

Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council

Minutes of the 443rd Public Meeting held at 19:30 on Tuesday 07 May 2013 at St Andrew Blackadder Church, North Berwick

Present: Cllr S Sinclair Chair
 Cllr J Scott Treasurer
 Cllr K Smith Secretary
 Cllrs M Baker, R Bryson, E Danks, H Flanagan, L Hall, D Kellock, W Macnair,
 I Watson

In attendance: ELC Cllr T Day, local press, Ms P Earle, Mr A Charles

Action

1 Apologies

ELC Cllr J Goodfellow, Cllr H Smith

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 02 April 2013

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Bryson.

3 Matters arising

3.1 *Painting of Brodie Court*

(3.1) It seemed that progress was being made.

3.2 *Fire station*

(3.2) Tendering had taken place and site surveys had been completed. It was hoped that rebuilding would start, on the same footprint, in June.

3.3 It was confirmed that there had been no progress on the suggestion that the police and fire service could be housed together in the rebuilt premises.

3.4 *Repainting town signs*

(14.1) The painter was going to fit the job into his schedule as soon as possible, weather-dependent. The meeting would appreciate having the work done before the summer.

3.5 *Raft race insurance*

(12.7) The meeting was delighted to learn that the RNLI would be able to use their public liability insurance and that the event would therefore be able to proceed. An entertainment licence would also be necessary as there would be music. Mr Peter Hammond was thanked for his hard work in staging the raft race over the years and it was very much hoped it could continue for many years to come.

3.6 It was confirmed that a representative of ELC would attend a future meeting to discuss insurance matters with the Community Council.

4 Police report

4.1 There were no police present and no report had been received.

4.2 COMMUNITY AND POLICE PARTNERSHIP (CAPP)

Priorities for the month included:

Speeding in Lochbridge Road

The problem had been resolved.

Deliveries to NISA store in Lochbridge Road

The problem of noisy deliveries in the early hours of the morning had been resolved

by the Law Tenants & Residents Association liaising with the parent store in the High Street.

Bus shelter, Lochbridge Road

It was noted that the shelter may be removed to discourage youth gatherings.

The next CAPP meeting would be held at 19:30 on Wednesday 29 May at the Council Chambers. All members of the public were welcome.

4.3 If members of the public would like an enhanced surgery conducted in the area, please contact 893585, laura.dobbie@scotland.pnn.police.uk, colin.banks@scotland.pnn.police.uk or lothianscotbordersnorthberwickcoastalcpt@scotland.pnn.police.uk

4.4 Please note that these are new email addresses due to the change to Police Scotland on 01 April 2013. The new website, www.scotland.police.uk was still accessible through the previous website. The dog warden's phone number was 01620 827310 and the email address was dogwatch@eastlothian.gov.uk

4.5 It was noted that there had been a police presence with a mobile speed unit at Kingston. Cllr Macnair asked if the police could be approached to deal with the illegal parking outside Humble Pie in Kingston as it was too close to the junction. It was felt that vehicles could park off road at this location; ELC Cllr Day was already dealing with the matter.

4.6 A complaint had been received regarding the lack of access to the police station during the day, especially during the opening hours announced on the door. It was understood that there were staff resource difficulties at the present time; the public was advised to use the phone supplied for emergencies. The Secretary would enquire what the situation was. **KS**

5 Edington Hospital/forum

5.1 The Chair thanked all committee members who had collected surveys and, in particular, Cllrs Hall and H Smith for inputting data. 649 returns had been received to date.

5.2 The purpose of the forum was to advise on local feeling, which had been made clear through the survey. At the forum meeting held on 30 April feedback papers from various groups had been tabled, together with the architect's plans for a 2nd storey extension to the hospital and health centre. However, the plans could not be discussed at that meeting. The next meeting would be held on 25 September. A report would appear in the next newsletter. More surveys were available for any members of the public in the library.

6 Parking

6.1 The Chair acknowledged that it could be difficult separating personal considerations from what was good for the town. Several emails of objection to the options under consideration had been received with all writers being told that no action would be taken without further full consultation, apart from at the Recreation Park, where, it was understood, work had commenced. It was noted that the National Trust and the Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of the Royal Burgh of North Berwick had entered into a Conservation Agreement registered 16 November 1973 highlighting places of historic interest or natural beauty which should remain unbuilt upon. Cllr Baker had asked the National Trust to investigate whether the Agreement was still binding or whether it had been rescinded.

6.2 *Parking byelaw*

The Secretary had been in correspondence with the ELC solicitor who had confirmed that communication with the Scottish Government had been ongoing. He had, however, been advised by the Scottish Government again that that the proposed byelaw was inappropriate as there were alternative methods of dealing with the problem, namely, a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). They had implied that the application for the byelaw would be rejected unless this point could be addressed. The Transportation Department had been asked to re-examine the issue of a TRO as an appropriate route to solve the problem as it had been rejected previously on the basis of cost but a budget had been assigned within the department for car park improvements and they were in a position to deal with this problem as part of that process. It was anticipated that the TRO could take up to 18 months to be put into place although it was hoped that, in this case, the timescale might be shorter. Cllr Day would meet the Transportation Department the following week to get a more precise timescale.

6.3 It was noted that, recently, 15 vehicles had been parked overnight. The previous bank holiday weekend had been chaotic in Tantallon Terrace, with visitors saying they would not return to the town due to traffic congestion. It was noted that the tennis courts were again being used for parking and it was felt that the police were reluctant to take action.

6.4 It was noted that suggestions for East Bay parking on Coo's Green had resulted in objections from residents so the problem was difficult to resolve. It was noted that ELC had not replied to enquiries regarding the date of future consultation so the Chair would attempt to ascertain that date. The meeting discussed further suggestions and the potential problems during The Open Championship.

7 Consultation on draft Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005

7.1 Cllr Kellock had read the draft statement. There was no comment to be made.

8 Consultation on wind turbine development in East Lothian

8.1 It was felt that the paper was well thought out and detailed. Additional criteria should be considered, namely, the landscape, cultural and historical heritage and biodiversity and fauna. These criteria would form an additional condition when considering the planning applications although they would not overrule the Local Plan. In a previous document ELC had recommended that the smaller wind turbines (12-20 MW) be used in the lowland areas of East Lothian while those above 20MW be used only on the Lammermuirs. The document at present under consideration was a proposed modification of the original report. It was noted that the Scottish Government had banned further turbine development in areas of natural beauty, mostly in the Highlands, and concern was expressed that this would put more pressure on areas such as East Lothian. A draft response would be circulated. The deadline for response was 17 May.

LH

9 Association of East Lothian Councils (AELCC) AGM

9.1 The AGM would take place on 12 June in the Council Chambers, Haddington at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. It would take the form of a facilitated knowledge sharing and feedback session among all Community Councils with an opportunity for sharing good practice. The Association would also like to make a joint response to the Stewardship of Community Council Funds paper from Lilian Pryde and had asked for views, especially on the issue of payment for minute-takers. The Chair had already discussed the matter with Mrs Pryde; the management of NBCC funds was deemed acceptable. The Chair and Cllr Flanagan would attend.

SS/HF

10 Community notice board

10.1 The manufacturer had agreed the design of the noticeboard, which would include a

locked cabinet for Community Council notices and a cabinet with a magnetic catch for notices from other organisations in the town. It would be black with gold lettering. Installation, manufacturer, VAT and delivery were all within budget. The advertising planning application would now be submitted.

11 Lease of Store 2, 45 Melbourne Place

11.1 The rent had been reviewed at £936p.a. for the next three years. The new lease was to be signed by the Chair and Secretary. There seemed to be confusion as to the actual address of the store; the Secretary would investigate further. **KS**

11.2 The Community Centre Management Committee had asked whether NBCC had storage available for a bouncy castle which could be used for community events and for which there was no storage available at the centre. Unfortunately NBCC did not have such a facility. It was suggested that the store beside the museum building might be an option. Cllr Flanagan would take this suggestion back to the Community Centre. **HF**

12 Planning matters

12.1 There had been two meetings of the Planning Committee since the last meeting. The application for housing at Ferrygate had been rejected as it was prime arable land; the three local councillors had made objections as had the Community Council. Permission to erect a house in the garden of Glenconner had been granted.

12.2 The Walker Group would meet with NBCC to discuss the Mains Farm development. Cllr Hall invited questions from all councillors by Tuesday 15 May, to be passed to the Walker Group in advance of the meeting. **ALL**

12.3 The following new applications were viewed and discussed and met with no objection:

24A Macnair Ave – extension to house, including external staircase and terrace and erection of trellis

4 Nungate Rd – part demolition of wall, realignments of wall, erection of gates and formation of hardstanding area; formation of vehicular access

Sea View, Glasclune Gdns – alterations to house and additions of roof vents as changes to the scheme of development the subject of planning permission 12/00292/P

3 Kirk Ports – installation of roof windows and roof vents

Lloyds TSB, 41 High St – display of advertisements

NB Rugby Football Club – alterations to building

47 Brodie Ave – extension to house and erection of shed

Rhodes Holdings – prior notification of erection of agricultural building

West Strathearn, 13B York Road – installation of roof window

37 Clifford Road – planning permission in principle for erection of 1 house

63 Old Abbey Rd – extension to house

The meeting was pleased that Cllr Day had arranged the replacement of the ATM

'phone kiosk' in Quality St with a red one.

[Cllr Day left the meeting]

13 National Planning Framework

- 13.1 The document should be carefully read. There would be a drop-in session from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm on 30 May at the Gyle Centre, Edinburgh. Cllrs Kellock and others would attend. Comments and a submission would be discussed at next meeting. **DK**

14 Reports from groups and societies

14.1 *St Andrew's Old Kirk roof project*

A meeting would be held on 09 May to consider tenders received for a feasibility study into the repair and future use of the building.

14.2 *AELCC*

An awards ceremony based on achievements would take place in October; nominations would be invited. An A1 board displaying the year's achievements would need to be submitted.

14.3 *Coastal Communities Museum*

Some of the museum committee had visited the building under construction. It was hoped that it would be ready by the beginning of July and be open for The Open. A volunteer recruitment drive was under way.

14.4 *Performing Arts centre*

The committee had approved a constitution. Bank accounts were being opened and fundraising for a feasibility study would commence. An article was being prepared for the newsletter.

14.5 *Youth Network*

Arrangements for the Festival in the Lodge on 15 June were progressing.

14.6 *Christmas lights*

The switch-on would take place on 23 November at 16:30.

14.7 *Friends of the Lodge*

The AGM would be held on 14 May at 19:30 in the Hope Rooms with a talk from Duncan Priddle on "Lost landscapes of East Lothian".

14 Correspondence

14.1 *Reactive speed sign*

It was reported that the cost of another sign for East Road would be £2165.00. Transportation would contribute £1000 and the remainder would be met from local priority funds. This was approved. It was noted that there would be a slight delay so ELC could order in bulk. It would take 4-6 weeks to install.

14.2 *Audit of Lochbridge Road*

The street audit would take place on 09 May from 11:00, meeting at 1 Tantallon Road. The purpose of the audit was to identify the concerns of local people. Issues already identified included parking, littering and road safety.

14.3 *Library*

It was hoped that the facility would return to School Road in July. It was appealing for donations for furniture, specifically for the junior area. NBCC was unable to help. It was noted that, even if the deadline for applications to the Stella Moffat Trust had been met, it could not finance items which should be supplied by ELC.

- 14.4 *RELBUS*
A meeting would be held on 08 May at 19:00 in the Town House, Haddington.
- 14.5 *Consultation hub*
The new hub was available for members of the public to view papers including the coastal car parking consultation on the introduction of charging which would close on 02 June.
- 14.6 *Locked gates and blocked paths*
As none of the places in the paper circulated were within the NBCC area no further action would be taken though a petition was available for signature if individual members so wished. It was noted that all emergency services possessed keys to ELC locked areas.
- 14.7 *Licensing application*
A copy of an application for a provisional premises licence for the Renaissance Golf Club had been received. It was thought to have been sent erroneously as the club was not in the NBCC area.
- 15 AOCB**
- 15.1 *Open Championship*
Travel information was tabled. This could also be found on the Muirfield and ELC web pages.
- 15.2 *Coastal Command service*
The annual service would be held at the War Memorial at the Seabird Centre the following Sunday. The Chair and Cllr Baker would attend.
- 15.3 *Tennis club*
Mr A Charles of the Club commented that the East Lothian Open would take place from 21 to 28 July and that the championship had won a national award for the best tennis tournament in Scotland for the last two years. All members of the public were invited to use the club.
- 16 Date of next meeting**
19.30 on Tuesday 04 June 2013 in St Andrew Blackadder Church