**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

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

**Tuesday 2nd March 2021**

**Present:**

Judy Lockhart-Hunter – Chairman, Gordon Moodie – Vice Chairman, Kathryn Smith – Secretary, Christiane Maher – Treasurer, Kelly Evans, Nikki Ford, Ingrid Gibson, Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, and Ian Watson

**Also present:** ELC Cllr Jim Goodfellow, Doug Haig, Kirsty Towler, Alex Johnston Helen & Morna Mulgray and Emma Duncan (local press)

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all to the twelfth Zoom meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | ELC Cllr Jeremy Findlay |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the Zoom meeting on 2nd February which had be circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Moodie and seconded by Cllr Watson. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 – ***8.2 Treasurer’s Report:*** A mistake in reporting on the Christmas lights had been made. The following should be substituted for this item – *The unspent balance of £1,897.11 from gofundme for the Christmas lights had been transferred to the Christmas Lights account.*  4.2 – ***12.1 Dog fouling:*** The Chairman had written to ELC but there had been no response. Cllr Macnair commented that if the households were paying council tax bins should be provided. It seems that this was the responsibility of the developer until the roads were adopted when the factor would assume responsibility. It was suggested that Amenity Services should be contacted.  4.3 – ***12.2 Wild camping consultation:*** The consultation had been completed.  4.4 – ***Christmas Lights:*** The Christmas lights which had been left on in the three trees had now been switched off. | JLH |
| **5 Police Report** | 5.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  5.2 It was noted that PC Paterson was retiring on 8th March. He had commented that he had enjoyed very much his time in the community and wished the Community Council and the community all the very best.  5.3 In response Cllr Smith had thanked him for his service to the community and wished him well in his retirement. |  |
| **6 Planning matters** | 6.1 The February 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 –  ***5 Tantallon Terrace –*** replacement window, formation of vehicular access, hardstanding areas, erection of outbuildings, installation of lighting, electric charging point & associated works (part retro)  ***The Harbour, Victoria Road –*** siting of two storage containers for lobster hatchery operations and interpretative display purposes  ***11 Macnair Avenue – extension to house***  ***Innisfree, 10 Westerdunes Park –*** painting of house  ***13 Marmion Road –*** formation of vehicular access, hardstanding areas & erection of bin store  ***Land south of 4 Rhodes Holdings –*** erection of house  6.3 The following new application was viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***12 Westerdunes Park –*** after discussion it was agreed not to comment on the planning application for the demolition of the building and erection of a house, sheds & associated works.  6.4 Decisions since last meeting –  ***29 Williamstone Court –*** erection of porch - **granted**  ***Troon, Dirleton Road –*** extension to house, widening of access etc - **withdrawn**  ***18 Cromwell Road –*** internal alterations to building - **granted**  ***12 St Margaret Road –*** alterations to house - **granted**  ***North Berwick Tennis Club –*** resurfacing of tennis courts 4-6 and installation of floodlighting - **granted**  ***8 West Bay Road –*** extensions to house, formation of balconies with balustrade and raised platform with wall & steps - **withdrawn**  ***13 Cromwell Road –*** erection of garden room and formation of decked area - **granted**  ***25 Station Hill –*** alterations and extension to house - **granted**  ***13 Couper Avenue –*** extension to house and formation of hardstanding area - **granted**  ***8 Hamilton Road –*** alterations, extensions to house, erection of store & associated works - **granted**  ***26 Victoria Road (The Rocketeer) –*** change of use of open space to outdoor seating for server/takeaway (class 3) for temporary period of 3 years and formation of hardstanding areas – **refused**  ***82 High Street –*** demolition of building, wall & gates; alteration to building and erection of 1 house & associated works – **refused** but still no decision notice on ELC website  6.5 ***Rocketeer*** – (a) The Misses Mulgray pointed out that 5 days after his change of use application had been refused Stirling Stewart had applied for an occasional license for the external area which was granted despite objections from the Mulgrays and another neighbouring resident, Alex Johnston. ELC Cllr Goodfellow commented that if objections had been received the application should have gone before the Licensing Board and asked that the objectors send him copies of their objections so that he could investigate further; (b) It was explained that until the appeal period (3 months) for the refusal of the change of use application had expired the enforcement officer could only advise that any activity was unlawful; and (c) it was agreed that the Community Council should object to this and any further applications for an occasional license and remind the licensing authority that there is a ban on outdoor drinking in public areas in North Berwick. | KES |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1 The Treasurer confirmed that £69.39 had been paid for defibrillator items, £28.78 to the Chairman for two Zoom subscriptions and £114 to Zurich for the insurance premium. |  |
| **8 Area Partnership** | 8.1 At the mid month business meeting it was agreed that Cllrs Kelly and Benson would be the Community Council’s main representatives with the Chairman and Cllr Maher being the deputies.  8.2 Doug Haig reported that the next meeting of the Area Partnership was on 23rd March and applications for funding should be received by 8th March. There was a small balance of £4,500 left of the current financial year’s allocation  8.3 He also commented that further funds of £13,000 had been awarded by the Scottish Government to address food poverty. |  |
| **9 Spaces for People** | 9.1 The Chairman had written to Peter Forsyth regarding removal of the 4 hour time limit signage in the Glebe car park. This had now been done.  9.2 ELC had appointed someone to look at parking in North Berwick. Doug Haig confirmed that North Berwick was a priority area. It was agreed he should be invited to a meeting. |  |
| **10 Skate Park** | 10.1 Cllr Evans confirmed that her contacts had been invited to attend the mid month business meeting to discuss their ideas and costings for a skate park. |  |
| **11 Any other competent business** | 11.1 ***Representatives on Groups & Societies –*** The updated list had been circulated. A query had arisen regarding the Community Council’s representation on the Russell Bequest. The Secretary agreed to write to the Secretary of the Trust for clarification.  11.2 ***Beach wheelchairs –*** Melanie Kay was appealing for volunteers. It was agreed to contact the Resilience volunteers to see if any would be interested in helping.  11.3 ***Pelican crossing –*** It was noted that the pelican crossing on Dunbar Road was now in place.  11.4 ***Mobile speed unit –*** Doug Haig reported that a mobile unit was to be deployed in the surrounding area. He was keen to receive suggestions for where the unit would be best deployed to aid the prevention of speeding. However, it was noted that where it could be located was governed by a set of rules, such as not within a 20mph speed area. | KES  JLH |
| **12 Date of Next Meeting** | The date of the next (virtual) meeting would be Tuesday 6th April 2021 at 7.30 pm. |  |