**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 497thPublic Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 3rd October 2017**

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

**Present:**Cllr H Smith – Chair, Cllr K Smith - Secretary, Cllr J Lockhart – Treasurer, Cllr W Macnair, Cllr G Moodie, Cllr L Kay, Cllr T Todd, Cllr O Olwyn, Cllr I Watson

**In attendance:**ELC Cllr Jim Goodfellow, ELC Cllr Jane Henderson, PC I Paterson, Peter Hamilton, Gavin Harper (press), Jill Taylor (Minutes) and members of public.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllr C Mackenzie - Vice-Chair, Cllr S Northrop, ELC Cllr J Findlay, PC D Gray |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Moodie and seconded by Cllr Todd. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1*4.1* HS still to check if speed restriction measures meet current guidelines.   4.2*4.5* East Lothian Plan was discussed and approved at recent Local Area Partnership meeting. This has been circulated to Cllrs.   * 1. *4.8* The work required to North Berwick Council Chambers   was raised at recent Common Good meeting – ELC Cllr Goodfellow to report back to next NBCC meeting.   * 1. *6.3* Nobody from NBCC attended recent Planning Aid   training on 22/9   * 1. *10* NBCC did not submit a response to the recent climate   change consultation.   * 1. *14* Agricultural smell at Ferrygate. It was agreed last   month that Cllr Lockhart would write letter to SEPA with support from Cllr Macnair, copying in ELC Environmental Health department – this has not been done yet. Cllr Lockhart has emailed the Farmers Union, however has not yet received a response. It was agreed that this is really affecting town and legislation through SEPA may be required. HS to contact local MSP/list MSPs to initiate discussion.   * 1. *13.3* Cllr Kay attended recent meeting of Friends of the   Edington meeting. There will be a consultation soon.   * 1. *16* HS attended recent Community Rail Partnership AGM.   2. *17.1* Town Plan. There is a meeting tomorrow with Adrian   Bolt, who will potentially work on initial specification.  4.10 *17.2* HS attended East Lothian Council’s Local Housing Strategy consultation event on 25/9 at John Muir House.  4.11 *17.5* Cllr K. Smith has written to Stuart Pryde, ELC re. tree  roots on Lochbridge Road. Awaiting response. | HS  JL &BM      HS |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 5.1 PC Paterson read out this month’s police report which is attached separately.   5.2 PC Paterson encouraged Cllrs to take part in Police Scotland’s Your View Counts survey, to let police know what is important in your area. Area Commander will look at responses. CM to publicise on social media.  5.3 The recent CAPP meeting was on Wednesday 27th September and attended by Cllr K. Smith and Peter Hamilton. CAPP priorities for this month are:-   * Anti-social behavior on Law View and Lochbridge Road. * Speed checks on East Road and Dunbar Road. * A198 speeding.   The date of the next CAPP meeting is Wednesday 25th October, Council Chambers, North Berwick.  Feedback welcome to [NorthBerwickCoastalCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NorthBerwickCoastalCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk) or [deborah.gray@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:deborah.gray@scotland.pnn.police.uk) and [john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk). | All Cllrs  CM |
| **6. Planning Matters (attached separately)** | 6.1 August planning applications were lead on by Cllr K Smith and Cllr Todd.  6.2 No comments on List A.  6.3 Discussed 17/00434/P – alteration and extensions to the Scottish Seabird Centre and adjacent sun lounge to form a national marine centre and associated works at Scottish Seabird Centre. NBCC previously lodged objection to original application.  There was a discussion around the table and views were taken from members of the public present.  There are changes in size of building from original plans, but it was felt that these are insignificant. It is still felt that this is a large development and it is still taller than other buildings. It was agreed that the changes that have been made don’t change NBCC’s position on size and scale of building. Therefore NBCC will restate original objections. It must be noted that NBCC are, in general, in support of Scottish Seabird Centre being developed and improved and in the development of a national marine centre. The objection is to this particular proposal.  There were also concerns about the economic impact report presented with the planning application. It was felt that there are a huge number of assumptions in the report whose provenance was unclear. There are concerns re. number of visitors and parking and parking is barely mentionedin the report. NBCC unconvinced by economic argument and will also detail this in their response.  The Harbour Trust have not seen any construction management plan and had any follow up to last meeting.  There were concerns raised about how can Charette recommendations be followed up if the Scottish Seabird Centre is developed. Concerns about disruption of potential work.  NBCC feel that their opinion has not fundamentally changed. There are concerns over the building’s impact, size and scale and questions marks over the economic argument provided. NBCC wish to make it clear that they support Scottish Seabird Centre and the development of a national marine centre but that this application concerns the development of a sensitive site. Cllr K. Smith and Cllr Todd to respond to ELC on this basis.  6.4 Cllr Todd and Cllr Watson will lead on October’s planning applications. |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | The website update has been paid for.  Cllr Lockhart to pay £2,588 invoice for newsletter printing this week. | JL |
| **8 Communications Group** | There have been no meetings since last NBCC meeting.  The suggestion boxes have been well used and Cllrs are encouraged to pick up suggestions when passing a suggestion box – these can be passed to Cllr H. Smith or Cllr K. Smith. | All Cllrs |
| **9 24 hour defibrillators** | 6.1 There is now a box for the defibrillator to be placed at the Recreation Ground, it is not on the wall yet, but no planning approval is required. There are 3 planning applications currently with East Lothian Council for the defibrillators at WhyNot, the Fire Station and RNLI. Cllr Todd has received quotes to have these 4 defibrillators connected to power supplies but these quotes come to £2,810 as the work requires using armoured cable. NBCC also still need to buy the defibrillator for the fire station. There were some concerns raised that this is a lot of money to spend and that NBCC have just asked for suggestions of what to spend Local Priorities budget on. There may be possibility of applying for some support from Stella Moffat Trust or North Berwick Trust but this could not be discussed further as some of the Trustees of these Trusts also sit on NBCC. NBCC agreed that more quotes were required. NBCC also agreed in principle that NBCC meeting the cost of connecting and fitting these should be covered by NBCC, and then other funding sources sought. Cllr Todd and Cllr H. Smith to follow up getting further quotes.  9.2 Friends of Edington want to hand over routine maintenance of defibrillators. First Responders to be asked to take the role on. | TT and HS |
| **10 Area Partnership – Charrette** | The Local Area Partnership has published the Charrette report, a hard copy of which is available in the Library or it is also available to view online. There was a budget setting meeting this week and the new budget will be circulated. LK to check if getting further hard copies of Charrette report is possible. | LK |
| **11 Christmas Lights** | 11.1 The Christmas lights group is meeting tomorrow morning.  The group had been looking for a local person of note to switch on the lights and Cllr Mackenzie had put forward the name of a local sporting personality. It had been agreed that Christmas baubles would be given as gifts to the children in place of toys which were previously given out. The lights would be put up in November.  11.2 Cllr Lockhart asked if NBCC funds could be used until the problem accessing the Christmas lights bank account was resolved. Cllr Lockhart also asked for a donation from NBCC towards the Christmas lights; this will be discussed at the next meeting. | JL |
| **12 Remembrance Day – 12th November** | The Remembrance Day service will take place at 10.30am at the Abbey Church, North Berwick and will be followed by the parade and then the wreath laying ceremony at the Memorial Gardens. Cllr H. Smith has organized appropriate road closures with ELC. 2 police will attend, one car and one on foot. There are volunteers required to marshal. Perhaps the Rotary could help? Cllr H. Smith to circulate details. | HS |
| **13 NBCC Annual General Meeting** | It was previously agreed that this would take place prior to next NBCC meeting, on Thursday 7th November 2017, at 7pm. At the AGM, which Community Councillors sit on which groups and societies will be reviewed. |  |
| **14 Casual Vacancies** | At AGM, Cllr H. Smith intends to stand down as Chair and as a Community Councillor. There will therefore be 2 casual vacancies. These must be advertised and NBCC are looking for people to make a difference. It would be ideal if interested people could attend mid month meeting on 17th. The Communications Group will publish vacancy on social media, on NBCC website and through networks. Cllr Todd to put vacancy details on notice boards around town. Discussed advert in East Lothian Courier. Cllr K. Smith is point of contact.  People interested in vacancy should live or have some connection with town and be over 18. Cllr K. Smith to check exact requirements. | Comms Grp  TT  KS |
| **15 Meetings Venue from January 2018** | Cllr H. Smith has managed to secure Hope Rooms for regular NBCC meetings from January 2018. Dates to remain as 1st Tuesday of the month. |  |
| **16 Reports from groups and societies** | 15.1 St Andrew’s Old Kirk Project:  The bell panel is being designed.  15.2 Friends of the Edington: The next meeting is on 27th November  15.3 Coastal Communities Museum:  The Museum has recently been awarded a 4 star rating from Visit Scotland.   15.4 The Environment Trust has been in contact to request a representative from NBCC to sit on their committee. Discuss at AGM.  15.5 CAPP: See 5.3  15.6 Joint Laws Group: Discussed marshland at the back of the Law. There will be an attempt to raise the level to try and give them some more open water. Cllr Macnair has advised caution and Cllr Goodfellow advised to this monitor carefully. |  |
| **17 Correspondence** | The following communications had been received:-   * Copied in to email to ELC Chief Executive re. health and safety issues in Dirleton Avenue. There was an acknowledgement received from ELC Chief Executive and this has been passed on to relevant ELC depts. * Email from Peter Hammond, North Berwick Raft Race. Many thanks to CC for donation for £500. * Letter from Edinburgh Airport airspace change update. * Invited to respond to Building Scotland’s Low Emission Zones consultation – Cllr Mackenzie to gather responses from NBCC before deadline and respond. * Invited to respond to Community Fire & Rescue Plan for East Lothian – Cllr Macnair to gather responses from NBCC before deadline and respond. * Longniddry Community Council wrote to Alan Stubbs, ELC regarding road use and shoring up of John Muir way. Cllr H. Smith to circulate. | CM  WM  HS |
| **18 Any other competent business** | 17. 1 Discussed mobile mast at Recreation Park. NBCC previously wrote back and stated reasons for disinclining to agree. NBCC stay with same position. NBCC still require answers to questions raised before could consider support. Cllr K. Smith to write back stating this.  17.2 A few streetlights not working on North Berwick High Street. This can be reported on ELC website with correct streetlight number  17.3 Discussed Quality Street mural boards. These are being put back. | KS |
| **19 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 7th November 2017 at 7.30 pm at North Berwick Fire Station |  |