**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 516th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 7th May 2019**

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

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

**In attendance:**Geraldine Prince, ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson, Jim Goodfellow & Jeremy Findlay, 8 members of the public & local press

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | 1.1 Chairman Judy Lockhart opened the meeting and welcomed all to the 516th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Christiane Maher, Lewis Foster & Audrey Steel |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Hamilton and seconded by Cllr Northrop. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***5.3 Police Report:*** It had been hoped that someone from the Public Protection Unit would be present to give an update on the procedures for management of sex offenders following release from prison. Confirmation of attendance at the June meeting is awaited now.  4.2 ***7.5 7 Tantallon Road planning application:*** At the Planning Committee that morning the application had been approved by 7 votes to 3 despite objections from the Community Council, Health Centre, Health & Wellbeing, Signals and neighbours. Cllr Northrop had spoken against the proposal on behalf of the Community Council. Although most of the councillors understood the concerns about the impact on the Health Centre and the clash with the Health & Social Care Partnership and ELC policy these were not competent planning reasons for turning it down Our 3 local councillors did not support the application. Cllr Northrop was concerned that the discussion revealed some very worrying gaps between what makes a good planning decision and what makes sense from a health and social care perspective. It was agreed that clearly that there was a disconnect between planning and health provision which required to be addressed.  4.3 ***8.1 Major Variation of Premises Licence for Signals:*** This was refused following objections from the police and the NHS.  4.4 ***12.2 AEDs:*** The AED at the RNLI shop was still off line. The Harbour Trust was to speak to the harbour master regarding the repositioning of the box. |  |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report:**  **(further details attached separately)** | 5.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  5.2 Geraldine Prince commented that on a number of occasions she’d had ex-offenders turning up at her door selling cleaning products and was concerned that this might amount to modern day slavery. She had written to the police about it. Cllrs Smith and Hamilton undertook to raise it at the next CAPP meeting.  5.3 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 15th May in the Old Council Chambers. [*These meetings are now 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). | KES/PH |
| **6 Planning Matters** | 6.1 The April planning applications had been looked at and commented on by Cllr Maher.  6.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no objections were raised –  ***14 Links Road*** – alterations, extension to flat, formation of hardstanding area, erection of retaining wall, gate & fence  ***24a St Andrew Street*** – renewal of planning permission for alterations, extension & change of use of workshop to 1 house & associated works  ***1 Melbourne Road*** – replacement doors at Lifeboat Station  ***Kennels to west of Sheriffhall, West Gate Lodge*** *– not in our community council area*  6.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***27 Quality Street (Turkish Barbers)*** – it was noted that the display of lighted advertisements was contrary to ELC Guidance Policy for a Conservation Area and for that reason it was agreed to object to the retrospective application to display advertisements.  ***1 Quality Street (Alanda’s)*** – it was noted that the display of lighted advertisements was contrary to ELC Guidance Policy for a Conservation Area and for that reason it was agreed to object to the retrospective application to display advertisements.  ***25 Station Hill -*** following discussion on the application for alterations and change of use from office (class 2) to form one house (class 9) and associated works it was decided not to object.  6.4 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –  ***17 Fidra Road*** – replacement windows & doors – **granted**  ***39-41 Westgate* –** alterations & part change of use of shop/cafe/gallery toform additional unit, one flat & associated works **– granted** subject to a condition to safeguard the amenity of neighbouring residential properties  ***Garden flat Bradbury, 2 York Road*** - reroofing of building – **granted** subject to the Spanish tiles to be used to re-clad the pitched roof slopes being cut to same size and shape and laid in the same pattern and coursing as the existing slates to safeguard the appearance and character of the flatted dwelling in the Conservation Area  ***108B High Street*** – alterations to flat - **granted**  6.5 It was noted that last year objections to the colour of external painting and signage in certain properties in the centre of the town had been made but nothing further had been done. It was agreed that this should be followed up with the ELC Enforcement Officer. | JL  JL  JL |
| **7 Castleton proposal** | 7.1 Members were reminded that the PAN Consultation would be held in the Community Centre on Monday 20th May from 2.00 pm – 8.00 pm  7.2 Those attending should be encouraged to complete and return the comments questionnaire.  7.3 It was noted that objections should concentrate on planning issues relating to the East Lothian Development Plan. |  |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report** | 8.1 The Chairman confirmed that, subject to completion of the appropriate paperwork with the Bank, as from the following month Cllr Maher would be taking over as Treasurer.  8.2. It was confirmed that the only payment during the last month had been £38 to Cllr Smith for taking the Minutes.    8.3 The Chairman explained that the next edition of *North Berwick Connect*, payment for which was now due, would cost £900 (incl VAT) as, because of the new arrangement with ELC following Lilian Pryde’s retirement, the Community Council could not reclaim the VAT. It had been agreed that, because of the increase in costs, there would be only 3 editions of the newsletter per annum.  8.4 The Budget for 2019/20 was agreed as follows –  Area Partnership balance for murals £3,031.80  Minutes Honorarium 456.00  Certifying accounts for 2018/19 100.00  ELYC donation for fireworks 500.00  RNLI donation towards Raft Race 500.00  Website maintenance & updates 450.00  Poppy wreaths 75.00  AEDs – pads & batteries tbc  AEDs – cost of moving location of one 250.00  Metal policemen (Pop up Jim) 400.00  *North Berwick Connect* – 3x £900 2,700.00  Christmas Lights 4,000.00  Pilmar Smith memorial plaque 50.00  Stall at Law Primary May Fair 15.00  Calder Cup – advertising 50.00  It was agreed (on a vote) not to approve the Area Partnership’s request for £200 for parking signs. |  |
| **9 Charrette proposals for North Berwick High Street** | 9.1 A meeting with Peter Forsyth, Head of Transportation and Hilary Smith, Chair of the Area Partnership, to update and clarify the position regarding the proposals for the High Street was confirmed for 14th May.  9.2 Mrs Smith advised that the Area Partnership was planning a ‘pop up’ event in the police station from 29th to 31st May when each of its subgroups would have some space to show what they are doing and/or to raise awareness of particular issue(s) such as the charrette implementation group who would be displaying some of their designs alongside information about their pros/cons, the choice of treatments, barriers etc. |  |
| **10 Lease with Royal Mail of telephone cabins** | 10.1 Geraldine Prince was pleased to report that progress was being made with regard to the Lease and that it was expected that the North Berwick Community Development Company would sign it by the end of the week. |  |
| **11 Re-provisioning of health & social care services in North Berwick –update** | 11.1 Cllr Northrop was seeking support from the Community Council and the Area Partnership to get Community Councils and Area Partnerships to link up around common issues and the disconnect between planning, health and social care and community planning.  11.2 She had shared the Re-provisioning Group’s letter to Alison Macdonald with other Re-provisioning Areas and was also sharing information about social care plans.  11.3 It was important to come together on these issues to gain maximum voice. |  |
| **12 Lime Grove – community asset transfer** | 12.1 Cllr Watson reported that ELC had turned down the community asset transfer request. The North Berwick Community Development Company intended appealing against the decision. |  |
| **13 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Christmas Lights –*The Chairman thanked Elaine Smith for her donation of £170 from the Crossword competition which she had organised. * *NBET* – When application was made to OSCR for approval of the change of name to North Berwick Environment & Heritage Trust it was found there was no record of the Trust existing after 1974. It appeared that when the Charities Commission became OSCR no information was transferred. The issue is being worked on by the NBET members. * *CCMT –* There had been over 1,000 visits during April. * *North Berwick Youth Network* – Cllr Watson announced that he had stepped down as Chair and that Janice McLeod had taken over. |  |
| **14 Correspondence** | The following e-mails or communications had been received -   * E-mail from Athletics Development Officer ELC requesting the Community Council’s involvement in the Law Race on Wednesday 7th August – it was agreed to help with handing out the medals etc as per usual. * E-mail regarding speeding in Glenburn Road and concern about warnings rather than tickets – the police had explained that 3 speed checks had been carried out in Lochbridge Road. As two were solo only a warning could be given but on the third occasion officers from Roads Policing gave out three tickets and seized a vehicle for no insurance. * E-mail from Abbey Church re camper vans preventing usual Easter Service at the Heugh car park – It was explained that attempts to stop overnight parking in the car parks a number of years ago had been rejected by the Scottish Government. * E-mail about dog mess in the town centre and dogs’ running free on the beach – the community warden was investigating whether anything could be done regarding uncontrolled dogs on the beach; any incidence of dog fouling should be reported to the dog warden and if the person responsible can be identified a fixed penalty would be issued. * Invitation from Scottish Seabird Centre to attend afternoon reception to welcome the Lord High Commissioner of the General Assembly on 21st May from 2- 3 pm - Cllr Evans offered to attend. | JL  KE |
| **15 Any other competent business** | * ***Speed re-active signs*** – The ELC Roads Officer had enquired about repositioning the sign in Dirleton Avenue. After discussion it was agreed that the preferred option was to re-instate the Dunbar Road sign by moving the Dirleton Avenue sign to that location. It was also suggested that the sign on Haddington Road was too close to the school and should be moved further south. * ***Law Primary May Fair*** – It was agreed that the Community Council would take a stall at this event on 11th May from 11.00 -3.00. * ***Meeting with Iain McFarlane*** – it was confirmed that the meeting with the Head of Planning would take place on 21st May in the Old Council Chambers. * ***Andy Haddon of the Lighthouse*** was willing to raise up to £1,000 for a community benefit project. | KES  JL/GM/IW  ALL |
| **16 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 4th June 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |