**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

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

**Tuesday 3rd May 2022**

**Present:**

Judy Lockhart-Hunter (Chairman) [part], Gordon Moodie (Vice chairman), Kathryn Smith (Secretary), Christiane Maher (Treasurer), Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, George Johnstone and Ian Watson [part]

**Also present:** Jacq Cottrell, Zoe Lovell, Kirsty Towler, Carol Stobie, Charli Prime & Gregor Millar (local press)

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| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | In the temporary absence of the Chairman, the Vice chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all to the twenty sixth Zoom meeting of the Community Council. |  |
| **2 Apologies** | Cllrs Carol McFarlane and Mairi Benson |  |
| **3 Compassionate Neighbours presentation** | 3.1 Carol Stobie, Project Manager of North Berwick Coastal Community Connections, gave the background to the formation of Community Connections. 3.2 Set up as a pilot project by [North Berwick Coastal Health and Wellbeing Association](http://northberwickhealthandwellbeing.co.uk/) in April 2019, it was a social isolation project and started off with the Scone Café. This led to telephone befriending which proved to be very successful. It also worked with the resilience team and one to one Buddy Walking was added later.  3.3 In 2021 it became a charity. A befriending coordinator was appointed and Coffee Connections started in the Scottish Seabird Centre. £200,000 of funding for 3 years was received from the National Lottery Community Fund. A monthly newsletter is now produced.  3.4 Charli Prime, Compassionate Neighbour Coordinator, explained that Compassionate Neighbours was part of the Health and Wellbeing Association and was training volunteers to be counselors. In collaboration with St Columba’s Hospice, a training programme had been developed. There were currently 6 specifically trained volunteers to deal with end of life situations. Volunteers were currently being recruited. The aim was that in 12 months they would be able to stand alone from St Columba’s.  3.5 Their website is -[www.nbccommunuityconnections.org](http://www.nbccommunuityconnections.org). |  |
| **4 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th April, which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Johnstone and seconded by Cllr Macnair. |  |
| **5 Matters Arising** | 5.1 ***4.3*** ***Gregg’s Bins:*** Gregg’s bins had been removed and the police station was being painted prior to the window boxes being re-instated by North Berwick in Bloom.  5.2 ***4.4 Old Council Chambers:*** ELC had confirmed that the proposed external works would be carried out in September as the proposed roofing contractor was fully committed at present.  5.3 ***4.5 County Hotel:*** The Chairman had written to the complaints department at Star Inns regarding the various issues affecting the property and they had undertaken to investigate further.  5.4 ***15.3 20 mph speed limit:*** Cllr Maher had written to Ian Lennock at ELC but had not received a satisfactory reply to her specific question as to how the circulated documents and maps fit together. |  |
| **6 Police Report** | 6.1 This month’s police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  6.2 Sgt Meikle was keen to re-instate the CAPP meetings but the Community Council would have to arrange them. The Secretary would contact Gullane Area Community Council to discuss further with a view to starting them again sooner rather than later. |  |
| **7 Planning matters** | 7.1 The April 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 –  ***48-52 Dunbar Road*** – installation of lighting column, cameras & cabinet (retro)  ***Sea View, Glasclune Gardens*** - extension to house to form ancillary residential accommodation and formation of ramp  ***9 Glasclune Court*** – relocation of flue (retro)  ***Pointgarry House, 20B West Bay Road*** – replacement windows & door  ***13B Melbourne Road*** – formation of velux windows  ***23 St Baldred’s Road*** – extension to house and formation of dormers  ***24 Victoria Road*** – erection of greenhouse, pizza oven, raised planters, formation of hardstanding, etc  ***Garden Ground of 24 Fidra Road*** – erection of 1 house and associated works  ***4 Glasclune Gardens*** – replacement windows  ***19 Dirleton Avenue*** – erection of fencing, gate and formation of hard standing  7.3 The following new application was viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***12 Quality Street*** – after discussion it was agreed not to comment on the section 42 application to vary condition 2 of planning permission 21/00162/P to increase the opening hours of the outdoor seated area  7.4 Decisions since last meeting –  ***42 Ibris Place –*** change of use to short term holiday let (retro) – **refused** due to loss of amenity of neighbours  ***Leuchie House, Tantallon –*** erection of railings – **granted** on condition of agreement on colour  ***Williamstone Farm Cottage, Gasworks Lane –*** alterations and extension to building – **granted**  ***2 Westbay Apartments, 7 Station Hill –*** change of use to holiday let accommodation (retro) – **refused** due to loss of amenity  ***15 Westbay Apartments, 9 Station Hill –*** change of use to holiday let accommodation (retro) - **refused** due to loss of amenity  ***7 Milsey Court –*** replacement windows and door – **granted**  ***7A Forth Street –*** erection of fences and gate – **granted**  ***42 Blackadder Crescent –*** extension to house – **granted**  ***47 Glenorchy Road –*** extension to house, erection of fence and gate – **granted**  ***21 Lady Jane Gardens –*** extension to house – **granted**  ***80 High Street (Boots) –*** display of advertisement – **granted** until 19.04.27  ***Windyheugh, Netherlaw –*** extensions to house, including addition of first floor with balconies and balustrades – **granted**  ***Sandacres, 19 Westgate –*** formation of hardstanding - **granted** |  |
| **8 Treasurer’s Report** | 8.1 The Treasurer confirmed that the following payments had been made during the last month - £6.02 to Scottish Power for the store; £14.39 for Zoom subscription; £588 for the Jubilee Beacon; £574.03 for Jubilee mugs & bookmarks; £45 for whisky for Jake Scott for independently examining the accounts; £45.20 for wool for the yarn bombs |  |
| **9 Area Partnership/ Spaces for People** | 9.1 The Community Council had been asked by ELC for their views on whether (a) the Emergency Traffic Regulation Order making Law Road one-way between St Andrew Street and St Margaret’s Road which would expire in 30th June should be retained and (b) the 3 hour parking limit in the Glebe Car Park, imposed during the summer months of the pandemic to encourage turnover, should be in place for this and future years.  9.2 It was agreed that the one-way system in Law Road had been a success and should be retained but that consideration should be given to making St Margaret’s Road to St Andrew Street one-way south to north in view of the difficulties caused by parked cars.  9.3 It was agreed that the 3 hour parking limit in the Glebe Car Park during the summer months should be in place again for this and future years but clarification as to what constituted ‘summer months’ was required.    9.4 It was hoped that the balance of the Roads Budget allocation of c£36,000 for the east end of the High Street would be rolled over into the current year’s budget.  9.5 It was understood that the signs and safety measures for outside the school had been obtained and that they would be installed during the summer holidays.  9.6 It had been confirmed that the X5 bus service would return on 5th June. |  |
| **10 Edington Cottage Hospital** | 10.1 Gold Command’s review had taken place on 29th April.It was disappointing that there had been no change to the previous position and that the services remained under significant pressure.  10.2 2 palliative care beds were to be made available at the Abbey Care Home in the meantime.  10.3 The Steering Group continues to meet regularly.  10.4 The ‘Hands around the Edington’ Parade held on Sunday 24th April had been a great success with over 300 taking part. It had been well publicised. |  |
| **11 Proposal for Re-provisioning Group** | 11.1 North Berwick Coastal Health & Wellbeing Association would be hosting a 3 day community consultation on the future of health and social care in East Lothian in the Day Care Centre from 13th to 15th May. |  |
| **12 Queen’s Jubilee** | 12.1 The Secretary confirmed that Mrs Hilary Cochran, DL had agreed to light the Beacon and at 2 o’clock would also read the Royal Proclamation heralding the lighting of the Beacon later in the evening.  12.2 Efforts were still being made to identify a bugler or cornet player to play the Bugle Call.  12.3 The Jubilee Beacon Trail had been activated as of 30th April.  12.4 Preparations for the Fete were well in hand. Farmers’ market stalls would be erected on the esplanade. It was agreed to appeal on Facebook for more stallholders.  12.5 The Bass Rock Community Group would help with setting up and would be available to assist with anything the stallholders required. They would be acting as marshals on the day. They would also help to decorate some of the stalls with community bunting which they and other local volunteers had been making over the past few months.  12.6 It was agreed to provide up to £100 for the cost of personalised aprons for the Youth Project chefs who would be making and serving the Jubilee tarts.  12.7 The North Berwick Gospel Choir had agreed to continue singing till 10.00 pm. |  |
| **13 Correspondence** | The following correspondence had been received –  13.1 E-mail from Sustaining North Berwick appealing for volunteers to help maintain the trees in the North Berwick Trust Park on the first Saturday of each month.  13.2 E-mail from Jane Ogden Smith, ELHSCP (circulated) regarding 3 major strategies now open for consultation – Local Housing Strategy; LJB Strategic Plan: Local Development Plan with feedback required by 31st May. |  |
| **14 Any other competent business** | 14.1 ***Bins:*** ELC was emptying the bins near the Lifeboat Station twice daily but they were still overflowing. The problem was the size of the bins. It was agreed to apply to the Area Partnership for funding of £3,000-£5,000 to purchase a larger bin once specific details and costings had been received from ELC. The Chairman would enquire about recycling possibilities during this discussion. |  |
| **15 Date of Next Meeting** | The date of the next (virtual) meeting would be on Tuesday 7th June 2022 at 7.30 pm. |  |