**Royal Burgh of North Berwick Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting held at 19.30 on**

**Tuesday 4th June 2024**

**in the Community Centre, Law Road**

**Present:**  Ian Watson (in the chair), Kathryn Smith (Secretary), Christiane Maher (Treasurer), Peter Hamilton, Bill Macnair, George Johnstone, Mairi Benson (via zoom), and Sally Egan

**Also present:** ELC Cllr Carol McFarlane, Doug Haig, Jim Goodfellow, Kirsty Towler, Julie Cetingoz, 3 members of public and Steven Brown (local press via zoom)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **1 Welcome** | In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Ian Watson opened the meeting by welcoming all to the 21st in person meeting of the Community Council (since Covid). |  |
| **2 Apologies** | ELC Cllr Liz Allan & Cllrs Kenny Miller, Jacq Cottrell & Don McKee |  |
| **3 Previous Minutes** | Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th May which had been circulated previously, was proposed by Cllr Hamilton and seconded by Cllr Egan. |  |
| **4 Matters Arising** | 4.1 ***4.1 On the Move – shuttle bus*** – there was to be a meeting the following day with the ELC Transport Manager at 11 am in the Community Centre to discuss further.  4.2 ***14.1 Picnic in the Park –*** the Chairman had asked that as many community councillors as possible attend the event and if anyone was willing to act as a steward to let him know and he would provide a tabard.  There had been a change in arrangements regarding a marquee for the stage area as the Rotary’s marquee was not now available. Myreton Marquees had offered a suitable sized tent at £300+vat. It was agreed to approve the cost. |  |
| **5 Police Report** | 5.1 This month’s abbreviated police report, which had been circulated beforehand, was taken as read.  5.2 At the last CAPP meeting on 29th May anti-social behaviour relating to graffiti in North Berwick was the agreed priority as there seemed to have been a spate of it recently.  5.3 With the lighter nights and school holidays, community officers planned to carry out evening patrols to engage with local youths and deter any anti-social behaviour.  5.4 The next CAPP meeting would be on 17th July. |  |
| **6 Planning matters** | 6.1 The May 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 –  ***Certificate of lawfulness for existing use short term holiday let –*** flat 3 Glen House, Tantallon Terrace; 6D Market Place; 25A Melbourne Place; 3-5 Station Road; 9 Marmion Road & 108B High Street  ***Pointgarry House, 20B west Bay Riad –*** s42 application to remove condition 1 of planning permission 23/00674/P  ***56 Douglas Marches –*** extension to house, formation of dormer, erection of balcony  ***7A Tantallon Terrace –*** replacement cladding to dormers, formation of roof vent  ***9 Netherlaw –*** first floor extension to house and formation of dormer  ***West Links Golf Course Abbotsford Road –*** alterations, extension to greenkeepers’ building and associated works  ***48 Forth Street –*** alterations to flat and installation of solar panels  ***North Berwick Tennis Club, East Road –*** installation of floodlighting  ***1Rhodes Farmhouse, Lime Grove –*** installation of EV charging point  ***41 High Street –*** repainting of window frames and doors  6.3 The following new application was viewed, discussed and commented on as follows –  ***Land adjacent to the harbour, Victoria Road –*** after discussion it was agreed not to comment on the planning application for demolition of building and steps (CAC); erection of community building (class 10), storage or distribution buildings (class 8), heightening of breakwater wall and associated works  7.4 Decisions since last meeting –  ***Certificates of lawfulness for existing use short term holiday lets –***14C St Andrew Street—**granted;** 23A Melbourne Road **– refused**  ***Change of use of flat to short term holiday let –*** 32Melbourne Place (retro) **– granted;** 16 MelbourneRoad (retro) **- refused**  ***41 High Street (Saltrock) –*** display of advertisement – **granted**  ***20 Keppel Road –*** extension to house, former of dormer, erection of fencing and gate - **granted**  ***5 Glasclune Gardens –*** replacement windows ***-* granted**  ***31 Lord President Road –*** extension to house ***–* granted**  ***North Berwick Harbour, Victoria Road –*** reinstatement of harbour walls **– granted**  ***44 Forth Street*** – alterations to house and boundary wall, formation of balcony, installation of ASHP and erection of store and raised planters – **withdrawn**  ***Oak Lodge, 11 Netherlaw –*** part change of use of house, garden to child minding business (class 10) with associated parking and outdoor play area – **granted**  ***East Strathearn, 13A York Road –*** alteration,extension to house and associated works **- granted**  ***Garden ground to rear of 1A west Bay Road –*** erection of 1 house, formation of dropped kerb and parking area and associated works - **refused**  7.5 The following were shown on the ELC website as ‘awaiting decision’ but had been granted –  ***1 Teviotdale, Abbotsford Road*** – modification of planning obligation on planning permission 12/00510/P  ***3 Heugh Steadings*** – erection of porch and formation of raised platform with steps  ***13B Melbourne Road*** – installation of roof windows |  |
| **7 Treasurer’s Report** | 7.1 The Treasurer confirmed that the following payments had been made during the last month - £13 to Scottish Power for the store; £38 to the Secretary for the Minutes; £43.98 to Cllr Miller for paint; £120 to Tall Hut for Q2 website maintenance; £18.99 for presentation vase and £32 for engraving thereof.  7.2 £500 had been received from ELC to hold for AELCC.  7.3 The Treasurer’s Report had been circulated and the Accounts were with the independent examiner.  7.4 A budget for 2024/25 had been prepared and would be circulated for further discussion. Concern was expressed about the cost of the NBCC spread in Local Life. |  |
| **9 Edington Cottage Hospital & Abbey Care Home** | 9.1 The public meeting to discuss the way forward following the permanent closure of beds in the Edington and the closure of the Abbey was held om 28th May in St Andrew Blackadder Church was attended by about 70 members of the public and the 3 local councillors. MSP Paul McLennan joined the meeting half way through as he had been delayed at Holyrood.  9.2 Many had expressed concern at the lack of consultation and the loss of resources with no forward planning. Questions were asked about provision for palliative care and GP practices throughout East Lothian not providing minor injuries units facilities.  9.3 There was a feeling that Paul McLennan needed to step up and speak to the First Minister and get it sorted. The buildings might not be fit for purpose but the service provided was.  9.3 There was a great deal of knowledge amongst those speaking and an appetite to do something.  9.4 It was agreed that it would be great to form a small group to keep the conversation going. |  |
| **10 Area Partnership** | 10.1 Cllr Benson reported that at the next meeting on 18th June an application for £314 for painting the toilet block at the Aberlady Nature Reserve was to be considered. It was agreed to support the application. |  |
| **11 Local Place Plan** | 11.1 Cllr McKee had circulated an update prior to his departure on holiday.  11.2 Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) were currently engaged in writing the draft Local Place Plan taking account of the substantial response from the community to the initial consultation.  11.3 PAS estimated there was another 2 weeks work involved before the draft LLP could be published and the statutory 28-day information Notice Period started when comments could be made before a finalised version was prepared and submitted to East Lothian Council for registration.  11.4 As ELC’s own Local Development Plan timetable had slipped the group was able to delay its submission and take more time considering the contributions. It was still intended to submit the finalised LLP in July.  11.5 Dirleton Village Association had forwarded their draft LLP for information. It was suggested that the Chairman respond if necessary. |  |
| **12 Correspondence** | 12.1 E-mail from Stephen Wands, Club & Community Sports Development officer, regarding an ‘official opening’ event for the Pilmar Smith Pavilion which was now fully operational – it was agreed that as the Pilmar Smith signage had been put up some time ago it was not worth doing anything now.  12.2 E-mail from concerned resident regarding cyclists speeding the wrong way down Law Brae – the police had been informed and ELC Cllr Findlay had arranged for appropriate signage to be put up.  12.3 E-mail from the organiser of Dirleton Open Gardens asking if the event on 8th & 9th June could be circulated on social media – agreed. |  |
| **13 Any other competent business** | 13.1 ***Community Councils Commemoration -*** The Chairman had been in touch with ELC about planting a tree in the Lodge to commemorate 50 years of community councils and they were receptive to the idea. He was awaiting contact with Johnn Stevens and Mike Foy regarding species and location.  13.2 ***Public Hustings -*** North Berwick Association of Churches would be holding a General Election Public Hustings on Tuesday 18th June in St Andrew Blackadder Church at 7.30 pm which they had asked to be publicised.  13.3 ***TPO – Marine Hotel car park –*** Kirsty Towler commented that North Berwick Environment & Heritage Trust’s request for an emergency Tree Preservation Order for the trees round the Marine Hotel car park before it was developed had been ignored and she felt they were being fobbed off when they had asked what was happening. It was agreed that the Secretary would write again requesting urgent attention to the matter.  13.4 ***School traffic in Law View –*** Cllr Johnstone commented that Law View was being used as a drop off point for the school but he was concerned at the speed at which vehicles were entering the street. It was agreed to raise the matter at the next CAPP meeting.  13.5 ***On the Move – one way system –*** Cllr Macnair had been approached by St Andrew Street residents about the speed of traffic in the street. He was looking into whether it would be feasible for St Andrew Street, St Margaret’s Road and Marmion Road to be one way. |  |
| **14 Date of Next Meeting** | The date of the next meeting would be on Tuesday 2nd July 2024 at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre. |  |