**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 498thPublic Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 7th November 2017**

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

**Present:**Cllr T Todd - Chair, Cllr C Mackenzie - Vice-Chair, Cllr K Smith - Secretary, Cllr W Macnair, Cllr G Moodie, Cllr L Kay, Cllr O Owen, Cllr I Watson, Cllr S Northrop

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

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllr J Lockhart – Treasurer, PC I Paterson, PC D Gray |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Watson and seconded by Cllr Moodie. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 *4.6* Cllr Macnair and Cllr Lockhart have still to take action re Ferrygate smell. The difficulty is that no-one is breaking the law.  4.2 *4.11* Mike Foy, ELC Tree Officer is to carry out an inspection of tree roots in Lochbridge Road pavements, working along with ELC Roads dept.  4.3 *6.3* Seabird Centre planning application was brought to ELC planning meeting today. It was a well-attended planning meeting with 50/60 public attendees. There was a lot of discussion and the final vote was 7/4 against. ELC Cllrs felt there were unanswered questions in application. NBCC previous Chair made a statement at the meeting on behalf of NBCC. NB Harbour Trust has contacted the Community Council to thank them for their support.  4.4 *8* There has been no meeting of Communications Group since last NBCC meeting.  4.5 *17* Cllr Macnair has not responded to Community Fire & Rescue Plan as he felt that NBCC did not have enough experience or knowledge to respond so leaving it to the fire service to respond. A review of fire stations is to come. Cllr Mackenzie to respond to Building Scotland’s low emissions zone consultation before closing date.  4.6 At July’s NBCC meeting, Cllr Northrop raised concern about bullying. ELC have adopted an anti-bullying policy and are now part of the National Bullying Framework. Ex Cllr H Smith wrote to ELC to ask about their anti-bullying strategies. Unsure if there has been a reply. Cllr Northrop to check with ex Cllr H Smith. If none, Cllr Northrop to follow up a response with ELC. There is a new anti-bullying policy now in place in schools. | WM & JL    CM  SN |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 5.1 Cllr K. Smith read out this month’s police report which is attached separately.   5.2 Grange Road residents have reported a rise in speeding cars with loud exhausts. Can the flashing speed reactive signs be used to check speeds in/out of Haddington Road? Can the police support a speeding initiative in North Berwick? LK to raise at On the Move group tomorrow – Thursday 8/11.  5.3 The recent CAPP meeting was on Wednesday 25th October and attended by Cllr K. Smith and Peter Hamilton. CAPP priorities for this month are:-   * Anti-social behavior on Law View and Lochbridge Road. * Hallowe’en and bonfire patrols in North Berwick * Hallowe’en and bonfire patrols in Gullane, Aberlady and Drem   The date of the next CAPP meeting is Wednesday 29th November, 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). | LK |
| **6 Planning Matters (attached separately)** | 6.1 October planning applications were lead on by Cllr Todd and Cllr Watson.  6.2 No comments on List A. Briefly discussed 17/00888/ADV.  6.3 Discussed 17/00926/P – 4 Dirleton Avenue. Comments were invited from members of public present. This application appears to be increasing footprint by 40% and is introducing a pitched roof. This is an extensive piece of work and there are concerns from neighbouring properties. Discussed and NBCC decided to object as it was felt it was an inappropriate development in a conservation area and concerns for amenity for neighbours due to overdevelopment of garden area, chimney below roof height and directly in front of neighbour’s window, pitched roof above height of dining room window and a cupola below a bedroom window. All this was felt to adversely affect the amenity of neighbours. Cllr Todd to submit objection to ELC.  6.4 Cllr Mackenzie raised the issue of the colour of shop front of Seaside Smile in Market Place. Are planning enforcement taking action as promised? Cllr Goodfellow to follow up. Cllr Goodfellow reported that there was a number of planning enforcement issues in that area. No change of use has been submitted for new Postcode Plumbers office as they are selling goods in the property so it is also being used as a shop. There were concerns raised over the window display using full window advertisements. There were also concerns raised about the substantial changes to building of the tanning salon on Forth Street. This is a shop frontage in a conservation area. Cllr Goodfellow advised NBCC to write to ELC about these issues then Cllr Goodfellow can follow up from there. Cllr Todd to write to ELC planning dept.  6.5 Discussed if there is anything NBCC can do to mitigate these issues. Advised by Cllr Goodfellow to keep reporting to ELC and be observant.  6.6Cllr Watson and Cllr Kay will lead on November’s planning applications. | TT  TT |
| **7(a) Temporary telecoms mast in Recreation Park**  **(b) Smart metering installation at entrance to Recreation Park** | 7 (a) Cllr K Smith had a response from Luke Huestis re CTIL 242915 – VF 15297 Mast requested to be installed in the Recreation Park. Scottish Water is happy to host a permanent option at The Heugh and this would be temporary option. ELC Estates Department has not pursued other users of the park for their opinions as they thought NBCC would object. Discussed by NBCC. NBCC wondered what guarantee there would be that it will only be for 12 months. The mast is imposing – a large, lattice work structure – there would be a 22.5m high, steel lattice 108sq mtr herras fenced off area containing the generator and the comms cabinet. The generator would be continually running. It was felt that the park is a beautiful green space. The company would provide a financial incentive which would go to ELC, but could be reinvested back into the Recreation Park, possibly for play equipment. NBCC concluded that this was a bad precedent and there was nothing in the latest correspondence to change the views and objections already expressed. Cllr Goodfellow advised that NBCC can object but company can apply for statutory powers to place the mast there. Cllr K Smith to write to confirm objection to proposal.  7 (b) Discussed smart metering installation at entrance to Recreation Park in Dunbar Road. Planning application to be submitted by Arqiva Ltd to install Smart Metering network equipment. This will be enclosed by safety fencing and placed in an area which already has floodlights, electric control boxes etc. Cllr Macnair suggested that this was fine but a location further back from roadside should be considered. ELC Roads Department may also want to consider the turning circle which would be left in regards to buses and lorries turning. Cllr K Smith to write to confirm support subject to considering moving back location. | KS |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report** | The Treasurer’s report had been discussed at the AGM which had preceded this meeting. |  |
| **9 Communications Group** | 9.1 Cllr Mackenzie reported she had been emptying suggestion boxes. Issues raised included a play park by the sea and safe cycle routes. Cllr Northrop asked if boxes could be put in care homes and the Day Centre. Cllr Mackenzie to arrange with Cllr Northrop.  9.2 The spine road to Kingston being closed was raised on Facebook. Cala and Cruden Homes are also concerned that it is not open. Cllr Goodfellow reported that ELC Transportation Department are dealing with this but also advised public to email Head of Transportation. Cllr Mackenzie will publicise this on Facebook.  9.2 Cllr Mackenzie will publicise ‘North Berwick Majors’ on social media over the next few weeks and will arrange posters and postcards. Cllr Mackenzie will liaise with Cllr Todd.  9.3 Meet and greet session provisionally planned for January on NB High Street.  9.4 Discussed which NBCC Cllrs would be doing Loony Dook – Cllr Owen, Cllr Moodie and Cllr Mackenzie | CM & SN  CM  CM & TT |
| **10 24 hour defibrillators** | 10.1There are now 2 defibrillators up out of planned 4. The defibrillator at the Fire Station goes on this week and the defibrillator at RNLI on 22nd November. There has been an application put in to the Stella Moffat Trust to buy a further defibrillator. The wall plaque for the fire station defibrillator cannot be finalized until it is clear who has paid for it. Positive response on Facebook to news about the new defibrillators.  10.2 It has come to light that the tennis club has a defibrillator locked away. Cllr Todd has spoken to them about getting this in use and this request will now go to their Committee to be decided.  10.3 Ideas for new places for defibrillators include businesses such as North Berwick Fry, Tesco and North Berwick Golf Club.  10.4 An AED page on NB Community Council website was requested by Cllr Todd, identifying where all the defibrillators are.   10.5 First Responders have declined to look after defibrillators. Cllr Todd and Robin McEwan to progress this – to create a register and database. Ideally people would accept responsibility if a defibrillator is on their property, then the database would help with reminders to check pads and batteries or notify when something expires. Cllr Watson offered to help with database. It may be possible to apply to a Trust for a budget for database maintenance. Cllr Mackenzie raised idea of a defibrillator awareness day.  10.6 NBCC wished to record their thanks to Cllr Todd for all his hard work on defibrillators for North Berwick. | TT |
| **11 Christmas Lights** | 11.1 Cllr Moodie reported that the Christmas Lights switch on is 2.5 weeks away so most things are slotting into place. Switch on public event is on Saturday 25th November. As many NBCC Cllrs to attend switch on event at Abbey Church from 3.15pm. This will take the same format as last year.  11.2 Cllr Watson attended a meeting at ELC with parties involved in the arranging event including police and ELC Transportation. A Chief Steward is to be identified who will in turn notify other stewards of their responsibilities. The police have produced a briefing document. Lauren Cowie will contact the Rotary Club who is doing the stewarding at the event. |  |
| **12 Consultations** | 12.1 See 4.5 re. outstanding consultations.  12.2 Discussed current consultation on proposed closure and re-designation of the Nursery School to Law Primary School Nursery Class and proposed alteration of school catchment areas of Dirleton and Law Primary Schools which was clarified by Cllr Goodfellow. This may have a possible impact on the Community Council boundary. No issue with these changes. Cllr K Smith to write in support of these issues.  12.3 Cllr Northrop raised the new Carers’ Strategy consultation which will be coming out soon. She would like to take this on on behalf of NBCC and will take in views in from different groups. | KS  SN |
| **13 Remembrance Day – 12th November - arrangements** | 12.1 The service is at the Abbey Church at 10.30am. NBCC Cllrs to attend if they can. Gather in the Hall at the Church at 10.15am. Wreath to be laid by Cllr Todd at War Memorial at 12 noon on behalf of NBCC.  12.2 Cllr Todd reported that a veteran was unhappy that the 2 minute silence was at the Church at 11am and not at the War Memorial. Too late to change this year but Cllr Todd to discuss with Lord Lieutenant for future event planning. | All Cllrs  TT |
| **14 Casual Vacancies** | There are 4 people interested in filling the 2 casual vacancies. Selection meeting will be taking place at Community Centre on Tuesday 14th November at 7.30pm; Cllrs to gather at 7.15pm. | All Cllrs |
| **15 Reports from groups and societies** | 15.1 ***Men’s Shed***:- Cllr Northrop reported that the Men’s Shed have agreed to make the sign encouraging visitors to keep the beaches clean. NBCC to pay for plywood. This sign will be used to encourage people to take rubbish away. It could possibly contain a plastic bag dispenser to encourage people to pick up rubbish and bin it. NBCC like ideas in principal and request that Men’s Shed representatives come with a more detailed plan to next NBCC meeting. It may be possible to have two signs, one on East beach and one on West beach. These signs will probably require planning permission. Ideally these could be up in time for next Spring.  15.2 ***Friends of the Edington***:-  There has not been a recent meeting of Friends of Edington. Cllr Kay reports that they had not heard yet about proposed consultation. ELC Cllr Goodfellow advised that it possibly has to go through IJB first.  15.3 ***North Berwick Golf Club***: -  The North Berwick Golf Club’s Community Fund has had its annual meeting and decided on beneficiaries. There were more funds requested than available. The results of the recent funding round will be publicised soon.  15.4 ***St Andrew’s Old Kirk Project***: -  There is a meeting in a couple of weeks. David Kellock has been ill so things have not progressed as much as planned.  15.5 ***North Berwick Primary School Parent Council***:-  The extension is open and in use by Primaries 4-7. The new gym hall is being built at the back. NBCC congratulated the Parent Council on their protracted fight to get more space at the school.  15.6 ***North Berwick Community Centre***:-  Community Centre is busy. They have launched a kindness project, helping when families are in crisis.  15.7 ***Stella Moffat Trust***:- There are currently 3 applications for funds. The meeting is on Wednesday 15th November. This round of awards has been publicised in NBCC newsletter and in previous EL Courier issues.  15.8 ***Other***:-  There is to be an Absent Friends service at St. Andrew Blackadder Church on Saturday 11th November, 10.30am-12.30pm. There will be a book of remembrance available to sign. | SN |
| **16 Correspondence** | The following communications had been received:-   * Invitation to Provost’s Christmas reception on 14th December – TT to attend. * Email from Mike Foy, ELC Tree Officer re. tree felling on Greenheads banking. * Invitation to Foodbank AGM on 15th November @ 12.30pm – Cllr Mackenzie to share on Facebook. Cllr Owen to attend to talk by CAB at 1.30pm. * Letter from the Scottish Flag Trust re. public exhibitions on The Story of St Andrew & The Saltire in the John Gray Centre from 28th October 2017 to 30th January 2018. TT to put up poster. * Email re. East Coast FM crowd funding project to provide hospital radio at the new Roodlands. All agreed not to support financially but congratulate for enterprise. Suggest other places to approach for funding. Cllr K Smith to reply. | CM  TT  KS |
| **17 Any other competent business** | * Cllr Mackenzie reported that a member of ELC Library staff has been trained as a Macmillan Advice giver. She can provide financial support and advice to those with cancer and their families. * Cllr Mackenzie raised vacant NB Trust post. Propose to wait until after casual vacancy is filled – all agreed. * Request for NBCC to provide member of judging panel for the Youth Philanthropy Initiative at NBHS – Cllr Owen to represent NBCC. Next Wednesday 15/11. * Civic Pride Fund – closing date 30th November but applications accepted until 22nd December – Cllr K Smith to circulate. This can possibly be used to take forward ideas from Charrette at On the Move group. * Discussed a community street event possibly involving traders. Is this NBCC responsibility? Could this be a voluntary groups’ fair? TT to speak to traders. * Pigeon pollution. Can ELC cull? Ideas discussed. Complain to ELC Environmental Health. * Discussed Council Chambers maintenance. This was previously passed to ELC, Cllr Goodfellow to follow up. * To discuss who will take on which NBCC responsibilities at mid-month meeting on Tuesday 21st November. | KS  TT |
| **18 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 5th December 2017 at 7.30 pm at North Berwick Fire Station. |  |