**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

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

**Tuesday 4th August 2020**

**Present:**

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

**Also present:** ELC Cllr Jim Goodfellow & Emma Duncan (local press)

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all to the fifth Zoom meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllr Ingrid Gibson & ELC Cllr Jane Henderson |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the Zoom meeting on 7th July which had be circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Watson and seconded by Cllr Moodie. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***4.2 Beach Litter –*** The footprint signs did not appear to have been installed yet. The Chairman undertook to chase up.  4.2 ***North Berwick Trust –*** The Trust was keen to take on board the views of the Community Council whose message had been put across clearly. A Future Strategy meeting was due soon. | JL |
| **5 Police Report** | 5.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  5.2 Concern was expressed about the increase in abusive behaviour in some quarters. It was suggested that initiatives on promoting courtesy should be looked at.  5.3 It was hoped that CAPP meetings would resume on 19th August. |  |
| **6 Planning matters** | 6.1 The July planning applications were led by Cllr Maher.  6.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no comments were made –  ***Windygates, Windygate Road*** – minor internal alterations  ***83 Rhodes Park*** – erection of garden cabin  ***26 Moffat Place –*** extension to house  ***Kennels to west of Sheriffhall West Gate, Congalton –*** alterations, extension to building to form one house, erection of garage & associated works (LBC)  ***Garden ground of 42 St Baldred’s Road –*** vary condition 2 and remove condition 3 of planning permission to omit mechanical turntable and replace with turning head and additional hardstanding  ***27 Ben Sayers Park –*** change of use of landscaped area to form domestic garden ground and extension to house ( part retrospective)  ***Drift, Tantallon –*** extension to building and erection of fencing (part retrospective)  ***Tesco Stores Ltd, Tantallon Road –*** installation of 2 vehicular charging points & associated works (retrospective)  6.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***11 & 11A Beach Road–*** After discussion it was decided not to comment on the application for alterations, extensions to flats, installation of external staircase & associated works  ***48-52 Dunbar Road (ALDI) –*** After discussion, although the application for the erection of a reverse vending machine unit & associated works was welcomed in principle, it was agreed to propose that its operation be limited to the store’s opening hours in view of its proximity to residential properties.  6.4 Decisions since last meeting –  ***2 Law Road –*** repainting of building– **granted**  ***55 High Street –*** alterations, extension to building and formation of dormer and balcony – **granted** with minor conditions  ***6 Green Apron Park –*** extensions to house – **granted**  ***19 St Andrew Street –*** alterations, extension to house – **granted**  ***100 High Street –*** installation of vent and painting of building – **granted**  ***17 Highfield Road –*** erection of porch – **granted**  ***60A Forth Street –*** formation of dormer – **granted**  ***Fairways, Abbotsford Road –*** alterations to house and formation of decked area – **granted**  6.5 ***Castleton*** – ELC Cllr Goodfellow commented that the date for the planning committee for hearing the care village application had been provisionally fixed for 18th August. Until the officer’s report was issued it would be difficult to respond but he emphasised it was important that the arguments were based on purely planning issues otherwise the applicants could have grounds for appeal.  6.6 ***Mitchell’s Garage site*** – it was noted that the application for development of this site had been withdrawn. |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1 The Treasurer confirmed the following payments had made during the month - £14.39 for Zoom subscription; £38 x 2 to Cllr Smith for Minutes; £20 to Linda Digney for diffuser for resilience team. |  |
| **8 Town Centre Support - TTRO** | 8.1 The Chairman had e-mailed Peter Forsyth on three occasions to arrange a meeting to discuss the parking situation but he was now on annual leave.  8.2 The Area Partnership was hosting a Zoom meeting on 5th August at 3.30 pm on behalf of ELC – Spaces for People to discuss the next phase of the temporary Spaces for People interventions which would focus on protecting public health, supporting social distancing and preventing a second wave. Cllrs Maher, Moodie & Evans would attend.  8.3 It was disappointing that the Area Partnership (with their own agenda) was hosting the meeting rather than the Community Council but apparently they had offered to host as ELC could not host a Zoom meeting.  8.4 An e-mail had been received asking the Community Council to rethink its opposition to (a) pedestrianising the east end of the High Street and (b) the widening of pavements in the middle section of the High Street between Market Street & Church Street and to vote on the proposition to make the town a 20 mph area.  8.5 As the Community Council had been involved in reaching a compromise solution it would not change its position as there had been no material change; a sense of proportion had to be kept. A 20 mph speed limit had been imposed already from the cadet hut in Dunbar Road from the east and the beginning of Dirleton Avenue from the west.  8.6 The Chairman had applied to the Towns & BIDS Resilience & Recovery Fund for £10,000 for seating in the town and had been awarded a grant of £5,000 with strict conditions attached. A Zoom meeting had been arranged with Area Amenity Officer, Bruce Allison on 10th August to discuss further. Ageing Well and the Day Centre had also been invited to join the meeting.  8.7 ELC Cllr Goodfellow confirmed that the payment for a bench includes lifetime maintenance. It was suggested that resilience money could be used to clean existing benches or alternatively an application could be made to the Area Partnership Amenity fund for funding for this purpose.  8.8 Following Sandra King’s resignation at the end of August as Connected Communities Manager the post was being advertised. It was suggested that community council representatives should attend the interviews. |  |
| **9 Resilience including setting up a Resilience subgroup** | 9.1 Cllr Northrop updated as follows –   * The Community Emergency Resilience team had stood down on 31st July; * A power point presentation was being prepared on what had happened and what would be done in the future; * Exit interviews of the transition team were being undertaken; * Talks with ELC about vulnerable people had taken place; * 44 volunteers were prepared to continue; * The relationship with nursing homes should be built upon; * It was up to the community to decide the way forward. |  |
| **10 AOCB** | 10.1 ***Zitto,*** ***10 Quality Street******Major Variation–*** Zitto had applied for a major variation to their premises licence to add off sales from 11.00 am to 10.00 pm and takeaways and deliveries. It was agreed to support the application.  10.2 ***Area Partnership representatives & deputies*** – It was agreed that Cllrs Evans & Maher should be the Community Council’s representatives and that Cllrs Lockhart & Benson should be their deputies.  10.3 **George Johnstone** who had been on the Community Council a few years ago but resigned when he moved south for a new job was now back in North Berwick. He was interested in filling the vacancy on the Community Council but as he had started a new job recently he wanted to wait to see how it worked out before applying.  10.4 ***Law Road*** – An e-mail had been received suggesting that, when the resurfacing of Law Road takes place, as there were normally 4 cars parked there, the yellow lines at the traffic lights should be extended to just past the bus stop and the bus stop should be removed. This could be discussed with Peter Forsyth. ELC Cllr Goodfellow indicated that the resurfacing would probably take place during the October school holiday week. |  |
| **11 Date of Next Meeting** | The date of the next (virtual) meeting would be Tuesday 1st September at 7.30 pm. |  |