

### **East Haven Together in 2020**

It has certainly been a difficult year and we have had to adapt to manage all the changes. We haven't been able to start any significant new projects as all our energies have gone into maintenance of the village. However, we consider that to have been a major achievement given that we have been so restricted in the number of volunteers that can work together at any one time. The community gardens have looked beautiful all year round due to the commitment and perseverance of a small number of volunteers. We have also received some grant funding to purchase new plants and shrubs which we will plant out over the next couple of weeks.

We painted and re-opened our public toilets in July and these have been welcomed by our many visitors. Residents have also worked hard to keep the beach and general amenity as clean and litter free as possible. Public behaviour has definitely settled down though we still experience occasional incidents of significant littering or inappropriate behaviour. We have worked to support other communities on the Angus coast and also linked up with the Scottish Tourism Action Group to try and identify solutions to some of the problems experienced in local beauty spots across Scotland.

We achieved a beach award from KSB so the flag has been flying all summer though we didn't promote it on social media in an attempt to manage visitor numbers. In normal times, East Haven receives 2,500 hits per week on its web-site but during the summer we received an average of 5,500 hits per week which I think was people across Scotland looking for places to visit.

EHT also resumed the Butterfly and Bee transect walk in June and in addition, residents submitted photographs of species they spotted in their gardens and general areas. This has resulted in some species being recorded that we have not seen in East Haven before which is exciting, and the results have been uploaded to the national biological data-base iRecord.

EHT also adopted four new transects for cleaning litter and uploading data using KSB's new data recording sheets. These transects are all based around the access roads leading off the A92 and down to East Haven. We are learning a lot about public behaviour from our analysis of what is being found in these areas. East Haven has also been leading on the organisation of a modified Great Angus Beach Clean to be held during weekend of 19th and 20th September.

It is true to say that 2020 has not been the year we anticipated but nevertheless we have risen to the challenge and survived everything thus far. Fingers crossed that this time next year we are in phase 4 and life is looking a little more normal again.

Every good wish  
Wendy and everybody at East Haven Together.