**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 518th Public Meeting held at 19.30 on Tuesday 2nd July 2019**

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

**Present:**Cllr Judy Lockhart - Chairman, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Cllrs Lewis Foster, Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, Sue Northrop, Ian Watson, and Christiane Maher

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson & Jim Goodfellow, 4 members of the public, and Kathy Duncan of Herbspace

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all to the 518th meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Gordon Moodie, Kelly Evans & Audrey Steel, PC Iain Paterson and the local press [they hope to have someone in place by next month.] |  |
| **3 Herbspace** | 3.1 Kathy Duncan, one of the founders and a director of Herbspace Community Interest Company, explained that the company was founded in 2016 as a not for profit social enterprise company whose core purpose is to support young people as they grow and find their place in the world.3.2 This is done by providing a space where they can talk, mix socially and gain confidence as well as connect with nature and learn gardening and business skills, elements that all support their mental and emotional wellbeing.3.3 Herbspace develops a range of herbal teas and vinegars based on herbs grown or foraged in and around North Berwick. This not only provides an income which is re-invested into helping the young people but also raises awareness of the importance of their wellbeing in the community.3.4 The herb garden is situated in the grounds of the Abbey Residential Home in ‘a secret garden’ and has a yurt donated by Stepping Out. There are drop-in sessions on Wednesdays and structured workshops a couple of days a week linked in with the guidance teachers at the school.3.5 They also work with the Youth Project and East Lothian Work. |  |
| **4 Previous Minutes**  | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Northrop and seconded by Cllr Watson. |  |
| **5 Matters Arising** | 5.1 ***5.3*** ***Budget 2019/20:*** A letter of grateful thanks for the grant of £500 in support of the Raft Race had been received from the organisers.5.2 ***5.6 Correspondence – Dogs:*** Following the premature article in the Courier about the possibility of imposing a restriction on dogs on the East Beach from April to October Cllr Smith had received a tirade of abuse on social media. There had also been a number of positive posts and a long supportive letter from a resident in Dirleton who also reported on irresponsible behaviour he had witnessed whilst sitting on the East Beach. Apart from an acknowledgement, there has been no response from ELC yet. Following on from this there had been a number of posts on social media about barking dogs, particularly about someone who walks along the beach from the Seabird Centre to the Glen GC and back every morning from 6.20 with a small dog which barks constantly. This would be taken take up at the next CAPP meeting. 5.3 ***6.4 Police Report:*** ELC Cllr Findlay had indicated that Gullane & Area Community Council might be interested in sharing the ‘pop-up’ police officers and this had been discussed at their recent meeting. The Secretary would contact them to discuss further.5.4 ***6.6 CAPP:*** Due to holidays the next CAPP meeting had been postponed to 17th July.5.5 ***10 Charrette proposals for High Street:*** The next meeting of the Implementation Group is on Wednesday 17th July at 9.30 am in the Community Centre. Cllrs Macnair, Maher and Evans would be attending. | KESKES |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **6 Police Report:** **(further details attached separately)**  | 6.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.6.2 As there were a number of incidents in the report where the police had arrived after the event a question was asked about police response times. This would be raised at the next CAPP meeting.6.3 In response to a query about noise, any noise incidents should be reported to the noise abatement team at ELC. 6.4 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 17th July in the Old Council Chambers. [*These meetings are now held on a 6 weekly basis to tie in with the police* *shift* *patterns.*] Feedback welcome to -NorthBerwickCoastalCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk or john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk andpeter.bamford@scotland.pnn.police.uk. | KES/PH |
| **7 Planning Matters** | 7.1 The June planning applications were led by Cllr Maher.7.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no objections were raised – ***18A Dirleton Avenue*** – alterations to house and formation of external steps with handrail***3 Priory Gate*** – formation of vehicular access, hardstanding area, erection of fencing, gates and gate pillars***15a Melbourne Road***  – installation of pipe work and alterations to building***4 Dirleton Avenue***  alterations to flat as changes to the scheme of development subject to planning permission 17/00926/P [removal of previously planned raised patio from planning]***15-17 High Street –*** erection of signage and lighting; display of advertisements7.3 The following new application was viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –***North Berwick High School* –** Afterdiscussion, though it was felt the 3 storey new block would dominate from the south and stick out like a sore thumb from Grange Road, it was agreed not toobject totheapplication to extend the building and associated works. It was also noted that there was no provision for a common room and there was a missed opportunity to provide better social space.7.4 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –***14 Links Road* –** alterations, extension to flat, formation of hardstanding area, erection of retaining wall, gate and fence – **granted**. ***25 Station Hill* –** alterations and change of use from office to form one house and associated works – **granted** – subject to obscure glazing and front door colour choice.***The Lorimers, Fidra Road* –** demolition of gates, formation of hard standing area, and erection of gates, walls, fencing and shed – **granted** with formality conditions.***Kennels to the west of Sheriffhall, West Gate Lodge* –** erection of wall, gate and part demolition of wall (retro) – **granted**.***58 High Street*** – alterations to building/alterations to flat ***–* granted*.*** |  |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report**  | 8.1 Completion of the appropriate paperwork with the Bank of Scotland for Cllr Maher to become a signatory was still awaited. The Chairman had written to the Bank to complain.8.2. It was confirmed that during the last month the following payments had been made - £38 to Cllr Smith for taking the Minutes; £135 to Vote Pedro for maintaining the website; £50 to Maggie McCole for editing the putting competition poster; £2,241 to the conservator for the Cat’s Close murals; and £468.09 to Geraldine Prince for miscellaneous expenses in connection with the work on the Cat’s Close murals.  |  |
| **9 Re-provisioning of health & social care services in North Berwick –update** | Cllr Northrop commented as follows –9.1. There had been a meeting at Queen Margaret University about re-provisioning which she had been unable to attend but the feedback from the Health & Wellbeing Partnership was that it had not moved things forward and co production had not been addressed. The point had been made that this must be more than tokenism. Alison Macdonald and HSE (the project team) had responded positively but the agenda for consultation had to be set and what was meant by co production defined.9.2 She is attending all three re - provisioning groups with the hope of working together on shared concerns.9.3 She had had no reply from Alison Macdonald to requests for them to meet with the North Berwick re-provisioning group and to discuss the interface with planning. ELC Cllr Henderson agreed to take up the matter with her and also suggested all the local ELC Councillors should be e-mailed as well.9.4 She had had a meeting with Cllr Moodie and Chair of the Area Partnership, Hilary Smith about linking together the Town Plan and the Local Development Plan. She confirmed that the Health Centre is included in the LDP. It was agreed to follow this up. |  |
| **10 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Calder & Crawford Cups –* Cllr Smith reminded members that the putting competitions would be taking place on Tuesday 23rd July (qualifying) and Thursday 25th July (finals) and that help would be required on both days. Arrangements would be discussed further at the mid month business meeting.
* *Christmas Lights –* The Chairman confirmed that the Abbey Church had approved the ‘Tree of Life’ rather than a traditional tree. The Area Partnership had considered the application for a grant for replacing the Christmas lights which had reached the end of their lives as a low priority and therefore no funding was available. The wish was to replace the lighting in Quality Street £2,100), the Lodge (£3,765), outside the Ship Inn (£2,305) and outside North Berwick Fry (£2,915).It was also hoped to light a tree at the south end of the path to the tennis courts at a cost of £1,300 but it was understood that the Glasclune Gardens Residents Association was prepared to help with funding. In the meantime other avenues for funding would be pursued.
* *Coastal Communities Museum –* It was noted that320 adults and 150 children had visited the museum in June [open 10 days]; 384 and 102 in May [10 days]; and 808 and 174 in April [18 days]
* *The NBGC Community Fund –* NBGC had announced it would be re-launching their Community Fund for applications during 2019. It was agreed that an application should be submitted for assistance with the Christmas lights.
* *Health & Wellbeing Association –* The group had been shortlisted as a potential Compassionate Community.
 | ALL |
| **11 Correspondence** | The following e-mails or communications had been received –* E-mail from Risk & Resilience Manager at ELC wanting to bring organisers WorkingRite and the Community Council together to run a ‘Loony Dook’. The Community Council’s position had not changed as it is their view that this was a spontaneous event which the Community Council did not want to be involved in organising either on its own or with anyone else.
* Letter from the Harbour Trust Association seeking support for their funding application for the urgent repair of the northwest pier of the harbour. It was agreed to write in support.
* E-mail from North Berwick Table Tennis Club seeking support for installing one or two outside table tennis tables installed in the Lodge. It was agreed to support the initiative.
* E-mail regarding Tesco Centenary Grants
* Consultation on short lets/Air B&B which closes on 19th July – there is an event at the Scottish Government, Victoria Quay on 15th July
* Edinburgh Airport community survey which closes on 21st July
 | JLJL |
| **12 Any other competent business** | 1. Any complaints about hedges overhanging footpaths should be referred to ELC Transportation.
2. ELC Cllr Henderson pointed out that an eight week consultation period on a draft East Lothian Climate Change strategy had opened on 27th May and would close on 22nd July. She encouraged participation.
3. It was noted that pedestrians were not using the new lights at the Ware Road bridge properly. It was suggested that the schools should be informed. It was agreed to raise the matter at the next CAPP meeting.
 | KES/PH |
| **13 Date of Next Meeting** | Tuesday 6th August 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street. |  |