**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 520th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on**

**Tuesday 3rd September 2019**

**in St Andrew Blackadder Church, North Berwick**

**Present:**Cllrs Gordon Moodie – Vice Chairman, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, and Christiane Maher

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson & Jim Goodfellow, 4 members of the public, local press (Emma Duncan)

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | In the absence on holiday of the Chairman, Cllr Gordon Moodie opened the meeting and welcomed all to the 520th meeting of the Community Council which was being held in the Church as the Hope Rooms were not open and the caretaker could not be contacted. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Judy Lockhart, Sue Northrop, Ian Watson, Kelly Evans, & PC Iain Paterson |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th August, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Maher and seconded by Cllr Hamilton. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***5.1 Correspondence – Dogs:*** It was noted that Mandy Smith requires the details of the complainant before she can follow up a complaint. Unfortunately in this case the details were not available.  4.2 ***5.2 Pop-up police officers:*** PC Paterson now had pop-ups Jim & Kirsty and had asked for a selection of venues for them. Lochbridge Road, the schools area & Dirleton Avenue were suggested. Gullane Area CC had still to settle their half share of the cost.  4.3 ***8 Treasurer’s Report:*** Cllr Maher had now been confirmed as a cheque signatory. The formal handover from Cllr Lockhart would take place at the end of the month on her return from holiday.  4.4 ***9 North Berwick High Street - option assessment:*** Cllr Maher reported that at the last meeting of the Charrette Delivery Group 2 options had been considered viz the traders’ proposal which would have meant closing the east end of the High Street to traffic from 2.00 pm and the Community Council’s proposal which had been outlined at last month’s meeting. Following support from the traders the Community Council’s proposal was now the preferred option. The travel and parking surveys carried out last month were being analysed. The next meeting would be in early October. Cllr Moodie thanked Cllr Maher for all her hard work on this matter.  4.5 ***13 Correspondence –***   * NBGC had been granted the major variation to their license. * Scotland’s Most Beautiful High Street – it was agreed to defer entering till next year. |  |
| **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 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 9th  October 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 [john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk) and  [peter.bamford@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:peter.bamford@scotland.pnn.police.uk). |  |
| **6 Planning Matters** | 6.1 ELC Cllr Goodfellow explained that the Community Council is a statutory consultee and as such is only entitled to comment on applications rather than object. An individual community councillor can however object as an individual.  6.2 The August planning applications were led by Cllr Maher.  6.3 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no objections were raised –  ***Glenorchy House*** – alterations to building; alterations & change of use of ground floor from office to form additional domestic rooms  ***90E High Street*** – extension to top floor flat  ***Westerlea, Abbotsford Road*** – alterations to house & gates as changes to the scheme of development subject of planning permission 18/00868/P  ***47 High Street (Barker & Bone)*** – erection of signage  ***36 High Street (Anderson’s)*** – display of advertisement  ***3 Tantallon Terrace*** – alterations, extension to flat, formation of vehicular access & hardstanding area  ***6 Dirleton Avenue*** – erection of garden room/store, gate, formation of vehicular access & hardstanding area  6.4 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***60A Forth Street*** – after discussion it was decided not to comment on the application for alterations to the flat and formation of dormers  ***Nysa Loco Rasul Bros, 96 Lochbridge Road*** – after discussion it was decided not to comment on the application for extensions to the shop to form a hot food takeaway, 2 flats & associated works and to leave it to the residents to raise any objections  ***Haugh Water Reservoir*** – after discussion it was decided not to comment on the application for the restoration and conversion of the redundant water reservoir to a residence with office.  6.5 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –  ***24A St Andrew Street*** – renewal of planning permission for alterations, extension and change of use of workshop to 1 house & associated works – **granted** pending submission of details  ***52 Rhodes Park*** – extension to house – **granted**  ***39 Old Abbey Road*** – extension to house – **granted** conditional upon no windows on southwest elevation wall of extension to safeguard privacy and residential amenity of neighbouring property, 41 Old Abbey Road  ***20C West Bay Road*** - alterations to house - **refused** because the suggested door would be significantly different to the other windows and would disturb the symmetry of the building |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1. It was confirmed that during the last month the following payments had been made - £38 to Cllr Smith for taking the Minutes; and £528 to Caledonia Signs Ltd for pop-ups Jim & Kirsty |  |
| **8 Resignation & vacancies** | 8.1 Lewis Foster had resigned from the Community Council due to family and business pressures.  8.2 It was agreed that the 2 casual vacancies should now be advertised in the local press and on social media. |  |
| **9 AED’s** | 9.1 Cllr Watson had spoken to an architect about the re-positioning of the harbour AED planning application and a quote for the work had been received that day. Cllr Macnair suggested that the Harbour Trust should be asked to deal with the planning application and it was agreed he would raise this at the next Trust meeting.  9.2 The Scottish Ambulance Service had been working in partnership with the British Heart Foundation to develop The Circuit, the national defibrillator network, to give cardiac arrest victims the best chance of survival by linking a UK wide national network of defibrillators to every ambulance service in the UK. The Circuit was replacing the ambulance service’s existing defibrillator database. Cllr Evans would be dealing with registration. | WM  KE |
| **10 Consultation on updated Local Development Plan** | 10.1. Cllr Northrop had responded to the consultation on Supplementary Planning Guidance as follows -  *“The North Berwick Community Council welcomes the clarification of guidance round the Local Development Plan. We welcome that the guidance strengthens and supports the Plan Policies particularly DC08 Countrywide Around Towns. In a community where there are strong pressures for development, the policy and guidance offer protection to the beautiful countryside and landscape settings around our town and North Berwick’s essential character and identity. We know other communities value their places too. North Berwick Community Council believes the community supports and values our green spaces and countryside around towns and recognises the importance of ensuring that development does not damage or undermine the qualities that make North Berwick a wonderful place to live. We have invited planning colleagues to meet with us and would welcome opportunities to work together to help ensure that the LDP provides a framework for a good balance. We would also welcome an approach that brings Community Councils and other key partners form across East Lothian to work together with you to ensure the continued vitality and beauty of our communities and places.* |  |
| **11 Re-provisioning of health & social care services in North Berwick –update** | 11.1 ELC Communications & Engagement Officer, Jane Ogden-Smith had written explaining the reason for the slight hiatus in processing matters was because the team working on the new East Lothian Community Hospital would be the one taking forward the work on transforming services for older people.  She was looking at the possibility of organising meetings sometime in October, once the new hospital was signed off and in operation. In the meantime she was working on a newsletter and planning meetings. |  |
| **12 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Community Resilience –* Cllr Northrop was updating the community assets register for resilience. The Annual Resilient Community Seminar would take place at the Brunton Hall on 26th October from 9.30 to 12.45. Cllr Lockhart had indicated she would attend as Cllr Northrop was not available. * *Health & Wellbeing Association -* North Berwick is one of the eleven communities shortlisted from 44 to submit a proposal to become a Compassionate Community. This project would aim to help a community to use their community assets to improve people’s experiences of death, dying, loss and care. Deborah Ritchie and Tillie Baird and the Health and Wellbeing Association were to be congratulated for all their work in this regard. * *Coastal Communities Museum –* It was noted tha*t* 919 adults and 259 children had visited the museum in August [open 25 days]*.* |  |
| **13 Correspondence** | The following e-mails or communications had been received –   * Letter from BT regarding the proposal to remove the payphone in Couper Avenue. It was agreed that it should be removed. The vandalized kiosk in Lochbridge Road should also be removed. * E-mail from Kathy Duncan/Sustaining North Berwick asking for help in identifying areas around North Berwick to plant some trees to increase biodiversity and offset carbon emissions as well as creating an area for people to enjoy. It was understood that areas around the schools and North Berwick Trust Country Park had since been identified. * E-mail regarding the missing plaque on the horse trough at the Recreation Park. It was noted that this had been missing for some time. No-one could recall the inscription which had been on it. * E-mail regarding the couch grass extending onto the beach near the boating pond. It was pointed out that marram grass had been planted some time ago to prevent erosion and to protect the wall. * E-mail seeking Community Council involvement in an inclusive community Christmas event. It was agreed that the Community Council would be happy to support such an event but would not want to be actively involved. | KES |
| **14 Any other competent business** | 1. A Lochbridge Road resident raised the issue of speeding in the street despite the 20 mph signage and asked if a re-active speed sign could be installed. Cllr Smith undertook to ask ELC to install a socket so that one of the current signs could be moved there with a 20 mph speed limit. 2. The results of the project *Safer Active Travel* had been issued. The four recommended interventions were (a) undertake a feasibility study to redesign the Grange Road/Haddington Road junction; (b) open up the Law Primary School staff access (old Haddington Road) to pedestrians and cyclists; (c) identify and undertake actions such as rationalisation of street furniture and bins and cut back foliage to maximise usable footway width; and (d) undertake a feasibility study into improvements to Haddington Road/Lochbridge Road junction. It was unlikely that any of this would be done in the current financial year. 3. Archaeology & Local History Fortnight – 31st August to 15th September – NB’s Hidden Gem St Andrew’s Church, Kirk Ports Wednesday 4th or Sunday 8th at 2.00 pm | KES |
| **15 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 1st October 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |