**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 507th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 7th August 2018**

**in The Hope Rooms, Forth Street, North Berwick**

**Present:**Cllr Olwyn Owen & Cllr Ian Watson – Acting Vice Chairs, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllr Judy Lockhart – Treasurer, Cllrs Lewis Foster, Gordon Moodie, William Macnair, Lesley Kay, Sue Northrop & Geraldine Prince

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson & Jim Goodfellow, 2 members of the public and local press.

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | In the absence of the Acting Chairman, Cllr Watson opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the 507th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllr C Mackenzie and PCs D Gray & I Paterson |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the amended Minutes held on 3rd July, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Foster and seconded by Cllr Northrop. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***4.1 West beach sewerage pipe & erosion:*** Cllr Smith reported that, following their inspection, Scottish Water had undertaken to carry out some work on the casing around the laterals and raised manhole columns out with the bathing season which would help to improve the aesthetic of the pipe. Although they did not accept that the pipe was responsible for the erosion, they had undertaken to look at this in more detail also in the off season. They were keen to work closely with the community on wider water challenges and to continue to have an ongoing dialogue with NBCC, which was encouraging.  4.2 ***4.2 Bollards:*** There was still some doubt as to whether there had been an ELC internal transfer of funds in respect of NBCC’s contribution to the cost. Cllr Lockhart would check.  4.3 ***4.6 Community Day:*** Cllr Northrop commented she was still looking for a deputy coordinator for the Resilience Plan.  4.4 ***4.7 Harbour Trust:*** It was agreed that whether David Windmill should be invited to the September meeting would be dependent upon which other parties would be attending.  4.5 ***10.1*** ***Lime Grove:*** Cllr Kay confirmed that the request for a Community Asset Transfer had been submitted to ELC on 13th July and formal validation was awaited. The Community Development Company now had in the region of 800 members.  4.6 ***12.1 Calder & Crawford Cups:*** Cllr Smith reported that, although the number competing was down on the previous year, the competitions had been enjoyed by all. The weather had been glorious and the course challenging. Callum Queen retained the Crawford Cup for the under 14’s and Alan Love, a previous winner, had won the Calder Cup. She thanked Martyn Huish who had donated the prizes for the Crawford Cup and her colleagues who had helped on the days. She had complained to Enjoy Leisure about the state of some of the holes which they had taken on board. Cllr Smith was thanked for organising the event.  4.7 ***14.1 Glasclune pathway shelter:*** This item had been deferred to the September meeting as Lauren Cowie of the Youth Project was on annual leave. | JL |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 5.1 In the absence of police representation Cllr Smith read out this month’s police report which is attached separately.  5.2 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 5th September in the Old Council Chambers. These meetings would now be held on a 6 weekly basis to tie in with the police shift patterns.  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). |  |
| **6 Planning Matters (attached separately)** | 6.1 The July planning applications were led by Cllr Watson.  6.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and following a brief discussion no objections were raised –  ***2 Nether Law*** – erection of conservatory  ***Garage at 43 Melbourne Place*** – alterations  ***Golf Course, Hamilton Road*** – erection of building for starter’s office/waiting area/toilet  ***8 Dundas Avenue*** – extension to house  ***14B York Road*** – alterations to flat, formation of dormer and balcony with balustrade  ***Rockville Farmhouse*** – erection of double garage, store and ancillary residential accommodation building  ***1 South Hamilton Road*** – alterations, extension to house, formation of terrace, erection of fence and associated works  ***27 Trainers Brae*** – part change of use of domestic dwelling to child minding business  ***25 Marmion Road*** – erection of retaining walls, formation of steps, hard surfacing and seating area  6.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***NBRFC, Recreation Park*** – *change of use of hand standing area to outside drinking area and* *installation of lighting.* Concerns were expressed regarding potential noise pollution but NBCC had supported the Rugby Club’s application for a variation of their premises licence to an open licence and the Licensing Board would be imposing a terminal hour of 22.00 which would take into account the proximity of residential properties. It was agreed to make no further comment.  ***Former Heugh Reservoir*** – *alterations, extension to redundant water tank to form 1 house and associated works; LBC for alterations, extension to building, erection of walls, formation of steps, hardstanding areas and erection of pergola.* It was agreed that this was an interesting proposal for a historic listed building but it was felt there was insufficient information available to comment on the listed building consent.  ***25 Station Hill*** – *alterations and change of use from* *office (class2) to form 1 house (class 9) and associated works*. Concern was expressed at the loss of office space but otherwise there was no objection to the proposal  ***Land adjacent to Fidra House, 67A Dirleton Avenue –*** *erection of 4 houses and associated works.* This application had been discussed before and support given to the proposed development. The Arboricultural Survey Report had now been amended due to design changes to reduce the potential conflict with retained trees. No objection was raised.  6.4 Cllr Smith will lead on the planning applications for September’s meeting. |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1 The Treasurer confirmed that during the month the following sums had been paid –  Cllr Smith - £114 for taking Minutes in July, August & September; The Signman - £84 for a new NBCC banner; Vote Pedro - £120 for updating website; Cllr Prince - £74.43 as re-imbursement for materials for the telephone cabins. |  |
| **8 Murals** | 8.1 The Treasurer confirmed that NBCC was holding £3,148 for this project and that ELC had confirmed that it had not been cancelled.  8.2 The choices to be considered were – (a) going ahead with the project as originally planned; (b) no longer wishing to continue with the project and returning the funds; or (c) going ahead with the project, albeit with changes. In the event of option (c) a new application would require to be submitted to the Area Partnership prior to their next meeting on 25th September.  8.3 It was agreed that the restoration of the vennel between the High Street and Forth Street (Cat’s Close) should take priority and Cllr Prince undertook to take advice on how it could be done.  8.4 Once the vennel had been refurbished consideration would be given to what could be done on the gable at the corner of the High Street and Quality Street. Suggestions on how this could be dealt with were (a) a public meeting to discuss what the community would like (GP); (b) a public competition (WM); light projections which would change monthly (IW). | JL  GP |
| **9 Telephone cabins** | 9.1 Cllr Prince gave an update of the current position regarding the refurbishment of the telephone cabins.  9.2 The principles under which the cabins would operate had been agreed with ELC and negotiations with Royal Mail regarding licensing the whole of the front space were progressing.  9.3 An offer to provide lighting had been received and gratefully accepted. Artwork had been provided by Bankhead-sy.  9.4 There had been a positive response from the public. A ‘pop up’ public meeting would be held the following week (Thursday) for ideas from the public. Further information would be posted on Facebook and instagram. |  |
| **10 AEDs** | 10.1 Cllr Watson had been checking and gathering information on all the public defibrillators in the town as requested by the Scottish Ambulance Service. Although he was happy to do this in the short-term he was not prepared to take on the responsibility for maintenance in the long-term. It was obvious that this had not been discussed with those who had recently had AEDs installed.  10.2 This was a serious problem which had to be addressed. Cllr Lockhart agreed to take it to the next meeting of the Association of East Lothian Community Councils (AELCC) to see if a common solution could be found. | IW  JL |
| **11 North Berwick Trust** | 11.1 Cllr Owen commented that there had been some confusion following the last meeting as to the best way of dealing with this matter. The Acting Chair had since suggested writing to the Chairman of the Trust inviting him to attend the September meeting to discuss the changes and to answer pre-arranged questions.  11.2 After some discussion this course of action was agreed. | CM |
| **12 Communications Group** | 12.1 Cllr Owen confirmed that the next issue of *NB Connect* would be distributed in the week beginning 20th August. She had still to follow-up on the distribution problems highlighted with the last edition.  12.2 The deadline for the next edition was 29th October. Cllrs Foster & Smith agreed to take responsibility for coordination of articles etc.  12.3 Cllrs Moodie & Lockhart agreed to take responsibility for the January/February edition. | OO  LF & KES  GM & JL |
| **13 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Kirk Ports Working Group* – As part of the Archaeology & Local History Fortnight there would be a visit to the Old St Andrew’s Church to learn about its past, present and the future plans for its preservation on Wednesday 12th September and Sunday 16th September at 2.00 pm. * *North Berwick Environment Trust –* The Trust was considering installing three low level LED lights in the War Memorial Garden. After discussion it was felt that what was proposed would be dazzling for those sitting in the gardens and that the lighting for the Memorial should be sunken. * *Christmas Lights –* The switch on would take place on 1st December. * *Harbour Trust –* Fundraising and repairs to the harbour wall were major issues. * *Community Rail Partnership -* Cllr Prince confirmed she was happy to be the community council’s representative. * *Friends of the Edington –* would be meeting the following week. * *Town Plan Group –* There had been a hiatus during the summer but it would be progressing matters soon. * *NBGC Community Fund –* would be meeting soon. |  |
| **14 Correspondence** | * E-mail from resident regarding filthy state of pavements in the High Street resulting from long spell without rain – local press was asked to do an article in the *Courier*. * E-mail from Chief Executive requesting attendance at the November meeting to hear about some of the initiatives being taken forward. * E-mail from AELCC Chairman regarding setting up generic e-mail addresses for each community council for ease of communication with ELC departments. |  |
| **15 Any other competent business** | **15.1** Cllr Foster had attended the Open Day at the new Community Hospital. Good progress was being made but all rooms were single en suite. The Edinburgh Health Foundation was providing £500,000 for artwork in the building.  **15.2** Lockett Brothers had invited Community Councillors to a wine & cheese evening at 6.30 pm on 17th August.  **15.3** ‘A Plastic Ocean’ would be shown at the Masonic Halls the following evening (the 8th) at 8.00 pm  **15.4** The shabby state of the gable of The Puffin and whether anything could be done to improve it was discussed. As the owners’ permission would be required Cllr Owen agreed to investigate further.  **15.5** Cllr Macnair asked if the area outside the ‘Beehive’ in Quality Street could be a dedicated motor cycle park as motor cycles parked there anyway. ELC Goodfellow would investigate. | OO  JG |
| **16 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 4th September 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |