**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 506th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 3rd July 2018**

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

**Present:**Cllr Olwyn Owen & Cllr Ian Watson – Acting Vice Chairs, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllr Judy Lockhart – Treasurer, Cllrs Lewis Foster, Gordon Moodie, William Macnair, Lesley Kay & Sue Northrop

**In attendance:**ELC Cllr Jane Henderson, PC Iain Paterson, 4 members of the public and local press.

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | In the absence of the Acting Chairman, Cllr Owen opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the 506th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs C Mackenzie & G Prince and PC D Gray  |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes**  | Adoption of the Minutes held on 5th June, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Moodie and seconded by Cllr Foster. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***4.1 West beach sewerage pipe & erosion:*** Cllr Smith reported that Scottish Water had met with East Lothian Council at the site on 26th June and an update was awaited.4.2 ***4.2 Bollards:*** Confirmation of the Area Partnership funding was awaited but the work replacing the bollards and chains on Beach Road and the Quadrant had been completed and looked good.4.3 ***9.1 Consultations:*** (a) a general response to the Licensing Policy for 2018-2022 had been submitted; (b) Marine Scotland had been informed that the Community Council (NBCC) had no comments to make on the off shore wind farm; and (c) as no further comments had been received from colleagues a response to the Adult-wellbeing/growing older consultation had not been submitted. 4.4 ***10.1 AED’s:*** Cllr Lockhart had contacted all community councils to find out who was taking responsibility for the maintenance of their AED’s. In all cases but one the owner of the building was responsible. It was agreed that Cllr Lockhart would contact everyone in the town to find out what they would be prepared to do with regard to maintenance of the boxes on their property. There was still also the question of insurance to consider.4.5 ***11.2/3 Re-provisioning of Edington & Abbey:*** Cllr Kay confirmed that the joint letter had been sent to David Small and the response had been encouraging. However, Cllr Northrop emphasised that it was important to ensure that the Abbey was included in discussions. Apparently the IJB had been in discussion recently with staff and families of residents.4.6 ***13.1 Community Day:*** Cllr Northrop was pleased that there had been a great response to the event. Being held on a Friday meant that Leuchie, Fidra Nursing Home, the Abbey and the Health Centre were able to give their personal thanks for help received during the ‘snowmaggedon’. It was proposed to do it again sometime in the future. Cllr Northrop commented that a deputy coordinator for the Resilience Plan was sought. 4.7 ***14.2 Harbour Trust:*** It had been decided to defer the invitation to David Windmill in view of the changes occurring at the Scottish Seabird Centre.4.8 ***15 Correspondence:*** Cllrs Smith, Kay & Prince had attended the official launch of the Drift on 8th June and had been very impressed with the excellent facility.4.9 ***16.2 AOCB:*** It had been agreed to fund the Area Partnership On the Move Group’s request for signage to alleviate parking problems in the town during the summer season. The signage was now in place. | JL |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 5.1 PC Paterson read out this month’s police report which is attached separately. 5.2 In answer to comments about speeding in the town, PC Paterson confirmed that the police were aware of this and that the Kingston road had become a ‘rat run’. The situation would be monitored.5.3 ELC Cllr Henderson commented on speeding and dangerous driving on the Dirleton toll to Drem road, with all the traffic now joining at Fenton Barns from the town via Kingston. She would raise this with ELC and also at the next CAPP meeting.5.4 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 27th June in the Old Council Chambers.Feedback welcome to NorthBerwickCoastalCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk or deborah.gray@scotland.pnn.police.uk and john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk. |  |
| **6 Planning Matters (attached separately)** | 6.1 The June planning applications were led by Cllrs Owen & Watson. 6.2 List A (previously circulated) – no comments.6.3***:*** ***13 Couper Ave:*** After discussionit was agreed that as there were no concerns regarding the change of use of public open space to domestic garden and the erection of fencing, which actually would be an improvement, the application should be moved to List A.6.4 ***17 Market Street:*** After discussion it was agreed to express concern at the proposed variation of condition 2 of planning permission 17/00480/P to allow for up to two deliveries per day because of the disturbance to residents and added street congestion. It was also suggested that ELC should be asked to encourage the use of smaller delivery vehicles.6.5 Cllrs Watson & Prince will lead on the planning applications for August’s meeting. | OO |
| **7 Licensing Application** | 7.1 North Berwick Rugby Football Club had submitted an application for a variation to the conditions of their premises licence to convert to an open licence to allow the Club to be more flexible and have more functions. After discussion it was agreed to support the application. |  |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report**  | 8.1 The Treasurer reported that Adrian Booth’s fee of £700 for the Town Plan feasibility study had been paid.8.2 The cost of the parking signs would be paid from NBCC’s account as the local priorities budget was fully committed.8.3 Cllr Smith commented that she was awaiting estimates for the design of a new poster for the putting competitions and a new community council banner. She expected an outlay in the region of £100. Again this would be paid from NBCC’s account.8.4 Cllr Lockhart asked that the murals be on next month’s agenda as the Area Partnership appeared not to be proceeding with the project and NBCC would have to decide whether to take it on. |  |
| **9 North Berwick Trust** | 9.1 Cllr Owen gave an update on the change in legal status of the Trust to a charitable company limited by guarantee. Details of what this means is on the NBT website. 9.2 Cllr Watson read out a statement by the Trust Chairman regarding the basis on which directors would be appointed, namely based on skills rather than as a representative of another organisation. Directors would serve for 3 years initially with the possibility of a further 3 years.9.3 Cllr Owen read out a statement from Acting Chairman Cllr Mackenzie in which she expressed concerns about the change in the make-up of trustees; how this affects the NBCC’s relationship with the Trust; and how the restructured Trust intends to ascertain and represent the community’s interests. She was also disappointed that NBCC had not been consulted.9.4 After discussion it was agreed that NBCC should write to the Trust to ask some questions and raise concerns – *Question 1* - when and where was the structural change publicised and did this constitute the required notification under OSCR rules? If so, what is the closing date for any consultation?*Question 2* – clarification of the type of re-organisation and condition(s) as per OSCR Guidance.*Question 3* - concern about the transition process and in particular the size, the number of NBCC councillors and the role of the Chair of NBCC as an ex officio Trustee. It was emphasised that NBCC wanted the Trust to succeed so getting these transition arrangements right and ensuring that the Trust delivers the hoped for outcomes of change (as per guidance) was important. NBCC must also be able to be a critical friend and voice the views of all the community without fear or favour at all stages and it is to be hoped the Trust would welcome this. | CM to send letter |
| **10 Lime Grove** | 10.1 Cllr Kay reported that as the Group had heard that ELC was proposing to market the site in July, a request for a Community Asset Transfer was to be submitted to ELC to delay the sale and oblige ELC to consider selling the land to the community rather than a commercial developer. The Group had set up The North Berwick Community Development Company and was seeking members. A joint valuation of the site with ELC was being carried out by the District Valuer. The deadline for the request being submitted was 13th July. |  |
| **11 Communications Group** | 11.1 Cllr Owen confirmed that the last date for copy for the next edition of *‘NB Connect’* was 25th July. She had undertaken the co-ordination of the articles in the Acting Chairman’s absence. 7 articles were required and she asked those who had submitted articles which had not been used in the last edition to update and forward them to her; a further 3 articles and their authors were also agreed. 11.2 It was agreed that responsibility for coordinating the articles/ editing/ providing NBCC news and editorial for future editions should be shared as it was quite an onerous task. Volunteers were requested for the next 2 editions.11.3 It was noted that there had been some distribution problems with the last edition. Cllr Owen would take this up with the Editor. | OOOO |
| **12 Calder & Crawford Cups**  | 12.1 Cllr Smith confirmed the dates for the qualifying and finals of the putting competitions were 24th & 26th July respectively. In view of the other business to be discussed later on the agenda she would deal with posters, advertising, help on the days etc by e-mail. |  |
| **13 Reports from Groups & Societies** | There was nothing to report from the various groups and societies which had not been discussed under other headings |  |
| **14 Correspondence** | 14.1 *Glasclune Pathway Shelter:*  An e-mail had been received from the Chairman of Glasclune Residents Association expressing concerns about the Youth Project’s proposed change of use of the shelter on the pathway on the north side of Glasclune Gardens to a semi-enclosed hut as a ‘hang out’ for the youth of the town. Concerns related to health and safety issues, invasion of privacy and potential anti-social behavior in a residential area.Cllr Kay gave the background to the Youth Project’s search for a dedicated youth space in the town which began in 2015 when the group carried out a community mapping exercise which showed how little there was in the town for young people. A short film made by them showing how much there used to be for young people was part of a successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and since then they had been looking at the derelict shelter and how it could be used by the whole community.As it was clear that both parties were keen to find an amicable solution to the problem a further meeting was to be arranged to discuss further. |  |
| **15 Any other competent business** | 15.1 ELC Cllr Henderson reported that existing hours in all restaurants and public houses in the county would be extended to 1.00 am during the forthcoming Scottish Open and Ladies Scottish Open being held in Gullane. |  |
| **16 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 7th August 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |