**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

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

**Tuesday 6th July 2021**

**Present:**

Judy Lockhart-Hunter (Chairman), Gordon Moodie (Vice Chairman), Kathryn Smith (Secretary), Christiane Maher (Treasurer), Ingrid Gibson, Peter Hamilton and Bill Macnair

**Also present:** ELC Cllrs Jim Goodfellow & Jane Henderson, Kirsty Towler, Harry Crombie, Katie McLellan, Sue Northrop, Khlayre Cairney & Maya Howell, Graeme Brown 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 sixteenth Zoom meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Marie Benson & Nikki Ford  **Absent:** CllrsIan Watson & Kelly Evans |  |
| **3 Russell Bequest**  **Resilience Group** | 3.1 Sue Northrop, Maya Howell and Khlayre Cairney gave a presentation on a short project being run by Dementia Friendly East Lothian - Celebrating Communities – building on the work done by the NBCC Emergency Resilience Team and others and supporting communities to help people most badly affected by lockdown, including people with dementia and carers. She was very grateful for funding and support from The Life Changes Trust and the North Berwick Trust for the Seaside Singers project.  **Celebrating Communities** celebrates and shares how communities supported everyone during Covid, inspired by the experience on the CER team.  A series of conversations about what communities had done during Covid had been facilitated and included:   * **Seaside Singers** aimed at bringing fun and a look forward for local older people and supporting local performers affected by lockdown. * **Digital Stories** inspired by work in North Berwick to get older people online, involving the Community Council, Rotary, the Beacon and care/residential facilities. * **Buddy Walks** - many communities were keen to organise local walks. A workshop for communities and Ageing Well East Lothian was organised to help them organise and run their own buddy walks. Hopefully this would be taken up in the North Berwick Walking Festival. * **Digital Buddies** – work was also being carried out with Dunbar Grammar School and Outside the Box on a Digital Buddies project, helping the supper club members and pupils stay in touch.   **Looking ahead: Meeting Centres**. DEFL was working with East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership to develop Meeting Centres in East Lothian. These are social clubs in the community for people with dementia and carers. Research shows that they can help people with dementia and carers live independently and well in the community for longer. This is part of the ’Transformation Project.  3.2 The Russell Bequest were looking for sporting /physical activity type funding projects that would have a long term impact and were considering ideas to collaborate with other groups. |  |
| **4 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the Zoom meeting on 1st June which had be circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Moodie and seconded by Cllr Hamilton. |  |
| **5 Matters Arising** | 5.1 – ***3 Fringe by the Sea:*** Disappointment was expressed at the disrespectful way in which residents in the immediate vicinity of the Lodge had not been informed of what was planned and it was only after a St Baldred’s Crescent resident had pursued the matter that Crescent residents had received a letter. Apparently negotiations had been on-going with ELC since November and, although they had obtained all the requisite licenses, communication with those affected had been non-existent. At a recent SAG meeting it had been suggested that the previous month’s presentation to the Community Council had constituted consultation with the community, which it certainly was not. A TTRO restricting parking on one side of St Baldred’s Road was to be issued, thus adding to the parking chaos in the town.  5.2 - ***4.1 Dog fouling:*** The Chairman had contacted the factor about more bins and he did not think there would be a problem. She would continue to press for action.  5.3 – ***4.4 Calder Cup:*** It had been decided that sadly the Calder & Crawford Cups putting competitions would not be held this year due to the current uncertainty and restrictions.  5.4 - ***12.2 Notice of Review (a) Rocketeer:*** The appeal against the refusal of planning permission to use Anchor Green had been rejected. As the tables and chairs were still on the Green Cllr Smith had written to the planning department asking when they would be removed but had received no response. Apparently the owner can appeal against the enforcement within 28 days.  ***(b) 51 St Baldred’s Road:*** The appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the erection of a house in the garden had been rejected.  5.5 – ***12.3 Tables on pavement outside Zanzibar:*** The police had spoken to the owner and were satisfied that compliance with the permission from ELC was being observed. It was suggested that the owner should be asked to check regularly at busy periods that the chairs were not causing an obstruction.  5.6 – ***12.4 Parking tickets:*** The parking tickets issued in the Law Brae car park had been rescinded and parking was now to be allowed on the slopes in the Glebe car park. | JLH |
| **6 Police Report** | 6.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  6.2 Concern was expressed at the large crowd of young people who had gathered on the beach and where they had come from. |  |
| **7 Planning matters** | 7.1 The June planning applications were led by Cllr Maher.  7.2 The following new applications had been viewed beforehand and, following a brief discussion, no comments were made –  ***Sheriffhall Farm*** – change of use of agricultural land for erection of stable block, formation of arena & associated works  ***41 High Street*** – display of advertisement (retro)  ***13 Rhodes Cottages*** – repainting of door  ***40 Keppel Road*** – extension to house  ***Flat 3, 8 Quality Street*** – installation of gas pipe  ***3 The Stables, Greenheads Road*** – replacement windows to house and extension to garage to form summerhouse/workshop  ***17 Glasclune Gardens*** – installation of solar panels  ***Garden flat, 18 Fidra Road*** – internal alterations to building  ***2 Mains Cottages, Gilbert Avenue*** – change of use of open space to domestic garden ground, extensions to house, formation of external staircase to first floor balcony, erection of summerhouse/home office and fencing (part retro)  ***Windygates, Windygates Road*** – design changes to the scheme of development, the subject of listed building consent  ***41 St Baldred’s Road*** – extension to house  ***Drift, Tantallon*** – extension to building and associated works (part retro)  ***3 Whitecross Bow*** – extension to house  ***4 Tantallon Terrace*** – formation of vehicular access and hardstanding area, installation of electric charging point and solar panels  7.3 The following new applications were viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***1 Dall Hollow*** – after discussion it was agreed to object to the planning application for change of use of open space to domestic garden ground, extension to house and erection of fencing. Although there was no objection to the house extension, the removal of the shrubbery and its replacement with a fence would be detrimental to the amenity of the area  ***Land at The Heugh*** – after discussion it was agreed to object to the planning application to erect one house and associated works on the grounds of the visual impact and dominance of the building  7.4 Decisions since last meeting –  ***Balgone Dean, Kingston –*** erection of porch -**granted**  ***1 Marmion Road –*** alterations to house – **granted**  ***5A Dirleton Avenue –*** installation of roof window – **granted**  ***27 High Street –*** change of use of shop (Class 1) to office (Class 2) – **granted**  ***18 Marine Parade –*** replacement windows – **refused**  ***Windygates, Windygates Road –*** alterations tobuilding ***–* granted**  ***2 Redside Farm Cottages –*** extension to building etc – **withdrawn**  ***4 Marmion Road –*** alterations to house ***-*  granted**  ***22 Lord President Road –*** replacement roof of conservatory – **granted**  ***5A Tantallon Terrace –*** alterations to flat and formation of first floor balcony with balustrades – **granted**  ***5 Marine Parade –*** replacement windows as changes to scheme of development of 17/00468/P – **granted**  ***1 Dirleton Avenue –*** erection of fencing and gate – **granted**  ***Law Primary School –*** alterations to building (partial reroofing) – **granted**  ***9 The Quadrant –*** alterations to building - **granted** |  |
| **8 Major Variation of premises license** | 8.1 It was agreed to support the major variation of the premises license for the Co-op, 117 High Street to add home deliveries to their operating plan. |  |
| **9 Treasurer’s Report** | 9.1 The Treasurer confirmed that the following payments had been made during the month - £114 to the Secretary for 3 months’ Minutes; £280 to Vote Pedro for updating the website; £14.39 for Zoom subscription; and £300 to the Business Association for sponsoring 2 hares for the Big Hare Trail.  9.2 The Treasurer asked for suggestions for the budget which would be discussed at the mid month business meeting. | CM |
| **10 Area Partnership** | 10.1 The Community Council’s proposals regarding the allocation of votes for North Berwick and Gullane Area Community Councils had not been discussed at the last meeting because the meeting had been cut short due to Scotland playing a Euro’s football match. It would be discussed at the next meeting.  10.2 In the meantime Doug Haig had requested a conversation regarding the matter with the Chairman and one other member of the Community Council as well as the Chairman of the Area Partnership. The Chairman would request that both the Vice Chairman and Cllr Maher join her at the meeting as both had been involved in conversations to date.  10.3 It was suggested that the electorate of each Community Council area should be the basis on which to calculate the allocation of votes. |  |
| **11 Spaces for People** | 11.1 Graeme Brown commented as follows -.   1. Once the embargo on any non-essential public facing construction work was lifted at the end of August, it was planned to carry out what was proposed for the east end of the High Street under the charrette in the last week of October, weather permitting. 2. There appeared to be a conflict regarding the continuation of the planters which the businesses apparently liked and he queried whether there should still be more parking spaces. It was agreed unanimously that the charrette proposals should be implemented as originally agreed without the planters. 3. It was suggested that perhaps smaller planters could be introduced. He agreed to look into the possibility of that. 4. The transport model was being prepared and should be available by the end of August.   11.2 It was agreed that improved signage for the car parks was required. |  |
| **12 Skate Park** | 12.1 Cllr Macnair reported that a formal proposal was being put together and prices from Concreate skate park builders were awaited. Their initial rough estimate for the proposal was around £40,000. Feedback on the proposal had been sought from the local children who use the park and they were all very excited about it.  12.2 A soft launch of the idea on 'Go Skate Day' had been planned. The launch would have visualisations of the proposed park and a logo to go with it.  12.3 A small committee was being formed to oversee the project. |  |
| **13 Correspondence** | The following correspondence had been received –   1. A card from the owner of the horse which had relieved itself in the boating pond to the Chairman apologising profusely for the distress caused. As a separate matter it was suggested that ELC should be asked to remove the accumulation of sand in the boating pond. 2. E-mail from NBHS seeking support for putting up signs regarding dog fouling on the playing fields. It was agreed to support the school in this and also the erection of a fence if that proved necessary. 3. E-mail from a resident regarding the camper vans o n Tantallon Terrace. It was agreed to contact ELC asking them to consider erection of a moveable height barrier. 4. Consultation on fireworks & pyrotechnics had opened with a closing date of 15th August. 5. E-mail from Andrew Hogarth regarding the condition of the shelter on the Glen Walkway. It was agreed that if it was not to be maintained it should be removed. 6. E-mail from a resident regarding the gate from the Lodge onto Dunbar Road which was not closing automatically and was thus a hazard for children. It would be closed permanently till repaired. 7. Drop in Covid vaccination clinics were continuing in East Lothian. |  |
| **14 Any other competent business** | **14.1 *Community Council elections* –** nomination papers would be issued on 30th August; last date for lodging nominations - 16th September; close of poll - 12 noon 7th October.  **14.2 *Treebilee –*** an order had been put in for a tree.  **14.3 *Temporary car park –*** it was noted that due to the late decision no notice had been given to the neighbours of the proposed temporary car park off Haddington Road which could only be used for 28 days. A wider consultation on what could be done on the site in the long term had opened.  **14.4 *Bins at Harbour –*** it was agreed to write to ELC to congratulate the Landscape & Countryside workmen for emptying the bins and clearing up the harbour area first thing in the morning. |  |
| **15 Date of Next Meeting** | The date of the next (virtual) meeting would be Tuesday 3rd August 2021 at 7.30 pm. |  |