

Dechmont Matters

Winter 2023

X @DechmontCC
www.dechmontcommunitycouncil.com



*Season's Greetings
from
Dechmont
Community Council.*

We're all volunteers at DCC, working together to make our village a great place to live.

We meet monthly in the Memorial Hall and everyone's welcome.



Interested in finding out more?

A warm welcome awaits if you'd like to come along. You'll find information about our meetings on the back page.

We're also looking for more people to join our band of Village Volunteers - informal helpers who offer up a couple of hours of their time now and again to support the village.

Could that be you?

If your 2024 resolution is to give a little something back to your community, Village Volunteers is a great place to start. Find out more inside.



Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and we hope to see you around in 2024!

Dechmont Community Council & Dechmont Village Volunteers



Looking back at 2023

It's been a busy year at DCC, where we've been campaigning on local issues, carrying out improvement projects, responding to residents' requests and questions, and planning community events. This year, most of our time has been taken up with:

- Local planning issues, including the major development at Bangour, new housing planned for the east end of Main Street, and the Burnhouse Farm application. Together these three developments could add almost 1500 homes to the east, west and north of Dechmont.
- Traffic management: pushing for the things you asked for in our transport survey – fewer HGVs using the village, new lower speed limits, and more traffic calming.
- Lobbying against proposals to amend local bus routes.
- Making sure West Lothian Council maintenance works are carried out as planned, e.g., grass cutting in the park, or emptying bins.
- Monitoring the long-term consultation around expansion plans and proposed flight path changes at Edinburgh Airport.
- Planning and submitting funding applications for village improvements.

Village improvements

Over the years, DCC has been awarded grants from various funders to pay for the installation and upkeep of everything from a defibrillator at the Memorial Hall, to the annual summer flower displays in the village planters and the hanging baskets that appear on Main Street in the summer months.

Our largest investment to date has been the sculptures at the entrances to the village that tell the story of Dechmont's relationship with Bangour Village Hospital.

In 2024, what would you like to see next?

While some of the funds we apply for are ring-fenced for specific items, like this newsletter, others are more flexible.

What do you want to see us tackle next year?

Get in touch with your idea or come along to a meeting.





The Dechmont Community Council warmly invites you – our wonderful neighbours, friends, and local champions – to share your enthusiasm, skills, and passion to help our village thrive.

Whether you're interested in joining the community council or simply want to lend a hand, your contributions are invaluable. Every hour you can spare to improve our charming village or taking part in various community projects, helps build a more vibrant Dechmont. You have the power to make a difference, and there are plenty of opportunities to do so, with or without a formal role in the council.

Let's come together to make Dechmont not just a place to live, but a community that's truly alive and flourishing. Join us in whatever capacity you can, and be part of something extraordinary!

Interested?
Scan to Email



dechmontcommunitycouncil@hotmail.com

Volunteers normally offer help for an hour or two, once or twice a year in things like:

- Professional skills – talking to us about an issue where we need guidance or signposting, and in which you have professional knowledge, e.g., planning, energy, health, community wellbeing or transport.
- Village maintenance, e.g., refreshing the paint on the planters at the village entrances, putting up or taking down the hanging baskets, or making sure the memorial garden is tidy for Remembrance Sunday.
- Gardening, e.g., filling planters with bedding plants, planting bulbs in the park, or watering the hanging baskets. No professional knowledge or experience needed.
- Website design and development.
- Marketing and communications, e.g., writing copy for our website or newsletters.
- Any other skill you think could make a difference to Dechmont!

Our meetings in 2024

Community Council meetings are held monthly at 6pm in the Memorial Hall and normally last about an hour. You don't need to be a member to discuss an idea, ask a question, suggest something new, or just observe at a meeting and see what happens.

You don't need to give any notice if you plan to come along.

31st January 2024

28th February 2024

27th March 2024

24th April 2024

29th May 2024

26th June 2024

Summer break - no meeting in July

28th August 2024

25th September 2024

30th October 2024

27th November 2024 (AGM)

Christmas break - no meeting in December

You can find the agenda for that month, and the minutes of previous meetings, on the DCC website, and on the community noticeboard next to the Post Office.

On social media, follow us on Twitter/X at @DechmontCC.

And finally

DCC would like to thank Lodge Buchan St John No 636, representing Broxburn, Uphall and Dechmont, for its generous donation earlier this year of £250 to be used to help support amenities and activities in the village.