**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of Zoom Meeting held at 19.30 on**

**Tuesday 5th May 2020**

**Present:**

Judy Lockhart – Chairman, Gordon Moodie – Vice Chairman, Kathryn Smith – Secretary, Christiane Maher – Treasurer, Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, Sue Northrop, and Ian Watson

**Apologies:** Kelly Evans & Ingrid Gibson

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all to the second Zoom meeting of the Community Council. 1.2 There were 2 items on the Agenda namely Planning & The Resilience Plan. |  |
| **2 Planning matters** | 2.1 The April planning applications were led by Cllr Maher.2.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no comments were made – ***Land south of Wotherspoon Green –*** erection of sports pavilion, change of use of public open space to form vehicular access, car parking and associated works***Vacant land to south of West Windygates & to rear of 2,3,4,5, & 6 Netherlaw* –** change of use of vacant land to domestic garden ground for West Windygates, 2,3 & 5 Netherlaw and associated boundary treatments***Fairways Cottage, Abbotsford Road –*** formation of decking with steps and handrails***Drift, Tantallon –*** variation of condition 1 of planning permission 18/00110/P to extend the time period until 22nd November 2025***2 Cromwell Road –*** alterations to house and erection of gate***2 Quadrant –*** alterations, extension to house***Land south of 4 Lime Grove (Barley Brae) –*** erection of sculpture/bench, formation of mound and associated works (retrospective)***5 Nungate –*** alterations, extension to house and installation of solar panels2.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –***Land south east of 35 Clifford Road –*** although concerns were expressed about access to the site, after discussion it was agreed not to comment further on the application for the erection of 1 house, integral double garage and associated works.***4 Cromwell Road –*** after discussion, although there was no objection to the application for the extension to the house in general, it was agreed to object to the dormer windows facing the street as they are a completely different style to the dormers in the main house and the western extension.***26 Forth Street –*** after discussion it was agreed to ask the ELC Councillors to call off the list the application for alterations to the house, the formation of dormers and a balcony. |  |
| **3 Resilience Plan** | 3.1 Cllrs Lockhart & Northrop gave an update on the Community Resilience Emergency Plan.* Good progress was being made with meal deliveries to the vulnerable. There had been a problem with hot meals but a voluntary organisation had set up in the kitchens of Loretto School and a hot 2 course meal for £2.50 was being provided. Financial support would be given to those who needed it.
* To keep celebrating the community spirit, a Puffin Hunt had been initiated with a poster on social media. Members were asked to share it with their networks.
* Dr Flynn had indicated that the vulnerable group could be shielding for 12-18 months.
* 200 *Couriers* would be delivered to care homes, sheltered housing, the day centre and isolated people each week so that everyone without access to the internet knows what is going on. These are being funded from the resilience fund. A reduced rate by buying in bulk had been negotiated with the *Courier*. There had been a positive feedback from those who had received it.
* Requests for prescriptions were rocketing and people falling through the net were coming to light.
* Transition for those still in lockdown would take a while to organise. How to link up with other groups such as Gullane & Dirleton and North Berwick Trust would have to be looked into.
* An application would be submitted to the Area Partnership for funding for ipads for vulnerable people in hospital as it was important for them to keep in touch with family and friends. Cllr Watson pointed out that he had a contact for reconditioned ipads at a reasonable cost. He would investigate further.
* A lady was baking quarter sized cakes to cheer up people in isolation who are receiving help.
* Discussions with Kevin Sewell were taking place on how to transfer from the emergency plan to normal.

3.2 Cllr Moodie confirmed that North Berwick Trust was keen to help support the CER and had suspended the round of grant applications due in the first half of the year. To date £5,000 had been given to the resilience fund and £1,000 to the Kindness Co-operative. 3.3 Cllr Moodie expressed concern that as the CER was a subcommittee of NBCC, amendment of the authority levels (currently £500) to reflect the current position was required. It was agreed that Cllrs Lockhart & Northrop should have authority to approve individual spend up to £1,000 with anything above that amount requiring full NBCC approval.3.4 Cllr Moodie emphasised that any funds donated by North Berwick Trust must be spent for the benefit of people in North Berwick only as this condition was enshrined in the Trust constitution. He added that it would be a courtesy to inform the Trust of any surplus and how it would be disbursed at the end of the emergency. |  |
| **4 AOCB** | 4.1 Cllr Watson commented that the Youth Project had not furloughed staff as it was important that the mental health worker maintain contact with vulnerable youngsters.4.2 Cllr Lockhart reminded members that Friday 8th May was VE Day. Planned celebrations could not take place now but people were encouraged to celebrate in their own homes and gardens. Pipers in the town would be playing in their gardens at 3.00 pm. Cllr Watson offered to put up some bunting.4.3 Cllr Smith had received a letter from a trustee of the Aviation Preservation Society seeking support for their application to the Scottish Land Fund for £80,000 towards the £100,000 cost of purchasing the shed at Congalton where they were working on the rebuilding of the WW1 Sopwith1-1/2 Strutter aircraft. It was agreed to write to the Scottish Land Fund in support of the application but that no financial support could be give.4.4 The date of the next virtual meeting would be Tuesday 2nd June. |  |