**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of the 521st Public Meeting held at 19.30 on**

**Tuesday 1st October 2019**

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

**Present:**Cllrs Judy Lockhart – Chairman, Gordon Moodie – Vice Chairman, Cllr Kathryn Smith - Secretary, Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, Sue Northrop, Ian Watson, Kelly Evans and Christiane Maher

**In attendance:**ELC Cllrs Jane Henderson & Jeremy Finlay, 6 members of the public, local press (Emma Duncan)

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all to the 521st meeting of the Community Council.  1.2 The Chairman took the opportunity to congratulate Catriona Matthew for successfully captaining the European Solheim Cup team against the USA at Gleneagles recently. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | PC Iain Paterson |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Maher and seconded by Cllr Macnair. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***8 Resignation & vacancies:*** The advertisement in Facebook had produced 3 noted interests. A press release is due to appear in the *Courier.* Sadly, Audrey Steel had also now resigned from the Community Council for personal reasons.  4.2 ***12 Health & Wellbeing Association:*** The Chairman had written to intimate that, although the Association had the Community Council’s support, the Community Council could have no further involvement in meetings etc at this time.  4.3 ***12 Community Christmas event:*** It was agreed that it was not possible to have any more musicians at the Christmas Lights Switch-on due to the lack of space in front of the Abbey Church and for health and safety reasons.  4.4 ***14a Speed re-active sign in Lochbridge Road:*** Discussions were ongoing with the Council regarding the positioning of the sign for optimum effect. |  |
| **New business** |  |  |
| **5 Police Report:**  **(further details attached separately)** | 5.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  5.2 ELC Cllr Henderson commented that following the recent thefts of alcohol from the Co-op the layout in the shop was being looked at by the Licensing Officer.  5.3 The date of the next CAPP meeting is scheduled for 9th  October 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](mailto:NorthBerwickCoastalCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk) or [john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:john.paterson2@scotland.pnn.police.uk) and  [peter.bamford@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:peter.bamford@scotland.pnn.police.uk). |  |
| **6 Planning Matters** | 6.1 The September planning applications were led by Cllr Maher.  6.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no objections were raised –  ***Little Wamphray, Kingston*** – extension to house  ***39 McLeod Green*** – extension to house (addition of garden room)  ***31 Rhodes Park –*** renewal of planning permission for extension to house  ***Flat 4, 28 Dirleton Avenue –*** alterations to building (conversion of part of attic into bed & bathroom with 2 velux windows in roof)  6.3 The following planning decisions had been made during the last month –  ***22 Clifford Road*** – extension to house, formation of dormer, decking with steps & handrail – **granted**  ***36 High Street*** - display of advertisements – **granted**  ***9 Lord President Road*** – alterations and extension to house – **granted** subjectto a condition regarding safeguarding privacy and amenity of neighbouring property  ***15-17 High Street*** – erection of signage and lighting, display of advertisements - **granted**  ***The harbour & public toilets, Victoria Road*** – installation of CCTV cameras & antennas – **granted**  ***53 St Baldred’s Road*** ***(Scout Hall) –*** alterations, extensions to building, formation of hard standing areas, steps & walls – **granted**  ***Hamilton Lodge – Hamilton Road*** – alterations to house – **granted**  ***Balgone Dean, Kingston*** – extension to house - **granted** |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1. It was confirmed that during the last month the following payments had been made - £38 to Cllr Smith for taking the Minutes; £67.60 for 2 poppy wreaths; and £319 for presents for the Christmas Lights switch-on.  7.2 £264 had been received From Gullane CC for their share of the cost of the pop-up police. |  |
| **8 AED’s** | 8.1 It was confirmed that the 24 hour defibrillators for which the Community Council was responsible, viz outside WhyNot?, the Rugby Club, and the Fire station and at the Harbour were now registered with The Circuit, the new national defibrillator network.  8.2 It was noted that the pads for the WhyNot? AED were out of date and the Harbour AED was inactive and needed pads. It was agreed that new pads should be purchased.  8.3 It was agreed that the local list of locations required to be updated.  8.4 The Harbour Trust had agreed in principle to be responsible for the planning application to re-site the defibrillator which would now be round the corner from the harbour master’s office near the steps to the gents’ toilets but would not take on responsibility for its maintenance. | KE |
| **9 Area Partnership** | 9.1 It was agreed that in the meantime Cllr Lockhart (temporarily till the end of the year when it was hoped a new councillor would take over) and Cllr Kelly would be the Community Council’s representatives on the Area Partnership.  9.2 Concern was expressed that no prior notice was being given about spending decisions and it was agreed that, unless prior notice was given, representatives could only vote as individuals and not on behalf of the Community Council. |  |
| **10 Consultation on updated Local Development Plan - Castleton** | 10.1. NBCC was aware that an application had been received by the Planning Department for the proposed Castleton development. However, it was not yet online as it had not been validated and more information had been request by the Planning Department.  10.2 Due to the short period for objections and the complexity of the application, the Community Council had written to ELC requesting an extension to the usual objection period from 3 weeks to 6 weeks on the basis that time was needed to look at the application in relation to the LDP and, in particular, residents’ feedback from the Consultation. Engagement with the town regarding any changes was also required and three weeks was insufficient for this purpose. A reply was awaited. |  |
| **11 Remembrance Day** | 11.1. Cllr Smith confirmed that the Remembrance Day Town Service would be held at 10.30 am in the Abbey Church with the wreath laying and War Memorial Service at 12 noon.  11.2 The required paperwork from ELC’s Safety Advisory Group was awaited for completion.  11.3 Jan Allport had agreed to co-ordinate the stewarding of the barriers.  11.4 There would be a poppy projection on the gable at the east end of the High Street again. |  |
| **12 Annual General Meeting** | 12.1 It was confirmed that the Annual General Meeting of the Community Council would take place at the start of next month’s public meeting. |  |
| **13 Reports from Groups & Societies** | * *Christmas Lights switch-on* – The Chairman confirmed 30th November as the switch-on date. An invitation had been posted on Facebook. New lights for 2 trees had been ordered. Applications for grants to help with the cost of new lights had been submitted to NBGC, Stella Moffat Trust and North Berwick Trust. It had been decided not to have a ‘Tree of Life’ this year. It had been decided to have a shop window display competition again this year. * *AELCC –* The Chairman commented that the Association was writing to ELC asking them to review charging licensing fees for holding community events as this was having an adverse effect on whether some events could be held. A lottery license was also required for street collections which meant a charge of £50 for the street collection at the Christmas Lights switch-on. Currently there was no distinction between charitable and non-charitable events but this was being reviewed. * *Joint Laws Advisory Group –* Cllr Macnair commented that the wetlands management was progressing well and they were looking to improve the ground behind Lochbridge/Glenburn Roads. * *On the Move Group –* was discussing safety around the schools. What was taught to children about the Highway Code was questioned. There were still problems with using the lights on the Ware Bridge; the default level was in favour of pedestrians. * *Charrette Delivery Group –* The next meeting was scheduled for early November. ELC was working on 2 proposals and Cllr Maher was meeting with them to discuss further. * *Compassionate Community -* There would be an opportunity to discuss supporting death, dying and loss at a Big Discussion on Saturday 9th November in St Andrew Blackadder Church from 10.00 -11.00 am. * *Lime Grove –* Cllr Watson commented that the appeal against ELC’s decision to refuse the community asset transfer request would be heard on 10th October and if that failed an appeal would be made to the Scottish Government. * *Coastal Communities Museum –* It was noted tha*t* 271 adults and 42 children had visited the museum in September [open 9 days]*.* | JL  CM |
| **14 Correspondence** | The following communications had been received –   * Letter from a resident, referring to earlier discussions about restricting dogs on the East beach during the summer months, suggesting a restriction on dogs on both beaches would be required or alternatively persuading the dog warden to police the situation rather than penalise responsible dog owners with restrictions. * Letter from RBL Scotland Riders, a motor bike branch of the Royal British Legion, publicising how the charity could participate in community events. * E-mail regarding the lease of the Seabird Centre car park and whether it was up for renewal next year. ELC Cllr Henderson commented that an audit of assets was being carried out by ELC and that a lease could not be granted over Common Good assets. |  |
| **15 Any other competent business** | The Community Council had been invited to participate in the RNLI Fundraising Annual Quiz on 31st October in NBHS. Cllrs Lockhart, Moodie, Smith & Evans would form the team. |  |
| **16 Date of Next Meeting** | It was agreed to postpone the date of the next meeting to **Tuesday 12th November 2019** at 7.30 pm in the Hope Rooms, Forth Street because of the Firework Display at the Harbour on the 5th. |  |