**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

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

**Tuesday 3rd November 2020**

**Present:**

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

**Also present:** ELC Cllr Jim Goodfellow, Kirsty Towler, Colin Adamson, Penny Kay, Carolyn Warner, and Emma Duncan (local press)

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Vice Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all to the eighth Zoom meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Judy Lockhart & Ingrid Gibson, Wilma Shaw & Syl Caw |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the Zoom meeting on 6th October which had be circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Macnair and seconded by Cllr Benson. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***9 Towns & BIDS Resilience & Recovery Fund:*** The Chairman had received approval from the factor responsible for the footpath from the gasworks to the school to put benches on it. The benches have been ordered and would be installed soon. |  |
| **5 Police Report** | 5.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  5.2 Concern was expressed again about the number of anti social behaviour complaints involving youths and what could be done to resolve the problem.  5.3 It was noted that one of the pop-up policemen had been stolen from outside Drem.  5.4 It was understood that the remaining one had been deployed in St Baldred’s Road and Lochbridge Road recently. |  |
| **6 Planning matters** | 6.1 The October 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 –  ***North Berwick High School –*** formation of roof over external courtyard  ***Dulnain, St Margaret’s Road –*** extension to house  ***Windygates, Windygates Road –*** painting of building and installation of roof window  ***9 Glasclune Gardens –*** formation of raised platform with balustrade and external staircase with handrails  ***41 Douglas Marches –*** installation of flue  ***Blinkbonny House, 26 Marmion Road –*** formation of vehicular access, hardstanding area, erection of gates and fence  ***33 Gilbert Avenue –*** extension to house  6.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***6A Clifford Road –*** after discussion, although concern was expressed that the proposed conversion of a window into a patio door was out of keeping with the façade of the Victorian building, it was agreed not to comment on the planning application for the alteration to the flat and to leave it to the neighbours to object.  ***82 High Street –*** after a lengthy discussion it was agreed to object to the planning application for the demolition of a building, wall and gates; alteration to building and erection of 1 house and associated works on the following grounds – (1) the zinc cladding on the east elevation was totally out of character with the surroundings; (2) the large 3 bedroom house with 161 sqm of accommodation plus parking space on the small plot amounted to overdevelopment of the site; and (3) the roof terrace and the large south facing bedroom window on the second floor would overlook several houses in the High Street and amounted to a clear invasion of privacy.  6.4 Decisions since last meeting –  ***22 St Margaret’s Road:*** erection of garden room, shed and formation of decked area (part retrospective) - **granted**  ***25 Blackadder Crescent:*** extension to house – **granted**  ***Wamphray Farm:*** change of use of grass verge for formation of vehicular access and hardstanding area - **granted** on condition that loose material is secured from getting on to the public road  ***Land at Upper Kaimend, Hamilton Road:*** erection of 1 house and associated works – **withdrawn**  ***30 St Andrew Street:*** change of use of 1 house to holiday let accommodation – **granted** (despite 5 objections)  ***22A St Andrew Street:*** alterations, extension to house, formation of decked areas and steps, erection of wall, timber screen and gate – **granted** subject to approval of painting colour and lower fencing  ***11 South Hamilton Road:*** extensions to house – **granted** |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1 The Treasurer confirmed the following payments had made during the month - £38 to Cllr Smith for Minutes; £14.39 x 2 for Zoom subscription; £69.60 to Lady Haig Poppy Factory for 2 wreaths; £36 to Signman for posters; £7,374 to Arro Lighting for new Christmas lights; £30 to Catkins for flowers. |  |
| **8 Christmas Lights** | 8.1 Cllr Moodie confirmed that the virtual switch-on of the Christmas lights would take place between 4.00 pm and 4.30 pm on Saturday 28th November.  8.2 The new tree lights were being installed this week.  8.3 The tree at the corner of Quality Street and Melbourne Place which had been damaged by a delivery vehicle had been repaired.  8.4 It was understood that Rotary had been told they could not take Santa’s sleigh round the town. |  |
| **9 Area Partnership** | 9.1 The following grant applications were to be considered at the next meeting of the Area Partnership on 10th November –   * ***Support from Start***– it was agreed to support the application for £5,000 forParenting Pathway courses * ***Lighthouse Community Projects*** - £10,000 had been applied for employing the CAP centre manager for 1 year for a project based in Prestonpans. Query whether other Area Partnerships would be contributing. * ***NBCC Christmas Lights*** - £1,047.44 had been applied for Christmas Lights but as there was a conflict of interest the Community Council representatives would be unable to vote. * ***Athelstaneford Parent Council*** – it was agreed this application should be dealt with by the Haddington & Lammermuir Area Partnership. |  |
| **10 Spaces for People** | 10.1 Following an e-mail to Peter Forsyth asking him to revert to the 3 or 4 hour time limit for the Glebe car park and not to proceed with the implementation of the proposed one way system in the neighbouring streets to Law Road, he had responded by saying it would make sense to convene an online meeting of all the interested parties to agree a way forward through the joint decision making arrangements with a suggested agenda to include  (a) Spaces for People remaining projects - East Road and Grange Road crossings; (b) 20mph gateways; (c)  Parking arrangements; and (d)   Law Road one-way report  10.2 The meeting would be via Skype and he had asked for availability.  10.3 The last meeting had been facilitated by the Area Partnership via Zoom. It was agreed to ask for it to be by Zoom again as members attending did not have Skype.  10.4 It was hoped that Cllrs Maher, Macnair & Moodie would be able to attend.  10.5 ELC Cllr Goodfellow confirmed that the requested signage at Market Street was being done. |  |
| **11 Remembrance Sunday** | 11.1 Cllr Smith reported that with the ever changing guidance and restrictions being imposed by the Scottish Government it had been decided to further modify the plans for Sunday’s event.    11.2 Social distancing was always going to be difficult with 15/16 individuals participating but with the restriction on outdoor events under Tier 3, it was now proposed that Sir Hew Dalrymple DL, Cllr Jane Henderson & Cllr Lockhart lay wreaths at the War Memorial at 11.00 am with a piper playing. The event would be filmed for social media.    11.3 The representatives from the other organisations would be asked to lay their wreaths at suitable times for them during the morning.    11.4 Flt Lt Iain Edmans had been told that the Air cadets should not participate in Remembrance events and it may be that the Army cadets would have been told the same.    11.5 It was noted that it was really disappointing that the Scottish Government had not considered relaxing the guidance for an event like this. |  |
| **12 Any other competent business** | 12.1 The final version of the Community Emergency Resilience report and slides had been circulated. Sue Northrop had asked that members forward it to their various contacts and networks.  12.2 The Health & Wellbeing Association had been invited by the ‘Alliance’, a strategic partner of the Scottish Government, in conjunction with 'Health Improvement Scotland' and 'Community Engagement' to contribute their thoughts on a couple of very important planning points, as a part of a wider conversation initiative. The Association had been asked to facilitate **an event which had been organised, through zoom, on Monday 9th November, at 2pm.**  The questions to be explored are – *(a)* ***How people want to access health and care support and services as we respond to, and look beyond COVID-19 and (b) How people define person-centered care in a remobilised healthcare system?***  12.3 ELC Cllr Goodfellow confirmed that the resurfacing of the top of Law Road was scheduled to be done in February. |  |
| **13 Date of Next Meeting** | The date of the next (virtual) meeting would be Tuesday 1st December at 7.30 pm. |  |