elsewhere in the system in Midlothian.**

## **Gorebridge Library/Leisure Centre**

A paper is being presented to the next Council Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February to co-locate the library and leisure centre together. [some extracts from the paper Agenda item 8.9 are included]

Council is recommended to approve: • The Business Transformation Steering Group recommendation for the relocation of Gorebridge Library to the Gorebridge Leisure Centre to create the Gorebridge Hub. • The allocation in the General Services Capital Plan of £0.983 million (capital) and the associated loan charges and changes to premises costs in 4.1 table 2 in the Medium Term Financial Strategy

**If approved** it is anticipated this would happen in late May. The Library roof in particular has deteriorated to such an extent that the roof and building improvements would be extremely costly.

As a resident as well as a Councillor, I have been dismayed each time over the last 15 years or so that the library and the leisure centre have always come up for possible closure – in fact this was how Gorebridge Community Cares was brought into being to save the services at various times and it is a credit to our community that they have succeeded so far. Although, I like most of us, would have preferred the two buildings to be refurbished, when finances are constrained, you have to be realistic. By co-locating the library and leisure centre into one building, it will give security going forward for the two services and the staff. It is also hoped that the investment in a range of gym equipment (cardiovascular and resistance equipment) will be replaced which will bring a significant improvement in the quality and offering. Library and leisure opening hours are different so self service will be introduced to the library in the evenings after 7pm (when the leisure centre is open and the library would normally be closed) and on Wednesday when the library is currently closed, to extend the current library offer. Discussions are ongoing between services about whether extended opening hours, weekend opening and keyholder models could be adopted as part of a hub delivery model. I asked for this because people have missed the opportunity to keep fit at the weekends and will also be following up if the hall can be used at the weekends for children's parties etc.

### **Arniston Rangers Football Club fencing**

I am pleased to say that the front fence - Phase 1 - of the replacement fencing will commence shortly. This was enabled through the 3 Councillor's Environmental Funds. There are 3 Phases which will cost a significant amount of money to erect the fence down the side of the property to ensure security from vandalism, but here is the amount secured at the moment, which will pay for Phase 1 and a little towards the next phase.

£12,738	Councillor Douglas Bowen
£ 8,000	Councillor Ellen Scott
<u>£ 5,000</u>	Councillor Kelly Drummond
<b>£25,738</b>	

### **Newtongrange Community Council**

Safer Streets

Leisure Centre – upgrade

Football facilities

Motion to celebrate the Centenary of the Welfare Park

### **Moorfoot Community Council**

### **Landslip Temple**

## **Councillor Douglas Bowen's Report**

Report from Councillor Douglas Bowen to Gorebridge Community Council on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

I will be unable to attend the meeting as I am away on holiday for a few days with this being the school holiday week.

During the period since my last Report on 18<sup>th</sup> November I attended the December Council Meeting, Planning Committee, Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee, Local Review Body (Planning appeals) several Briefing Sessions, two Twinning meetings and meetings of the Dean Trust and Newbyres Trust. I have also spectated at the BTSG (which deals with the Council's finances) and the Cost of Living Task Force.

This week, I have attended the Licensing board.

With regard to ongoing issues, the following are the main items on my list;

1. Lingerwood Development and Crawlees Road.

Met recently with Planning Manager and other Councillors to discuss current position with Planning Application, expressed deep concern regarding current volume of traffic on Crawlees Road, possible solutions at junctions and safeguarded route. Planning Manager to discuss suggestions with Planning and Roads officers. Please note that another application has been lodged with Planning regarding use of the safeguarded route (25/00667/DPP). This application will be brought before the Committee with all other relevant applications so there is no need for this to be "Called-In" . Have requested simplified figures for traffic flows at peak periods particularly at Crawlees Road/Suttieslea Road junction.

2. Newtongrange former Pool Site.

I have been advised by the relevant officer of the following;

“ The draft programme is targeting the commencement of site construction this summer. The appointment of a contractor with significant local experience, Ogilvie Construction ensures the project can move quickly from the planning stage in March to physical construction in August “.

I understand that there will be a brief non-statutory Community Consultation prior to the Planning Application being lodged by the end of March. I have asked recently for an update on the commencement and format of the consultation.

3. Derelict Building at Station in Newtongrange.

Planning Manager consulting with colleagues to discuss possible action to deal with this long outstanding eyesore and danger to the public.

4. Gorebridge High School.

No further developments but mentioned and discussed at recent meetings regarding planning matters.

5. Pursuing addition of names to War Memorial in Welfare Park, Newtongrange. Still no confirmation of course of action to be taken. Will pursue again with Legal Officers.

6. Awaiting progress with new safety barriers on A7 near bowling green in Murderdean

Road but work on pedestrian crossing near Sun Inn will commence early on 16th February during the school holiday week. This will cause delays on the A7 but the improvement in safety for pedestrians will be considerable.

7. Still chasing Miller Homes and Scottish Water regarding drainage and open space management on Lady Victoria Estate.

8. Dealing with some personal problems for constituents including parking, rubbish removal, and inconsiderate neighbours.

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# Gorebridge Community Council Report 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026



Between 1<sup>st</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026, there were 156 calls received to the Gorebridge area.

## **Incidents of note**

01/01 – Lady Brae – Report to Police of a vehicle stuck overnight causing extensive damage to the rear of it. There are no witnesses, CCTV or dashcam capturing the offending vehicle. Crime report created and is unsolved.

01/01 – Burnside Road – call to Police regarding a male causing a disturbance within the street targeting an address. Officers attended and the male was located within his vehicle and thereafter failed the roadside breath test. He was arrested, charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

02/01 – Lady Emily Way – call from a resident reporting a group of youths banging front door. Youths were traced nearby by Police and spoken to. No crimes detected.

03/01 – Powdermill Brae – ongoing neighbour issue resulting in one male being issued a recorded police warning for his behaviour.

06/01 – South Quarry Crescent – between 19/12/25 and 06/01/26 a resident has had their van broken into and selection of power tools stolen from within. There are sadly no positive lines of enquiry from CCTV/ring doorbells.

08/01 – South Quarry Mews – another vehicle was broken into over the festive period and power tools stolen. There are no positive lines of enquiry or scope for forensic opportunities.

11/01 – Ladybrae Children's Unit – call from staff reporting an abusive youth within. Police attended and the child's behaviour continued with Police being aggressive and very abusive. The male teenager had to be handcuffed and taken out the unit to calm down before returning and being charged for his conduct. Report to youth justice sent.

11/01 – Lady Brae Place – several calls to Police regarding a neighbour playing loud music. Police attended on each occasion and there was no loud music playing on their arrival. Neighbour spoken to and provided with advice moving forward.

12/01 – Burnside Road – call regarding youths riding an off-road motorbike up and down the street. There were no Police available at that time to attend.

13/01 – Gorewater Gardens – report of a vehicle blocking the entrance to the street. There were no Police available at that time to attend for several hours and by that time the vehicle was no longer there.

15/01 – Burnside Road – youths taking turns riding an off-road bike on the road. No Police were able to attend at that time.

16/01 – Birkenside – Police called regarding a disturbance within a property. Officers attended and dispersed the people within. One male was issued with a recorded police warning for threatening and abusive behaviour against police.

19/01 – Roseberry Crescent – Police observed a driver of a vehicle wearing a balaclava. The vehicle was stopped and driver given suitable advice regarding this.

21/01 – New Park Gardens – report of an assault at an address. Police attended and the male suspect had left prior to their arrival. The male victim had been struck to the face with a chain causing a broken nose and tooth. Ambulance contacted and the victim was conveyed to the ERI for medical attention. Extensive enquiries carried out

and the male was later identified, traced, arrested, charged and kept in custody to appear at court for a serious assault.

26/01 – Birkenside – several calls regarding neighbours arguing with one another which escalated to one neighbour assaulting the other by throwing an item at them causing no injury. The incident was captured on CCTV and the culprit spoken to and issued with a recorded police warning for assault.

30/01 – Burnside Road – several calls regarding a male intoxicated, challenging people to a fight. Police attended and the male carried on with his abusive behaviour so had to be arrested, handcuffed and taken to the police station where he was later charged and released when sober. He was charged with threatening & abusive behaviour and having a small amount of cannabis in his possession.

31/01 – Castle Avenue – report of 2 youths on motorbikes wearing balaclavas. Police had no tactical options to intercept the bikes and were stood down from pursuing.

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## Additional information

The community are reminded that your local Community Officer PC McFarlane and the Dalkeith Community Policing team can be contacted at any time to provide guidance and advice and are available at the below email address.

[MidlothianSouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:MidlothianSouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

## *For Information Purposes Only*

If any person has any information about the incident(s) listed above or indeed any other issue, please contact your Community Policing Team at

[MidlothianSouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:MidlothianSouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

Police Scotland use social media to circulate the latest news, events and information to the public via Twitter/X (@Midlothpolice) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/policescotland](http://www.facebook.com/policescotland)).