**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 487th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 6th December 2016**

**in The Fire Station, Station Road, North Berwick**

**Present:** Cllr Hilary Smith, Chairman

 Cllr Kathryn Smith, Secretary

 Cllrs L Cowie, L Kay, G Moodie, C Mackenzie; W Macnair, O Owen, S

 Northrop, T Todd & I Watson (late)

**In attendance:** ELC Cllrs D Berry & J Goodfellow, local press, 4 members of the public.

**1 Welcome:** The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all those present.

**2**  **Apologies:** ELC Cllr T Day, PCs D Gray & I Paterson

**3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th December 2016:**

Adoption of the Minutes as amended, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Northrop and seconded by Cllr Cowie

**4 (a) Matters Arising:**

4a.1 ***4.1 Cycling in the Lodge:*** Cllr Kay confirmed that this had been raised at the On the Move meeting on 22nd November. A segregated cycling bath was being considered but in the meantime a watching brief would be kept on the issue.

4a.2 ***4.7 Lime Grove Depot:*** The Secretary reported that she had just received a response from the Chief Executive to her recent correspondence which indicated that, as the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 which comes into force on 27th January 2017 provides for community consultation in respect of Council owned land, although the Lime Grove site was in preparation for market disposal, it was the Council’s intention to consult with the local community regarding its proposed disposal. The consultation would highlight current and future service requirements and any related re-provisioning of services or infrastructure which might result, together with likely associated costs. Several services within the Council were currently undertaking the necessary work and once there was sufficient detail the Community Council would be contacted.

4a.3 ***4.4 Planning Aid:*** It was confirmed that a training schedule was still to be published.

4a.4 ***5.2 Traffic Wardens:*** It was confirmed that, on the understanding that the decriminalisation order would be through at the start of the month, the traffic wardens would be starting to ticket parking offences in January.

4a.5 8 ***Remembrance Sunday:*** Past Chairman David Kellock was to be thanked for making all the arrangements for this year’s ceremonies. The Secretary reported that comments had been made about the sound system and traffic management in Kirkports during the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial which would have to be addressed.

**4 (b) Presentation by P7 pupils:**

4b.1 The Chairman welcomed Mrs Allison Cosgrove and Calum Paxton & Ursula Fletcher, two P7 pupils. Mrs Cosgrave explained that she had been speaking to P7 pupils at Law Primary about local politics, activism and volunteering. As the children were very aware of what was going on in the town she had encouraged them to develop their thoughts on what they would like to see in the town for young people. As a result of this they had had a vote and Calum and Ursula presented some of their proposals which included an outdoor trampoline park (the most popular); dugouts at the 3G pitch (second favourite); new swings in The Lodge with better seats; a safer crossing at Glasclune Gardens; a handrail at the path in The Glen to make it safer; the budgies in the aviary to have some grass.

4b.2 The Chairman thanked the pupils for their presentation and undertook to support some of the ideas put forward. Cllr Northrop added that the Area Partnership would be prepared to help in any way it could.

**5 Police Report:**

5.1 In the absence of PCs Gray & Paterson the Secretary read the Police Report which is summarised as follows:

During the period of the Report there had been several incidents of note which were broken down in terms of the agreed priorities for the ward as follows –

1. ***Road Safety***

* On 13/11/16 there was a report of a vehicle driving dangerously on the High Street, Vehicle details circulated. Keeper not local.
* On 21/11/16 a patrol was carried out by the Community Policing Team in and around Law Primary and the High School at the start of the school day. No issues.
* On 24/11/16 a patrol was carried out by the Community Policing Team around North Berwick High and Law Primary School re speeding/safety concerns. No issues.

2. ***Antisocial Behaviour***

* On 04/11/16 there was a complaint regarding a vehicle in Church Road with loud exhaust being left idling for 10 minutes most evenings. Road Policing to progress.
* On 05/11/16 there was a report of 4 youths setting off fireworks near to 3G Football Pitch.

3. ***Housebreaking***

* Between 03/11/16 and 20/11/16, a theft/ housebreaking occurred in Dirleton Avenue. Several items were stolen from within. A set of keys was also taken and a BMW taken from the driveway. The BMW was subsequently recovered at Bankton Roundabout after a road traffic accident with a bus. One male was charged with several offences, including theft/ housebreaking and numerous Road Traffic offences.
* On 22/11/16, there was a report of an attempt housebreaking in Green Apron Park. Males disturbed and made off. Enquiries ongoing.
* Between 21/11/16 and 24/11/16, a report was received of an attempt housebreaking on Ware Road. Enquiries ongoing.

4. ***Parking***

* Parking in the town centre continues to be an issue and a Community and Police Partnership priority and will be given attention during the month.

5. ***CAPP***

The date of the next CAPP meeting is on Wednesday 25th January 2017at 1930 hours in the Council Chambers, North Berwick.

6. ***Other Incidents of note***

* On 04/11/2016 Police were asked to assist at a non-suspicious fire in Marmion Court. 1 minor casualty with smoke inhalation.
* On 05/11/2016 there was a theft of petrol from Dalrymple Service Station. Vehicle registration number noted and letter sent out.
* On 09/11/2016 there was a theft of charity box from Paper Flower, High Street. Further enquiry re CCTV.
* On 25/11/16 there was a report of a cyclist having been bitten on the leg by a dog on a lead with owner within Lodge Grounds. Enquiries ongoing to trace dog and owner.
* On 26/11/16 there was a report of vehicle paintwork damaged whilst parked in Wishart Avenue. Enquiries ongoing.

5.2 ***Hogmanay:*** ELC Cllr Goodfellow reported that the High Street would be closed between Market Place and Church Road on 31st December from 11.00 pm till 1.00 am with police officers in attendance for the celebrations outside St Andrew Blackadder Church.

**6 Planning Matters**

6.1 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on, where appropriate –

**17 Clifford Road (North Berwick Bowling Club):** Erection of shed. No objection was raised.

**13 Dundas Avenue:** Extension to house, formation of dormers and raised decking with handrails. No objection was raised.

**26 Victoria Road:** Erection of additional canopies. Concern was expressed that the proposal was within a conservation area and in a prominent position close to a scheduled monument.

**Our Lady Star of the Sea RC Church, Law Road:** Formation of ramp, steps, hard standing area, erection of handrail and part demolition of wall. No objection was raised.

**37 Marmion Road:** Change of use of open space to domestic garden ground, erection of ancillary building, gate, wall, and formation of hard standing, area and steps. No objection was raised.

**15 Cromwell Road:** Design changes to house and formation of ramp and steps as changes to the scheme of development, the subject of planning permission 14/00991/P. Concern was expressed that the application deviates significantly from the previous application.

**7 Lorne Square:** Conversion of existing cellar to form ancillary residential accommodation, erection of handrails and installation of lighting. No objection was raised.

**5 Ibris Place:** Erection of garage. No objection was raised.

**12 Glasclune Gardens:** Erection of garden room with decking. No objection was raised.

**12 Quality Street:** Alterations, extension to building and erection of wall. No objection was raised.

*Cllr Watson joined the meeting.*

**7 Communications Group Report:**

7.1 Cllr Mackenzie referred to the Report which had been circulated prior to the meeting and which she summarised as follows - the web designer was in the process of updating the website; photos of the Councillors had been taken; the public event on 3rd December had taken place and had been favourably received; current details (including costs) for printing and distributing the Newsletter had been obtained; the brief for a social media intern had been prepared.

7.2 The proposed brief for the appointment of a social media intern was approved and it was agreed that Cllr Cowie should progress the matter with the High School in the New Year.

**8 SESplan Response:**

8.1The Chairman confirmed that the Community Council’s Response had been submitted to ELC. She thanked Tom Drysdale of Gullane & Area CC for his assistance and Cllr Owen for entering the Response into the lengthy consultation document.

**9 Resignation – Casual vacancy:**

9.1 The Chairman confirmed that Eric Wales had resigned from the Community Council and that, following the Scheme for Community Council Guidelines, the vacancy would be advertised in the New Year. After consideration of the applications the current community councillors would select the replacement.

**10 NBCC Ward boundary:**

10.1The Chairman pointed out that discussions with Gullane Area and Dunpender Community Councils would require to be held before any further action could be taken regarding extending the ward boundary.

**11 Reports from Groups & Societies:**

**North Berwick Trust:** The Chairman confirmed that Cllrs Mackenzie, Kay, Owen and Todd had been appointed to fill the 4 vacancies on the Trust.

**Resilience Plan:** The Secretary pointed out that the Plan would require to be updated.

**North Berwick Business Association:** Cllr Todd had met with the Association to introduce them to the idea of creating a new town website. He had also told them about the proposed charrette. He noted that 95% of the members were accommodation providers; most of the businesses did not seem to be interested.

**CAPP:** It was pointed out thatneither the Secretary nor Cllr Cowie had received notice of the November meeting which had taken place. The Secretary would inform the Police again that she and Cllr Cowie were the NBCC representatives and should be included on their mailing list. There would be no meeting in December.

**Christmas Lights:** The Chairman expressed her thanks to the old Christmas Lights Committee, chaired by Jake Scott which had carried through the arrangements for the switch-on on 19th November. A new committee would now have to be formed. Cllrs Cowie and Moodie offered to be involved.

**St Andrew’s Old Kirk Project:** There had been no meeting recently. The Secretaryconfirmed that ELC Cllr Day hadbeen informed that Cllr Owen was now the Community Council’srepresentative.

**Coastal Communities Museum:** Cllr Moodie commented that the museum was now closed till April. He was pleased to report that there had been around 7,800 visitors during the season.

**Area Partnership:** Cllr Kay reported that funding for the proposed charrette, the main purpose of which was to address the pedestrian, safety and parking issues within the town centre, had been obtained. It would be carried out in March.

**Youth Network:** Cllr Watson reported that beginning on 12th January a youth worker would be employed by the Network.

**12 Correspondence:**

The following communications had been received –

* An Invitation to the Provost’s Reception on 15th December – the Chairman and Secretary would attend.
* An e-mail from Sandy Baptie, ELC Emergency Planning and Risk Manager - East Lothian Council: Guide to Assistance available through the 2016/2017 Wi3nter. [circulated]
* An e-mail with Issue 1 of East Lothian Community Hospital construction bulletin. [circulated]
* An e-mail with a call for nominations for the Scottish Civic Trust ‘My Place’ Awards - deadline 31st January. [circulated]

**13 Any other competent business:**

***Common Good Fund*** – questions had been asked about the Common Good Fund at the public event held on 3rd December. ELC Cllr Goodfellow confirmed that this was administered by ELC. He would forward details of the common good properties in North Berwick to the Secretary.

***Youth Project*** – there would be an Open Day at the Hope Rooms on Saturday 10th December from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm to which everyone was welcome.

***Street lighting*** – concern was expressed about street lighting, particularly in Bank Street. ELC Cllr Berry reminded members that a phone call to the lighting department with the lamp post number should resolve any problems.

***Venue*** – Cllr Moodie commented that the number of members of the public attending the meeting was the norm. The large numbers attending earlier in the year was due to controversial issues and was exceptional. He did not see any need to change the venue. Cllr Mackenzie was still to look into the Community Centre as a possible alternative.

**14 Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held at the Fire Station, Station Road, North Berwick on Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7.30 pm.

**The Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

The 488th Public Meeting of the Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council to be held in the Fire Station, Station Road on Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7.30 pm

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of Meetings held on 6th December 2016
4. Matters Arising
5. Police Report
6. Planning Matters
7. NBGC – coastal erosion
8. Communications Group Report
9. Area Partnership – Charrette

10. Community Planning

11. Casual Vacancy

12. Reports from Groups & Societies

13. Correspondence

 14. Any other competent business

 15. Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 7th February 2017