**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 512th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 8th January 2019**

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

**Present:**Cllr Judy Lockhart – Chairman and Treasurer, Cllr Gordon Moodie – Vice chairman, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllrs Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, Sue Northrop, Ian Watson, Kelly Evans, Christiane Maher & Audrey Steel

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson, Jeremy Findlay & Jim Goodfellow, 4 members of the public, Derek Weir and local press

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | Chairman Judy Lockhart opened the meeting, wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed all, including Keira Carmody of the local press, to the 512th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllr Lewis Foster, PCs Deborah Gray & Iain Paterson, Geraldine Prince |  |
| **3 New members** | The Chairman welcomed the 3 new councillors, Kelly Evans, Christiane Maher & Audrey Steel who had been the only applicants to fill the casual vacancies and who had been confirmed after meeting them on 18th December. |  |
| **4 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th December, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Watson and seconded by Cllr Moodie. |  |
| **5 Matters Arising** | 5.1 ***3.3 Scottish Seabird Centre:*** An update on the internal refurbishment plans for 2019 had been received from the interim CEO. As the initial stages will be completed in the main contractor’s factory the Centre will now be open throughout January and closed from 1st February to early April.  5.2 ***5.2 Emergency Response Plan Review:*** Cllr Northrop commented that the workshop on 8th December had proved to be a useful exercise with three groups looking at roles and responsibilities, communications and the assets register. A further workshop would be taking place on 9th February in the Community Centre between 9.30 and noon. Anyone who feels that they can make a contribution of any kind is very welcome.  5.3 ***5.3 Communications Group:*** The Chairman reported that because of the botch-upin the delivery of the last edition of *NB Connect* it was being reprinted and would be delivered by Royal Mail during the current month. As a result of this the next edition would be delayed for a month with the deadline for copy being the end of February.  5.4 ***5.10 Station toilets project:*** This was now being dealt with by the Area Partnership (AP). Cllr Smith would check the position with the AP Chairman.  5.5 ***12.2 Safer Streets 20mph Bill:*** It was confirmed that, following the discussion at the previous month’s meeting, the Community Council did not have a stance on this Bill but Councillors could respond as individuals if they so wished.  5.6 ***16 Provost’s Christmas Reception:*** The Chairman and Secretary had attended this event when the new county flag had been unveiled.  5.7 ***17.1 Youth Project:*** The Chairman confirmed she had sent a letter of support for the improved facilities in the Hope Rooms to the Area Partnership. | KES |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **6 Police Report:**  **(further details attached separately)** | 6.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  6.2 Cllr Smith commented that in response to her query about an alleged arson attack at the rear of the Nisa Foodstore the police had confirmed that ‘*police had attended to speak to the shop owner and other witnesses* *and it appeared to be non-criminal at this stage.’*  6.3 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 9th January 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). |  |
| **7 Planning Matters** | 7.1 The December planning applications were led by Cllrs Moodie & Macnair.  7.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and following a brief discussion no objections were raised –  ***11 Richardson Crescent* –** formation of dormers to create first floor attic rooms  ***37 Glenorchy Road* –** extension to house – first floor extension on existing footprint plus alterations to ground floor windows  ***15a Cromwell Road* –** alterations to ground floor flat to create kitchen extension  ***Wamphray Farm* –** erection of agricultural building  ***5 Redside Farm Steadings* –** installation of radio receiver antenna  ***13 Rhodes Cottages, Lime Grove* –** alteration to building at rear – replace window with French door  ***Gin Head* –** renewal of planning permission 14/0664/P to form 7 houses, garages, etc  ***8 Couper Avenue* –** extension to bungalow both sideways and upwards to form upper storey. *Although there was a feeling that this constituted an overdevelopment of the site it was decided not to comment.*  7.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***11 Victoria Road* –** After discussion it was decided not to comment on the application for the replacement of glazing in windows and formation of dormers to the rear of the first floor plus Juliet balcony.  ***The Harbour, Victoria Road* –** After discussion it was agreed to object to the application to the site of the snack bar, erection of a storage cage and canopy with seating area from April-October plus the repositioning of 2 benches on the following grounds:  *The protective railing must be extended to reach just past the cafe seating area to reduce the risk of falling into the harbour; there must be an adequate width of gangway past the seating area as it appears very narrow as shown on the diagram; and there is a lack of consistency in the diagrams which makes it difficult to know exactly what is being proposed.*    7.4 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –  ***16 Forth Street* –** alterations to house – **granted –** subject to the roof windows in the front & rear of the roof being installed to ensure their upper surfaces are as flush as possible with the upper surface of the roof slopes with minimum flashing to safeguard character and appearance of North Berwick Conservation Area.  ***11a Marmion Road* –** (a) formation of vehicular access, hardstanding area and erection of garage & shed; (b) formation of hardstanding area and part demolition of wall – **granted –** subject to 3 conditions  ***7 York Road*** – alterations and extension to house – **granted –** subject to roof light being flush with upper surface of roof with minimum flashing  ***Tantallon Road* –** substitution of house types on plots 65, 66, 120, 123, & 124, changes to landscaping etc – **granted**  ***Pointgarry House 20C West Bay Road* – refused**  ***43 Quality Street* –** alterations to and change of use from office (class 2) to hot food takeaway – **refused**  7.5 **Turkish Barbers, Quality Street –** The Chairman statedthatcomments had been made about the new Turkish Barbers’ signage and whether it was in keeping with the Conservation Area. ELC Cllr Goodfellow advised that a planning application for advertising was to be submitted and until that had been received no further action should be taken in the meantime.  7.6 Cllrs Macnair & Maher would lead on the planning applications for February’s meeting. | GM  WM/CM |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report** | 8.1 The Treasurer confirmed that the following payments had been made during the last month - £38 to Cllr Smith for taking the Minutes; £300 to Jayne Stokes for postcards for telephone cabins. |  |
| **9 Lease with Royal Mail for Telephone Cabins** | 9.1 The Chairman explained that for various reasons there had been no further progress in confirming the details of the lease. | JL |
| **10 Re-provisioning of health & social care services in North Berwick –update** | Cllr Northrop reported as follows –  10.1 An informal meeting with members of the Health & Well Being Association and others for a preliminary discussion about how the different groups would work together to support the re-provisioning project proposed by the East Lothian Health & Social Care Partnership was being arranged. This would be a very significant opportunity to ensure the community was working collaboratively to represent the different views and making best use of the skills and experience in the community.  10.2 She was writing to the Courier, in collaboration with the Health & Well Being Association, about the recent coverage of the re-provisioning which had raised particular concerns that the Abbey and the Edington were closing.  10.3 She had attended the Health & Well Being Association meeting on behalf of NBCC. The Association was about to set up a project to address social isolation in the community, appointing a worker to liaise with the Association, Health Centre and Carers of East Lothian. | SN  SN |
| **11 Request for name to be added to War Memorial** | 11.1 The Chairman had been approached by Derek Weir with a request that the name of his great uncle, Thomas Elder Weir who had died on the Somme in 1916, be added to the town’s War Memorial.  11.2 Mr Weir explained that Thomas Weir was born at Balgone Barns farm in 1890 but had emigrated to Australia in 1913 and had served in the Australian Imperial Force on the outbreak of war. Although he was commemorated on a War Memorial in Victoria he felt that he should also be commemorated in the town of his birth.  11.3 After discussion it was agreed in principle to investigate further. |  |
| **12 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * Representatives to the various groups and organisations would be updated at the next mid month business meeting. * *Town Plan –* Cllr Moodie confirmed the group had met on 14th December and that it was intended to speak to officials in the planning department shortly. * *NBET –* Following a number of issues over the last few years the Trust was looking at options going forward. The next meeting was on 10th January at 7.30pm in the Old Council Chambers. Cllr Evans volunteered to attend. * *Christmas Lights –* the group would be having a debrief meeting shortly. It was proposed to look into buying lights for another tree. | KE |
| **13 Correspondence** | * Invitation to Waste Expectations: Trash talk with business on 31st January from 6.00-8.00 pm at Steampunk Coffee organised by FIDRA, Steampunk, Archerfield Walled Garden and Sustaining North Berwick * Notice that Boardmaker in East Lothian Libraries was being launched in North Berwick Library on 31st January at 10.00 am. * Invitation to AGM of East Lothian Foodbank at 12.30 pm on 23rd January in St Martin’s RC Church Hall, Tranent (reminder). * Invitation to Stella Moffat Trustees to visit Williamstone Farmhouse & Steadings between 14th & 17th January (reminder). |  |
| **14 Any other competent business** | 14.1 It was confirmed that the mid month business meeting would be held on 22nd January. |  |
| **15 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |