**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 510th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 6th November 2018**

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

**Present:**Cllr Judy Lockhart – Chairman and Treasurer, Cllr Gordon Moodie – Vice chairman, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllrs Lewis Foster, Peter Hamilton, Claire Mackenzie, Sue Northrop & Geraldine Prince

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson & Jeremy Findlay, 6 members of the public, PC Iain Paterson, Tony Thomas of apt planning & development.

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | Chairman Judy Lockhart opened the meeting and welcomed all present, including Angela Leitch, Chief Executive of East Lothian Council, to the 510th meeting of the Community Council, her first meeting as Chairman. She took the opportunity to say that she had been thrilled to join the Community Council almost two years ago and that it was an enormous honour and a privilege to be elected as Chairman. She hoped to continue to make a positive contribution not only to the town but to the Community Council going forward. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllr William Macnair, PC Deborah Gray, community warden Mandy Smith and local press |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Mackenzie and seconded by Cllr Watson. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***5.3 AEDs:*** Cllr Watson reported that he was still investigating the position regarding responsibility for the maintenance of the AEDs. It had been discussed at the recent meeting of the Association of East Lothian Community Councils but no solution to the problem was agreed. Cllr Lockhart had just received confirmation those being maintained by the community council would be covered for public liability.  4.2 ***5.7 Casual vacancy:*** Cllr Smith confirmed that the casual vacancies now arising were being advertised on social media and in the *Courier*.  4.3 ***5.8 Emergency Response Plan Review:*** Cllr Northrop reported that 30 people had attended the Review meeting at the Marine Hotel on 3rd November. It had been a helpful and very informative discussion with practical ideas for help. A follow-up meeting would be taking place on 8th December at a venue to be confirmed. At the Resilient Communities workshop held at the Brunton on 27th October North Berwick’s Plan had been held up as a model of good practice.  4.4 ***7 Traffic issues:*** Cllr Mackenzie had received a positive reply to her e-mail to Peter Forsyth, Roads Asset & Regulatory Manager at East Lothian Council, about the Ware Road bridge. He had confirmed that a s.75 payment had been received from CALA when the Gilsland site had been developed a number of years ago, specifically earmarked for safety improvements at the bridge. It was understood that it was planned to install traffic lights in February. It was agreed that this matter should be referred to the ‘On the Move’ sub group of the Area Partnership to carry forward.  4.5 ***8.3 Planning matters:*** Members were reminded about the public consultation meeting regarding the proposed Castleton development on Thursday 8th November between 2.00 & 8.00 pm in the Community Centre.  4.6 ***12 Communications Group:*** Cllr Smith confirmed that the text and photos for the next issue of *North Berwick* *Connect* had been submitted to the *Courier* by the deadline. |  |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report:**  **(further details attached separately)** | 5.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was read out by PC Paterson.  5.2 PC Paterson was asked to look into the parking outside the Abbey Care Home to ensure that the access was not blocked for emergency vehicles.  5.3 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 28th November 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). |  |
| **6 Whitekirk Hill - presentation** | 6.1 Tony Thomas of apt planning & development, representing Whitekirk Hill Ltd, gave a short presentation on the proposed development at the former Whitekirk Golf & Country Club.  6.2 He explained that the former Clubhouse, which was in a poor state of repair, would be developed first with a clubhouse/administration complex incorporating a café, restaurant, bar, and leisure facilities, for which planning permission had been granted.  6.3 There would then be a phased development of up to 150 holiday lodges of various types and sizes.  6.4 There would be formal/informal open space and wider public access throughout the site. The development would be kept away from Whitekirk Cairn (a scheduled ancient monument) and would be 500m or more from Whitekirk Village.  6.5 Concerns were raised about the use of log burning stoves and the impact of increased traffic but it was generally agreed that it was a sensitive development which would be of benefit to the area. |  |
| **7 Planning Matters** | 7.1 The October planning applications were led by Cllr Lockhart.  7.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and following a brief discussion no objections were raised –  ***25 Melbourne Road –*** replacement balustrade  ***91 Lochbridge Road –***extension to house  ***War Memorial Garden –*** installation of lighting units & hardstanding  ***84 High Street –*** installation of roof window  ***21 St Andrew Street –*** resurfacing of hardstanding area  ***Tantallon Road (Dandara development) –*** substitution of house types  ***Chiselhurst, 4 Westerdunes Park –*** alterations, extension to house & formation of hardstanding as design changes  ***Imperial Car Park –*** installation of 2 electric feeder units, 2 charging points & associated works  ***Flat 6, 18 Fidra Road –*** alterations to flat, though there were reservations about the potential loss of a marble chimney piece.  7.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***Pointgarry House, 20C West Bay Road*** *–* ***alterations******to form French doors in lieu of windows along with******internal alterations****.* An objection to this application had been submitted last month. After discussion it was agreed to object again on the same grounds.  ***14b York Road – alterations to flat and formation of dormer.***  After discussion it was agreed to express concerns that the new window would be significantly larger than the current one and that all sash windows were to be replaced with casement windows.  ***7 York Road – alterations and extension to house.*** After discussion it was agreed to express concerns that the proposed single storey extension was completely out of character with the semi detached villa which had retained many period features. The extension would also be visible from the road.  7.4 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –  ***114 High Street (The Puffin)*** – display of advertisements (retro) granted subject to the condition that this grant of express consent would expire on 31st October 2023 after which date the advertisement would be removed unless a further consent was granted.  ***25 Marmion Road -*** erection of retaining walls, formation of steps, hard surfacing & seating area - withdrawn.  ***2 Netherlaw –*** erection of conservatory – granted.  ***23 Keppel Road –*** erection of conservatory – granted..  ***9 Springfield Gardens –*** alterations to house & formation of decked area – granted.  ***6 Abbotsford Park –*** replacement of windows, doors & reroofing part of house - granted.  ***27 Trainers Brae –*** change of use of domestic dwelling to child minding business – granted subject to certain conditions.  ***3 St Baldred’s Road –*** extension to house – granted subject to no windows or other glazed openings within the west elevation.  ***Flat 5, 18 Fidra Road –*** alterations to flat – granted.  7.5 Cllrs Lockhart & Moodie will lead on the planning applications for December’s meeting. | KES  JL & GM |
| **8 Major Variation of License** | 8.1 The Masonic Social Club had applied for a major variation to change their club license to an open license in respect of their premises at 8 Forth Street.  8.2 The current hours are - Closed Monday; Tuesday 19.00 – midnight; closed Wednesday & Thursday; Friday & Saturday 19.00 – midnight; Sunday 17.00-23.00. They were now applying for 19.00 to midnight Monday to Friday; 12 noon to midnight on Saturday; closed on Sunday.  8.3 A number of objections regarding noise and anti social behaviour in a residential area had been received from neighbours. After discussion it was agreed to support the residents’ objections. | KES |
| **9 Treasurer’s Report** | 9.1 The Treasurer confirmed that the following payments had been made during the last month - £63.60 to Lady Haig Poppy Factory for 2 wreaths; £170 to Cllr Northrop for re-imbursement of payment made to Men’s Shed for information boards; £30.29 to Cllr Prince for re-imbursement of expenses in connection with the telephone cabins & murals; £150 to Karsten Young for fee for certifying last two years’ accounts. |  |
| **10 Town Arts Project (TAP)** | 10.1 Cllr Prince commented that the telephone cabins, the Cat’s Close murals and the possible artwork on the Lighthouse Corner gable would now all be merged under the Town Arts Project /Group banner.  10.2 She read out a short statement to be submitted to the Area Partnership for its consideration and possible support for the project.  10.3 The proposal would be to create a new community based Town Arts Group which would respond to, initiate, encourage, develop or in other ways support, visual arts projects.  10.4 As Cllr Prince would be away for the Area Partnership meeting on 20th November, Cllr Northrop agreed to present the proposal. | SN |
| **11 East Lothian Integration Joint Board –next step** | 11.1 Cllr Northrop commented that representatives from the Health & Wellbeing Association, Friends of the Edington, the Abbey Care Home and the Community Council would be meeting on 22nd November to discuss the way forward for the re-provisioning of Health and Social Care Services in the town.  11.2 This would be followed by a public meeting, arranged by a working partnership of the Health and Wellbeing Association and the Community Council, at 7.30 pm on 26th November in the Community Centre to update on the current position. |  |
| **12 Remembrance Day** | 12.1 Cllr Smith confirmed that arrangements were well in hand.  12.2 The Town Service in St Andrew Blackadder would start at 10.45 am and she requested that as many community councillors as possible should attend. Seats at the front of the Church would be reserved for them. The wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial would take place at 12 noon.  12.3 More stewards to man the road closure barriers were required. Cllr Northrop offered to help.  12.4 Cllrs Smith & Prince would be attending East Lothian’s Festival of Remembrance in the Corn Exchange on 10th November. |  |
| **13 ‘Loony Dook’** | 13.1 Cllr Smith had received an e-mail from Kevin Sewell, Event Safety & Resilience Officer at ELC, expressing concern that the one event with the highest risk category in East Lothian was the ‘Loony Dook’ because there is no event organiser and therefore no risk assessment, no insurance cover, no life guards and no first aid provision.  13.2 Following discussion it was agreed that this was a spontaneous event and that it would be impossible for the Community Council to organise. It was pointed out that the lifeboat would be in attendance. It was agreed that everyone participating would be responsible for their own safety. |  |
| **14 Resignations, co-option & election** | 14.1 The Chairman confirmed that letters of resignation had been received from Cllrs Owen & Kay. Cllr Mackenzie now tendered her resignation and read out a statement with her reasons for so doing.  14.2 The Chairman thanked those resigning for their contributions during their 2 years as community councillors.  14.3 If the Area Partnership agreed at their meeting on 20th November to support the Town Arts Project Cllr Prince intimated her intention to resign. If that was the case, Cllr Lockhart proposed that she be co-opted till May next year. This was seconded by Cllr Moodie and agreed.  14.4 Cllr Lockhart proposed that Peter Hamilton, currently a co-opted member, fill one of the vacancies. This was seconded by Cllr Moodie and agreed. |  |
| **15 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Christmas Lights –* Cllr Lockhart confirmed arrangements were well in hand and the TRRO for road closures was in place. A number of local businesses had entered the shop window displays competition. * *Coastal Communities Museum –* Cllr Moodie confirmed the museum would be closing at the end of the month till April. |  |
| **16 Correspondence** | * E-mail from Stephen Gourlay of SFRS regarding delivery of the new fire appliance to North Berwick in w/b 5th November with an invitation to visit the station to see it. * E-mail from Director of Communications at Edinburgh airport regarding rejection of their Airspace Change Application by the CAA. * Letter from Royal Mail warning about scam mail. * Applications for funding from Civic Pride Fund open with closing date of 30th November for applications. * Flyer entitled ‘*North Berwick War Memorial 1914*-*1918*’ available to purchase at £4 from the Scottish Seabird Centre |  |
| **17 Any other Competent Business** | 17.1 Cllr Smith read out an e-mail from Lyle Crawford regarding the provision of toilets at the station with a request for the Community Council to approach the Area Partnership to make a modest sum available, say £5,000, to kick-start the project and to encourage other bodies to add their contribution.  17.2 Cllr Northrop agreed to put this to the Area Partnership at their meeting on 20th November. | SN |
| **18 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |