**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

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

**Tuesday 7th April 2020**

**Present:**

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

Due to technical difficulties Kathryn Smith was unable to participate in the meeting. She has drafted the Minutes from a recording which the Chairman had taken.

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all to the meeting of the Community Council held in exceptional circumstances.  1.2 There were 2 items on the Agenda namely Planning & The Resilience Plan. |  |
| **2 Planning matters** | 2.1 The March 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 –  ***Cherry Trees, Old Abbey Road*** – formation of dormer and reroofing part of house  ***Oak Lodge***, ***11 Netherlaw*** – part change of use of house and garden to child minding business (class 10) with associated parking and outdoor play area (retrospective)  ***17 St Andrew Street –*** alteration, extension to house, widening of vehicular access, formation of hard standing area and associated works  ***20 Trainers Brae –*** extension to house  ***13C Melbourne Road –*** replacement windows  ***The Scottish Seabird Centre –*** installation of telescopes (retrospective)  ***Rockville –*** extension to house  ***43 Quality Street –*** display of advertisements (retrospective)  ***Idle Rocks, 2B Marine Parade -*** extension to house  ***5 Arkwright Court –*** extension to house  ***Pointgarry House, 20C West Bay Road –*** Listed Building Consent for alteration to house and formation of ramp/hardstanding area  ***Eelburn House, 11 Westerdunes Park –*** alterations, extension to house, formation of hardstanding areas and installation of gate.  2.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***10 Dirleton Avenue –*** after discussion it was agreed not to comment on the retrospective application to repaint the door pink.  ***Plot 54 Barley Brae –*** after discussion, in view of the shortage of bungalows in the town, it was agreed to object to the application to change the scheme of development to replace the bungalow on plot 54 with a 2 storey house.  ***9 Quadrant –*** after discussion it was agreed to object to the part retrospective application for the re-roofing of the building as the slates on the south of the building seem to be of inferior quality and markedly different from the rest of the street which is in the Conservation Area.  ***3 St Baldred’s Road –*** after discussion it was agreed not to comment on the application for the replacement of the timber garage with a building to form ancillary accommodation. |  |
| **3 Resilience Plan** | 3.1 Cllr Northrop gave an update on the Community Resilience Emergency Plan.  3.2 She has a team of ten volunteers. It was difficult to develop the Resilient Plan when we didn’t know what we were up against but a volunteer database has been set up with someone to manage it.  3.3 The key areas of work are –   * Street Links – every street has a point of contact if anyone needs help; some have WhatsApp groups to keep in touch. * Weelocals – with the anxiety caused by food panic buying, a list of local shops prepared to deliver was developed resulting in the Weelocals website being set up. Local businesses have responded and joined – helping people to help themselves. * Shopping volunteers – help is provided for those self isolating and advice on online shopping is given. * Coronavirus Response Fund – this has been set up for the community to contribute to help the community survive. * Community Hub – this has been moved back to the Community Centre from Law Primary School. * Communications – a website has been set up and a leaflet for distribution in the town is being drafted.   3.4 There was a problem with support for Dirleton Court and other sheltered housing complexes where the wardens had walked out. She was speaking to the Housing Associations concerned.  3.5 Cllr Northrop concluded by emphasising that the virus is in the town so we cannot afford to be complacent. People appear to be abiding by the social distancing guidelines apart from some younger folk. |  |
| **4 AOCB** | 4.1 Cllr Maher commented that she was still awaiting the card reader for the online banking. In the meantime the Chairman was using the Response Fund money which was standing at just over £1,700. She confirmed that the grant of £5,000 from NBT was in the bank account. Cllr Moodie confirmed that NBT was happy to provide further funds if required.  4.2 Cllr Macnair commented that under the emergency Covid legislation the period for processing planning applications had doubled.  4.3 Cllr Northrop commented she had a fantastic team working hard for the community whom we would have to find a way to thank when the crisis was over.  4.4 It was agreed to continue to meet virtually in the meantime. |  |