**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 508th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 4th September 2018**

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

**Present:**Cllr Olwyn Owen & Cllr Ian Watson – Acting Vice Chairs, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllrs Lewis Foster, Gordon Moodie, William Macnair, Sue Northrop & Geraldine Prince

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson, Jim Goodfellow & Jeremy Findlay, 12 members of the public, PC’s Deborah Gray & Iain Paterson, Community Warden Mandy Smith 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 508th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Judy Lockhart, Lesley Kay & Claire Mackenzie and Peter Hamilton |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes held on 7th August, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Moodie and seconded by Cllr Macnair. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***4.2 Bollards:*** The Treasurer had confirmed that the ELC internal transfer of funds in respect of NBCC’s contribution towards the cost of the bollards had been made.  4.2 ***4.4*** ***Harbour Trust:*** It was agreed that an invitation to David Windmill, Chairman of the Scottish Seabird Centre, to present at our October or November meeting should now be made.  4.3 ***4.5 Lime Grove:*** Cllr Watson confirmed that the Community Asset Transfer had now been validated by ELC and that there were now over 1,000 members of the Community Development Company.  4.4 ***10.1 AEDs:*** Cllr Watson reported that as past chairman, Mr Todd, had signed up as the responsible person for 10 AED’s, 6 of which were in local premises and not the responsibility of NBCC, unless they were taken over by the premises and a responsible agency was found for the remaining 4, they would all need to be taken off the Scottish Ambulance Service register until the situation was clarified.  4.5 ***13 NBET - War Memorial Garden Lighting:*** The Chairman of NBET had confirmed the three low level LED lights would have a narrow range and were specifically recommended by ELC staff to prevent any dazzle. Pre-application discussions with the Planning Technician had been positive and helpful; planning consent was awaited.  4.6 ***15.4 The Puffin gable:*** Cllr Owen had identified the ground and first floor owners of the building but had not been successful with the second floor owners yet.  4.7 ***15.5 Motor cycle park:*** ELC Cllr Goodfellow indicated that the area outside the ‘Beehive’ was a possibility for a motor cycle park but that a TRO would be required. In the meantime he would ask the traffic attendants not to ticket anyone parked there. Concern was expressed about accessibility for pedestrians, buggies etc; he confirmed this would be taken into account before any final decision was taken. It was noted that there was an ongoing discussion about town centre parking taking place at the Area Partnership and that the Community Council should work with them on proposals such as this. | KES |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report: (further details attached separately)** | 5.1 PC Gray read out this month’s police report which is attached separately.  5.2 A resident voiced her concerns about the speed and volume of traffic using the Ware Road bridge, particularly at peak times going to and from school, and felt that an accident was waiting to happen.  5.3 In the discussion which followed it was suggested that rolling out a 20 mph speed limit across the town should be investigated further. Cllr Smith undertook to contact Dunbar and Dunpender Community Councils to find out more about how they had gone about getting the speed limits in Dunbar and East Linton.  5.4 Installing traffic lights, pedestrianising the bridge and painting double yellow lines on the road between the bridge and Old Abbey Road were also discussed but would take time to implement or cause further problems in the case of pedestrianisation. It was agreed that it came down to driver education.  5.5 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 5th September in the Old Council Chambers. These meetings would now be 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 [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).  5.6 Mandy Smith was welcomed as the new community warden for North Berwick, Keith Tait having moved to Musselburgh. She commented that she would attend meetings or submit reports each month. | KES |
| **6 Glasclune Pathway Shelter** | 6.1 Lauren Cowie, Manager of the North Berwick Youth Project, gave an update on the feedback from surveys and consultations regarding the proposed shelter and as a result would now be looking at alternative sites and asking the community where they would like a shelter to be located which would have community support. To this end there would be a community conversation and consultation meeting at 7.00 pm on 19th September in the Hope Rooms.  6.2 Paul Douglas of the Glasclune Residents Association welcomed the change of plan and reiterated that the Glasclune shelter was not the right place for such a structure. It was clear any shelter should be for community use, should be in a safe location and visible to the police and community warden. The residents would support the Youth Project’s idea to install story boards in the existing shelter and would be prepared to help with fundraising.  6.3 It was agreed that the Community Council would support a project for the young people in North Berwick. |  |
| **7 Planning Matters** | 7.1 The August planning applications were led by Cllr Smith.  7.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and following a brief discussion no objections were raised –  ***23 Keppel Road*** – erection of conservatory  ***3 St Baldred’s Road*** – extension to house  ***42 St Baldred’s Road [former garden ground]*** – erection of one house and associated works  ***6 Abbotsford Park*** – replacement windows, doors and reroofing of part of house  ***114 High Street [The Puffin]***  display of advertisement (retrospective)  ***Flat 5, 18 Fidra Road {Hyndford House]***  - variation of condition 1 of previous planning permission to extend period for further 3 years  ***35 Keppel Road*** – erection of porch  ***34 St Andrew Street*** – alterations to house, erection of domestic office building, fencing, railings, wall, formation of decked area, steps, parking platform with under domestic storage building.  7.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***6 Springfield Gardens*** – ***alterations to house and******formation of decked area****.* After discussion, as the property was in the Conservation Area, it was agreed to express concerns about the replacement of the windows, which are presently wooden framed, with white upvc windows.  ***Site at Tantallon Road/Heugh Road [McCarthy & Stone]*** *–* ***modification of planning obligation****.* There was no Statement of Reasons attached to the application so no comments could be made at this time.  ***7 Tantallon Road*** *–* ***erection of care home (class 8), hotel******building (class 7) and associated works****.* After discussion it was agreed to express concerns as this proposal did not appear to be based on an analysis of need or consideration of the impact that such a large nursing care facility would have on local health services in particular. There was also concern about how a decision about a facility like this fits with important discussions going on at present with the East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership about proposals for the re provisioning of care in *inter alia* North Berwick and that there was a risk that a decision in favour of a nursing home could significantly impact upon that process.  7.4 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –  ***1 South Hamilton Road*** – alterations, extension to land and erection of fence & gate – granted subject to the render of the extension external walls being red in colour.  ***Heugh Reservoir -*** extension to redundant water tank to form 1 house etc – withdrawn.  7.5 Cllrs Watson & Foster will lead on the planning applications for October’s meeting. | KES  KES  KES |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report** | 8.1 In the Treasurer’s absence Cllr Smith confirmed that £500 had been paid to East Lothian Yacht Club for the fireworks display and had been gratefully acknowledged. |  |
| **9 Telephone - Exchange** | 9.1 Cllr Prince had circulated a paper summarizing the considerable progress on this project since the last meeting.  9.2 For community feedback a suggestion wall had been put in place on the veranda and comments and suggestions had also been received via social media sites which had resulted in 34 suggestions for its use.  9.3 Cllr Prince suggested that it was now time to form a sub group comprising different organisations in the town to move forward the project and this was agreed. |  |
| **10 Murals** | 10.1 Cllr Prince reported that re-instatement of the existing Robert Louis Stevenson murals in Cat’s Close would be costly to do. She recommended that they be removed and redone at a cost of around £1,000. She had someone lined up who could do this.  10.2 This course of action was agreed.  10.3 Cllrs Lockhart & Prince would present the new proposal at the Area Partnership meeting on 25th September. | GP  JL & GP |
| **11 North Berwick Trust** | 11.1 Cllr Owen commented that it was important to have a good relationship with the Trust. She was therefore disappointed with the report in the previous week’s *Courier* with its sensationalised headline and inaccuracies in the text. She asked reporter Gavin Harper to have a correction printed but he thought that was unlikely to happen and suggested a letter instead.  11.2 The Acting Chairman was to write to the Trust Chairman requesting a meeting. | CM |
| **12 Communications Group** | 12.1 Cllr Owen confirmed that she would enquire why there had been a delay in distribution of the edition which should have been delivered in the w/b 20th August.  12.2 Cllr Foster confirmed that 4 or 5 articles had been promised but that another 2/3 articles were required and should be submitted within the next 2/3 weeks. | OO  LF & KES |
| **13 Remembrance Day** | 13.1 Cllr Smith had attended a briefing with the ELC Events and Resilience officer. As the event organiser she would be legally responsible for the safety of the event. She would complete the Event Plan as far as she could at present but the sub group would require to meet soon.  13.2 On a query from Cllr Prince regarding changing the timing of the event so that the 2 minutes silence was observed at the War Memorial at 11.00 am, Cllr Smith confirmed that the arrangements would be as in previous years viz: observation of the 2 minutes silence at 11.00 am in St Andrew Blackadder Church and the 2 minutes silence and wreath laying at the War Memorial at 12 noon.  13.3 An e-mail had been received from Poppy Scotland asking if there were any buildings or landmarks which could be lit up red on their ‘Light Up Red’ campaign. Projecting a poppy on to the wall at ‘Lighthouse Corner’ was discussed. Cllr Watson undertook to investigate further. | IW |
| **14 Casual Vacancy** | 14.1 Cllr Smith commented that steps should now be taken to fill the casual vacancy. The Scheme for Community Councils` stipulated that a vacancy should be filled within 21 days; 3 months had passed since Mr Todd’s resignation. It was agreed to start the process. |  |
| **15 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Coastal Communities Museum* – Cllr Moodie commented that the museum would now be open only at weekends. There had been 30,000 visitors since it re-opened in June 2013. * *Town Plan Group –* The group was planning to make presentations to the Area Partnership, North Berwick Trust and ELC. * *NBGC Community Fund –* No grants would be made this year. * *Law & Traprain Advisory Group –* would be meeting soon * *Community Rail Partnership –* The AGM would be held on 16th October at Queen Margaret University. Cllr Prince would attend. * *Harbour Trust* – A stakeholders meeting would be held shortly. * *North Berwick Environment Trust –* There would be a Talk by Iain MacFarlane, Head of Planning & Development at ELC on 10th October in the Community Centre. * *Abbey Care Home –* Discussions were taking place on how residents and families could be supported. |  |
| **16 Correspondence** | * Notice of military exercises over *inter alia* Gin Head from 3rd to 21st September. * E-mail regarding East Lothian Partnership Forum on 8th November which Cllr Foster had agreed to attend. * E-mail regarding PAS support for local place plans and community engagement [circulated] * E-mail regarding Making Places Initiative [circulated] * E-mail regarding NHS Equality Outcomes and British Sign Language Plan [circulated] * Invitation to Carer Friendly Communities Conversation on 27th September in Brunton Hall, Musselburgh. |  |
| **17 Any other competent business** | **17.1** A representative from the Men’s Shed demonstrated the ‘beach heroes’ boards which they had made and which invited the public to clear the beaches. Further work was required to the wording on the boards and Cllr Prince agreed to help with this.  **17.2** Cllr Northrop reminded members about the Resilient Communities workshop on Saturday 27th October and hoped there would be a presence from the Community Council at it as NBCC was seen as the leading community council for the work done by the last and present members. She also thanked Cllr Smith for stepping in as interim deputy coordinator of the Resilience Plan.  **17.3** At the request of Cllr Smith it was agreed to advertise for a minute secretary  **17.4** Cllr Smith had signed up to e-bulletins to keep up to date with consultation and engagement opportunities in East Lothian.  **17.5** CRP Chairman, Harry Barker had now received the plaque for the commemorative planter at the station for Sheila Sinclair and would confirm the date of the proposed ceremony shortly.  **17.6** The AGM was confirmed for 6th November. | GP.  KES |
| **18 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 2nd October 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |