**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 502nd Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 6th March 2018**

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

**Present:**Cllrs Tommy Todd - Chair, Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Judy Lockhart – Treasurer

Cllrs L Foster, G Moodie, L Kay, S Northrop, O Owen, G Prince & I Watson,

**In attendance:**ELC Cllr Jane Henderson, ELC Cllr J Goodfellow and 2 members of the public.

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the 502nd meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs C Mackenzie & W Macnair, PCs D Gray & I Paterson |  |
| **3 Resilience – Emergency Response** | 3.1 The Chairman thanked Cllrs Northrop and Mackenzie for the hard work they had put in coordinating the Community Council’s response to the recent snow emergency.  3.2 Cllr Northrop commented that there had been an amazing community response which had focused on the Health Centre, nursing homes and other vulnerable people in the community. From the lessons learned the Resilience Plan would be reviewed.  3.3 Isobel Anderson, the First Responders coordinator, expressed concern that at one point all routes into North Berwick had been blocked which would have meant had emergency services not been able get through in the event of an emergency, the onus would have fallen on the small team of first responders and the limited resources they had. She emphasized that a top priority in future should be to keep the A198 open so that the emergency services could get through. |  |
| **4 East Lothian Draft Housing Strategy** | 4.1 ELC Cllr Goodfellow led the presentation on the East Lothian Consultative Local Housing Strategy 2018-2023 (LHS).  4.2 The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 requires local authorities to prepare a Local Housing Strategy for their administrative area. This is the sole strategic document for housing in the county and brings together a wide range of related priorities into one place and enables a coordinated response in terms of action.  4.3 The LHS sets out a proposed vision for housing across all tenures in East Lothian, aspiring to have ‘*Healthy, sustainable homes in vibrant communities, that meet increasing levels of need, reduce inequalities and improve wellbeing across all stages of people’s lives’* by 2023.  4.4 Members were broadly supportive of the goals but had concerns about the lack of more innovative thinking.  ***Cllr Northrop left the meeting.*** |  |
| **5 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes held on 6th February, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Moodie, subject to the amendment noted in **6** *6.4* below. |  |
| **6 Matters Arising** | 6.1 ***4.5*** A response to the Chairman’s letter on ELC’s parking strategy had been received but it had made no mention of the charrette recommendations. ELC Cllr Henderson commented that the revised strategy document had been approved by the Council and would be going out for consultation at the end of the month. She added that it was proposed to hold workshops in several locations throughout the county and officials could be invited to meet with the Community Council to discuss further.  6.2 ***7.6*** The recommendation by the planning officers to refuse the application to extend 2 Law Road because of its listed status and iconic gable had been overturned by the Planning Committee, the reason being that office space was required in the town centre.  6.3 ***15***Cllr Prince had attended the RNLI AGM on behalf of the Community Council. They were keen to report their gratitude for the Community Council’s support.  6.4 ***11.2*** Cllr Moodie pointed out that the wording of this item should read ‘*The tender document for consultants to carry out the [Town Plan] project was being fine tuned and would be shared with all parties concerned including the Area Partnership and East Lothian Council before being sent out.’*  *6.5* ***16.2****.* Cllrs Todd and Macnair had met with Stuart Pryde, ELC’s Principal Amenity Officer, to voice their concerns at the condition of the bollards on Beach Road. They were looking at the best option for replacing them with something similar and would liaise with the Area Partnership regarding funding. The Council would carry out the work but it may not be until next year. In the meantime they would be painted for the summer in time for the North Berwick in Bloom judging. |  |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **7 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 7.1 In the absence of the police Cllr Smith read out this month’s police report which is attached separately.  7.2 The CAPP meeting scheduled for 28th February had been cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions. The priorities for the month would be carried forward to the next meeting on 28th March in the Old Council Chambers.  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). |  |
| **8 Planning Matters (attached separately)** | 8.1 The February planning applications were led by Cllrs Owen and Macnair.  8.2 List A (previously circulated) – no comments.  8.3 ***Land adjacent to Fidra House, 67a Dirleton Avenue:*** After discussion, as the semi subterranean erection of 4 houses and associated works was a sensitive proposal of a high quality and innovative design with no impact on the setting or views, it was agreed that the application should be moved to List A  8.4 ***Glenorchy House, 15 Glenorchy Road:*** After discussion, although concern was expressed regarding part demolition of the wall, it was agreed [after a vote] that the application for the erection of one house with integrated garage, the formation of a hard standing area and part demolition of the wall, should be moved to List A.  8.5 ***18 West Bay Road:*** After discussion, as it was agreed that there were no concerns about the proposed alterations and extensions to the flat and the formation of steps with handrails, the application should be moved to List A  8.6 ***Proposed base station installation at junction of Dunbar & Glenburn Roads:*** After discussion it was agreed to object to the proposal by Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd for the installation of a base station at this junction on the grounds that it was unsightly, obtrusive and a hazard to pedestrians and children. They would also be asked what other site options had been considered and why they had been discounted.  8.7 Cllr Macnair and Cllr Moodie will lead on the planning applications for April’s meeting. | KES  WM & GM |
| **9 Licensing Application – Lockett Bros** | 9.1 An application for a major variation of the licence for Lockett Bros, 133 High Street to change from off-sales only to both on and off sales with opening hours for off sales of 10.00 and on sales of 11.00 and a terminal hour of 22.00 for both was discussed.  9.2 It was agreed to support the application. | KES |
| **10 Association of East Lothian Community Councils** | 10.1 At a recent meeting of the Association it was agreed that a steering group consisting of a representative from each community council should be formed to decide the way forward for the Association, including electing office holders, and that a mailing group should be formed as a means of raising and discussing issues with colleagues without meetings.  10.2 Cllr Watson agreed to be NBCC’s representative. |  |
| **11 Treasurer’s Report** | 11.1 There was nothing to report and no payments had been made in the last month.  11.2 There was a query about payments for the High Street murals but it was understood that the original plan had changed and a new plan was still to be formulated. |  |
| **12 Communications Group** | 12.1 The Group had not met during the last month.  12.2 Cllr Mackenzie’s proposed meeting with the Editor of the East Lothian Courier to discuss plans for providing content for the Courier’s ‘Connect’ booklet had been delayed but was re-scheduled for the end of the month.  12.3 Cllr Todd agreed to write to the Courier regarding the recent emergency activity in the town. | CM  TT |
| **13 Reports from Groups & Societies** | 13.1 *Joint Laws Advisory Group*: A meeting of the group was scheduled for 22nd March which Cllr Macnair hoped to attend.  13.2 *Christmas Lights Committee*: Cllr Lockhart reported that another fundraising crossword was now out in the usual outlets.  13.3 *Coastal Communities Museum*: Cllr Moodie intimated that the museum would be opening for the season on 30th March.  13.4 *St Andrew’s Old Kirk Project*: Cllr Owen reported that the information boards should be installed by the end of March. There would also be a feature in *East Lothian Life*. | WM |
| **14 Correspondence** | The following communication had been received –   * An invitation to an information event ‘Generations Working Together’ in St Andrew Blackadder Church on 27th April from 10.30 am. to 1.20 pm. |  |
| **15 Any other competent business** | There was none. |  |
| **16 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |