**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 492nd Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 2nd May 2017**

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

**Present:** Cllr Hilary Smith, Chairman

Cllr Kathryn Smith, Secretary

Cllrs L Cowie, L Kay, G Moodie, C Mackenzie, W Macnair, O Owen, S

Northrop, T Todd & I Watson

**In attendance:** Peter Hamilton,ELC Cllrs J Goodfellow & D Berry, local press.

**1 Welcome:** The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

**2**  **Apologies:** Cllr J Lockhart and PC’s D Gray & I Paterson

**3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th April 2017:**

Adoption of the Minutes, which had been circulated previously, as amended, was proposed by Cllr Watson and seconded by Cllr H Smith.

**4 Matters Arising:**

4.1 ***4.1 Planning Aid:*** The Chairman confirmed that Planning Aid would now hold their training session on 20th June in the Old Council Chambers.

4.2 ***4.8 Correspondence – Dr Clare Cavers:*** It was hoped that the Community Council would support an event they were planning to hold in North Berwick on 14th May.

4.3 ***6.2 NBGC – totem clock:*** Cllr Todd commented that this application had been taken off the delegated list and would come before the Planning Committee on 6th June.

4.4 ***8.3 Intern:*** Cllr Cowie reported that potential candidates for this role were busy with exams.

4.5 ***8.4 Website:*** The Chairman confirmed that she had now circulated the instructions for accessing the calendar and apologised for the delay in doing so.

4.6 ***10 24 hour defibrillators:*** Cllr Todd pointed out that using a defibrillator *increases* a person’s chance of survival rather than *cuts* as recorded. The Secretary would amend the Minutes accordingly.

4.7 ***12.3 Christmas Lights:*** Cllr Macnair was still trying to arrange a meeting of the new committee.

**TRIBUTE:**

*The Chairman thanked ELC Cllr Jim Goodfellow, who was seeking re-election at the forthcoming local government elections and ELC Cllrs David Berry & Tim Day, who were standing down for all their work done on behalf of the community during their term in office. In particular she paid tribute to Cllr Berry for his 18 years of commitment to the town as a councillor and as a token of appreciation presented him with a small gift.*

**5 Police Report:**

5.1 In the absence of PCs Gray and Paterson the Secretary read out the Police Report which is summarised as follows:

During the period of the Report there had been several incidents of note which were broken down in terms of the agreed priorities for the ward as follows –

***1. Road Safety***

* On 13/04/17, an anonymous report was received of a BMW driving in the High Street in the wrong direction. Police attended however there was no trace of the vehicle.

***2. Antisocial Behaviour***

* On 07/04/2017, Police received a call regarding an intoxicated male refusing to leave The County Hotel. Police attended, however the male had left prior to police arrival.
* On 08/04/17, Police were called to a noisy house party ongoing in Glenburn Road. Police attended; no noise on arrival.
* On 09/04/17, Police received a call regarding youths causing a nuisance near the tennis courts on East Road. Youths ran off on Police arrival.
* On 12/04/17, a report of approx 30 – 40 youths inside and outside a house on Brodie Avenue drinking alcohol. Police unable to attend due to high volume of calls.
* On 14/04/17, a report of a group of youths screaming and shouting at the entrance to Trainers Brae. Police attended, and youths were making noise whilst leaving party. Advice given.
* On 16/04/17, Police received a noise complaint to a house on Glenburn Road. Police attended and house in darkness and no noise.
* On 23/04/17, Police received a call regarding youths on Couper Avenue throwing stones at garages and cars. Police attended, the area was searched and no trace of any youths. No damage to any garage.
* On the morning of 23/04/17, a report of loud music from a house in Glenburn Road was received. No noise on Police arrival.

***3. Housebreaking***

* There had been no housebreakings reported to Police this month.

***4. Parking***

* Parking issues in the town continue to be monitored by parking attendants.

***5. CAPP***

* The agreed priorities for the month were - following up on drug misuse around Craigleith Avenue, Lochbridge Road & Gilbert Avenue; and parking issues in the town particularly in the Quadrant/Victoria Road/Marine Parade.
* The police had suggested making the Quadrant one way from east to west but it was felt that this would lead to further traffic problems in Victoria Road. A double yellow line on the north side of the road was proposed instead.
* It was confirmed that a double yellow line was proposed for outside Sweet News to facilitate the longer East Coast buses entry into the High Street from Church Road.
* The police had requested participation in the 2026 Draft Strategic Plan Consultation.
* The date of the next CAPP meeting is Wednesday 31st May 2017 at 1930 hours in the Old Council Chambers, North Berwick.

***6. Other Incidents of note***

* On 17/04/17, Police were informed that 2 vehicles parked in Gilbert Avenue, had both been damaged during the night. Damage to the same two vehicles was also reported on 27/04/17. Enquiries are still ongoing.
* On 18/04/17 Police received a report that sometime in March 2017, a quantity of lead had been stolen from the roof of Morin Harper Hairdressing shop. Further enquiries to be made.
* During the Easter weekend a large quantity of scaffolding was stolen from the insecure yard at Logan Thomson, Gasworks Lane. Enquiries are still ongoing.

**6 Planning Matters:**

6.1 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and no objections had been raised -

**St Andrew Blackadder Church, High Street:** Demolition of chimney

**Site at Tantallon Road/Heugh Road:** Modification of clauses 1 & 5 of planning obligation entered into pursuant to planning permission 14/00868/P

**Garden Flat 1 St Ann’s, York Road:** Erection of garden shed

**4 Dundas Avenue:** Extension to house

**Abbey Church Hall, 116A High Street:** Extension to building, formation of steps & hard standing area.

**8 Redside Farm Steadings:** Installation of satellite dish, transceiver antenna & cabling (retrospective)

**Engine Cottage, Abbotsford Road:** Alterations to wall and formation of glass balustrade as changes to scheme of development subject of planning permission 12/00905/P

**8 Highfield Road:** Extensions to house and formation of dormer

**22 Fidra Road:** Erection of wall

**7 Consultations**

7.1 The Chairman commented that there had been 10 Consultations since the new community council had taken office. It was not possible to respond to them all but those where responses had been submitted had been done by the same small group. She suggested that thought be given to a mechanism to ensure that everyone, depending on expertise, participates in responding. Cllr Owen proposed that everyone should indicate to the Secretary what areas of interest they had so that the different consultations could be allocated accordingly. As this is part of the role of a community council everyone had a shared responsibility in making sure the consultations were dealt with appropriately.

**8 Communications Group:**

8.1Cllr Mackenzie commented that it had been arranged with Royal Mail to postpone delivery of the newsletter till the first week in July. Discussion followed on content and format.

**9 Budget 2017/18:**

9.1 As the Treasurer was absent it was agreed to postpone finalisation of the Budget till the July meeting.

9.2 The Secretary confirmed that she was meeting with the Treasurer & former Treasurer Jake Scott at the Bank of Scotland on 4th May to complete the paperwork for the new cheque signatories.

**10 24 hour Defibrillators:**

10.1 Before the meeting Cllr Todd had circulated an update on his discussions with the relevant people which is summarised as follows –

* Rather than supplying AEDs the thinking now was that it may be better to donate external boxes and move some of the current ones. This would need the approval of the Friends of the Edington (FOTE).
* There would be a FOTE meeting on 31st May at the Health Centre.
* Communication was being entered into with the Seabird Centre, NBRFC and NBGC to move theirs externally. Others may include Tesco, the Community Centre and Sports Centre.
* The recommendation was, where conditions allow, defibrillators should be placed in openly accessible (unlocked) cabinets that allow immediate access in an emergency. A decision to place a public access defibrillator in a locked cabinet should be made only on the basis of careful risk assessment in that specific location.
* An AED map showed that the centre of the town was well covered. Perhaps one was required at the fire or train station plus other ‘out of town’ locations.
* This is still very much work in progress but progress was being made, albeit slowly.

10.2 The Chairman thanked Cllr Todd for all his work on this issue to date.

**11 Area Partnership - Charrette:**

11.1 Cllr Kay gave an update on the Town Centre Charrette which would be launched on 30th May in the Community Centre at 7.00 pm. The diary for the rest of the week would be as follows:

**Thursday 1st June** –

Hope Rooms: 9.30am-12.30pm Town Centre walk and talk; 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm Town Centre interactive workshops

Community Centre: 7.00pm-9.00pm Catch-up

**Friday 2nd June** –

Abbey Church Old Hall: 9.30am-12.30pm Ideas testing workshop; 3.30pm-5.00pm Open design studio – review progress; 7.00pm-8.30pm Catch-up

**Saturday 3rd June –**

St Andrew Blackadder Church Hall: 10.30am-12 noon Action Planning Workshop; 2.30pm-4.30pm Feedback Exhibition

A small booklet including a short survey would be distributed by a mail-drop throughout the whole Area Partnership area as well as electronically through e-mail lists and Facebook.

**12 Reports from Groups & Societies:**

12.1 **Calder & Crawford Cups:** As the East Lothian Tennis Championships would be taking place from 23rd to 29th July the Secretary had booked the East Links putting green for the Calder & Crawford Cups putting competition on 25th July (qualifying) and 27th July (finals). Cllr Todd had agreed to help with the organisation.

12.2 **Youth Project:** The Chairman thanked Cllr Cowie for arranging the presentation by the young people on their recent visit to Rwanda.

12.3 **The Trades Cup:** Cllr Todd confirmed that the rowing race had been re-scheduled for 4th May and reminded members that sponsorship for the benefit of Beach Wheelchairs was still being sought.

12.4 **St Andrew’s Old Kirk Project:** Cllr Owen confirmed that planning for the interpretation boards was well in hand.

12.5 **Youth Network:** Cllr Watson reported that they were advertising for a youth worker.

12.6 **Russell Bequest:** Cllr Northrop reported that no requests for funding had been received.

12.7 **Coastal Communities Museum:** Cllr Moodie reported that there had been 1,200 visitors to the museum during April.

**13 Correspondence:**

The following communications had been received –

* Provisional Licensing Applications for MRH Dalrymple Filling Station & North Berwick Bowling Club which had been circulated previously. No-one had any objection to the applications and the Secretary would advise the Licensing Board accordingly.
* TRRO for no waiting, loading and unloading in Quality Street & Melbourne Place to facilitate utility works on 21st May.
* A flier from the RNLI seeking volunteers for their shop.

**14 Any other competent business:**

14.1 Complaints had been received about the speed tables in Grange Road and whether they conform to regulations.

14.2 It was pointed out that the previous weekend polystyrene containers had been scattered over the pavement and road in Quality Street due to the seagulls. The Chairman undertook to write to North Berwick Fry about the matter using the Resource Efficient Scotland initiative on reducing waste as an introduction.

14.3 The Chairman commented that 13 applications had been received for consideration at the Stella Moffat Trust meeting on 17th May. To assist new Trustees she would put a score sheet in dropbox.

14.4 Suggested alternative meeting places and times was discussed briefly.

14.5 East Coast Buses was now running a half hour service on Sundays.

14.6 It was felt that the colour of the outside painting of the new dentists’ premises in Market Place was inappropriate. It was understood that planning officers were looking into it.

14.7 The old Royal Burgh North Berwick sign on the eastern entrance to the town was obscured by branches. It was pointed out that, as this sign was the property of the Community Council, the Community Council could deal with it.

**15 Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held at the Fire Station, Station Road, North Berwick on Tuesday 6th June 2017 at 7.30 pm.