

Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council
Minutes of the 432nd Public Meeting held at 19.30 on
Tuesday 3 July 2012 at the Fire Station, North Berwick

Present: Cllr E Danks Treasurer
 Cllr K Smith Secretary
 Cllrs R Bryson, L Hall, R MacEwen, W Macnair, J Scott, S Sinclair, I Watson

In attendance: ELC Cllrs T Day, D Berry, J Goodfellow and local press

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Danks took the chair and welcomed those present.
In the absence of the Minute Secretary, Cllr Smith took the Minutes.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllrs P Burton, M Baker, Ms P Earle.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 12 June 2012

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Watson and seconded by Cllr Scott.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 *Traffic lights at Law Road*

(3.2) With regard to the filter for traffic turning south from Clifford Road into Law Road the Secretary had been informed that the Council was planning a number of significant traffic signal installation refurbishments throughout East Lothian and this would be considered for inclusion as part of these works.

3.2 *Wind turbine, Dirleton Castle*

(3.3) There had been no response yet to the Chairman's letter to the officer responsible at ELC for an explanation on how the decision had been reached.

3.3 *The Delegated List*

(3.4) The Secretary had now received confirmation from Brian Stalker that the Scheme of Delegation List and Committee Expedited List would be put on the Council website.

3.4 *Pavement repairs*

(3.7) It was reported that the raised kerbs had been identified and would be dealt with.

3.5 *Parking at Station Court*

(3.9) The Secretary had not yet had a response from ELC about the reported parking problems. She would pursue the matter further with the Transportation Department.

3.7 *Parking byelaw*

(3.13) The Secretary had received an acknowledgement from ELC that her supplementary statement had been forwarded to the Scottish Government.

3.6 *Scottish Seabird Centre car park*

(6.3) Cllr Macnair pointed out that although clear signage regarding charges and hours was now in place there were still aspects of it which were not clear.

3.7 *Parking Consultation*

(10.1) It was reported that the report was being printed and would be available shortly.

3.8 *Speed reactive sign*

(16.2) Following a site meeting between Cllr MacEwen, ELC Cllr Goodfellow and Colin Baird of the Transportation Department another location outside Dirleton Court had been identified. This location would also allow the use of the sign in either direction. Yellow backing boards for the sign to improve conspicuity were to be ordered. The possibility of Cllr MacEwen downloading the data was to be investigated.

4. Police Report

There was no police representation and no report available.

5. Edington Hospital Forum

5.1 Cllr MacEwen reported on the meeting held on 25 June. He was disappointed that the position had not changed much from the first meeting. Difficulties for compliance were now being identified and a survey to note the parts not meeting standards was to be carried out. If there was an inspection now it would fail. The quality of care was not in doubt; the slavish standards of other hospitals however were not applicable. At the next meeting there should be a clearer indication of where the areas of difficulty lay. There was a strong commitment from the doctors to work closely with the Edington and it was agreed that it was important to have the health centre next to the hospital.

5.2 With regard to the Abbey Home, difficulties regarding the quality of the extension had been identified. Estates Management were looking at the building closely, throwing up a marker that there were unexpected issues.

5.3 The proposed new housing in the town would mean the requirement for another GP. ELC Cllr Berry pointed out that neither the NHS nor ELC would be able resolve the problem and that some thinking outside the box was required to identify a site for expansion nearby.

6. St Andrew Kirkports Project

6.1 It was confirmed that ELC Cllr Day had agreed to lead this project.

7. Older People's Strategy

7.1 Murray Ley's response to the Chairman's letter was noted.

8. Induction Pack for new community councillors.

8.1 The proposals for an induction pack which had been prepared by Cllrs McEwen and Sinclair and which had been circulated previously were approved. It was suggested that following the community council election there should be an informal meeting with new community councillors to update them on current business and issues.

9. Restricting access by dogs to East Beach

9.1 It was decided to hold over this matter till further research was carried out.

10. Putting Competition

10.1 The Secretary reminded members that help was required for the qualifying for the Calder and Crawford Cups on 24 July and the finals on 26 July. Otherwise everything was under control.

11. Planning Matters

11.1 The following applications met with no objections:

Rhodes Holdings – prior notification of erection of agricultural building;
2 Tantallon Terrace – alterations, extension to house, widening of vehicular access, formation of hardstanding area and roof terrace with external steps;
15 Balfour Street – replacement windows;
35 Williamstone Court – extension to house;
4 Fidra Court – formation of dormer.

11.2 The erection of a wind turbine at Newmains Farm was noted.

12. Reports from Groups & Societies

12.1 *Joint Awareness Seminar*

ELC Cllr Goodfellow reported on the meeting held in Haddington on 26 June which had been arranged by ELC as part of a desire to create links and bring together members of Community Councils and Tenants and Residents Associations. [*The Evaluation Report on the Seminar was subsequently circulated to members.*]

12.2 *North Berwick in Bloom*

A letter had been delivered to households throughout the town appealing for financial and practical help so that the present level of planting and upkeep could be maintained and the standards necessary to enter national competitions upheld.

13. Correspondence

13.1 *North Berwick Local Community Plan*

Following the Forum in May a proposed 'areas for action' had been produced by ELC and had been circulated to members. Further comments should be submitted by 31 August.

13.2 *East Lothian Food Bank*

A letter from Fiona O'Donnell MP requesting information on what help could be given to set up a food bank in East Lothian had been received. Further consideration would be given at a future meeting.

13.3 *Friends of Edington Hospital*

A letter had been received from the Treasurer thanking the Community Council for its donation of £500 towards their centenary celebration.

13.4 *East Lothian Yacht Club*

A copy of a letter to ELC Councillors had been received from ELYC expressing concern about certain issues following the decision of ELC not to transfer the land currently leased to the Scottish Seabird Centre to North Berwick Harbour Trust. They believe that it was important that all harbour users work together for the development and common good of the harbour and its environs. Any expansion of the SSC should be planned in conjunction with NBHT so that plans for sea defences which protect the whole harbour might be developed. Concern was also expressed about any expansion of the SSC footprint within the esplanade and the effect that might have on the ELYC ability to use the esplanade for regattas etc.

It was agreed that councillors should be encouraged to work towards re-integration of SSC within the harbour community. It was noted that there was no community representative on the SSC management board. It was agreed that the Community Council should support NBHT and encourage the involvement of SSC. It was suggested that the Community Council have an informal meeting with the SSC board members.

14. AOCB

14.1 *Gilsland Development*

ELC councillors were invited to the informal meeting on 17 July with Cala.

14.2 *West Bay Sewer*

It was agreed that Bill Elliott of Scottish Water should attend our next informal meeting.

14.3 *Parking Review*

Peter Forsyth from ELC Transportation had indicated that he was willing to attend a meeting.

14.4 *TRO School Road*

ELC Cllr Berry reported that, because of the loss of parking at the museum, a TRO would be issued shortly to introduce a one way system and associated parking in School Road.

14.5 *NBCC Accounts*

The Treasurer tabled the accounts for the year to 31 March 2012. Adoption of the accounts was proposed by the Secretary and seconded by Cllr Hall.

15. Date of next meeting

19.30 on Tuesday 7 August 2012 in the Fire Station.