

AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 2 February 2016
at 7.00pm in Ayton Community Hall

Present	Rob Boyd	RB	Kenny Combe	KC
	Graham Dolan	GD	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	JF
	Isabel Kellie	IK	Ian Logan	IL
	Dick Noble	DN	Helen Postle	HP
	Norman Robertson	NR	John Slater	JS
	Rob Weatherston	RW	Paul Wilson	PW

The Meeting was chaired by John Slater. JF attended for items 7 – 11.

ITEMS

Action

1. Police Report

The CPO was unable to attend but had submitted a report which included information on the Scottish Government's TV campaign on spotting the signs of child sexual exploitation. Priorities were as before (Road Safety, Misuse of Drugs, Rural Thefts, Antisocial Behaviour). Two incidents had been recorded in Ayton: a car accident at Prendergust (no casualties); and a chimney fire at an address in the Crofts.

2. Open Forum

No items for discussion.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Joan Campbell (SBC), Margaret Carey and Michael Cook (SBC).

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 December 2015 were approved as a true record. Proposed by RW and seconded by RB.

5. Matters Arising

- **Defibrillator** – SAS were aware that further training sessions were awaited. **GD**
- **Resilient Communities** – equipment (snow shovels, shoe grips, tabards etc) was now stored in the shed. Keys were with Susan McLuckie. It was hoped that additional keys would be held in the shop and pub. It was noted that some roof felt had been blown off in the recent storms. JS would check with Susan re replacement of the felt by SBC. **JS**
- **Christmas Lights** – it was noted that the shop had waived reimbursement of the cost of electricity used by the lights. Other supply costs came to £40 (£10 for the Bier Café and £30 for the Clock House). The installation and maintenance of the junction boxes had cost £520. JS was thanked for all his hard work in organising such a successful and well received show of lights.
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** – RB had met with BHA's Property Manager who reiterated the Housing Association's stance on the placement of the flag to the side of the tower. A vote was taken in Committee over pursuing this matter further. It was agreed overwhelmingly to ask for a meeting with BHA in order that they be made aware of the village's strong sentiments about the positioning of the flagpole on top of the tower. JS would ask MC to arrange a meeting. **JS**
- **A1 Action Group** – new cats eyes had been fitted at both junctions. JS would make a further attempt to get a response from George Henry on signage issues and outstanding road markings (painting). **JS**
- **Lawfield Drive Car Park** – although repairs had been carried out, it was noted that the surface was breaking up again. JS would contact the Roads Department. **JS**

- **War Memorial Information Board** – Bill Black had given HP a proposed layout for the Board which contained information on casualties from both World Wars. It was agreed that Fantasy Prints should be asked to prepare a full size mock up of the board(s). Bill was thanked for all the time and effort spent on this project. **HP**
- **Peelwalls Meadow** - an emailed response from Lucy Hoad, SBC Development Management, had been circulated. Ayton Estates had not agreed to the establishment of a new footpath over their land and SBC commented that this was not critical to the development. A financial contribution of c. £90,000 had been secured for Eyemouth High School; 6 of the new houses would be 'affordable'; and there would be minor upgrading of a section of footpath on the B6355, nearer to the village. The Council felt strongly that the developer had reneged on promises made and that further representation should be made to them and to SBC. If there was no prospect of building the new path and bridge, an upgrading of the existing path from the new development into the village was required on safety grounds, together with an extension of the current speed limit. At 1.2m wide, the path did not meet current pedestrian road safety standards. **JS**
- **Domestic Solar Panels (no 3, Old Town)** – no progress had been noted.
- **NHS Access Strategy** – this had not been raised at the December Area Forum.
- **Core Path Maintenance Grant** – identification of any potential maintenance requirements had been delayed by winter weather conditions. **RW/IK**
- **Dog Fouling** – the Council thanked KC (and Mrs C) for their clear up efforts. A large number of deposits had been removed. SBC's new Policy on Enforcement (Dog Fouling) was awaited. In the meantime, it was stressed that known offenders should be named to the Police if there was evidence to support allegations made.
- **Hedge Plants** – fill-in hedge plants had been ordered. NR asked that any invoices be submitted for payment before the end of March. **RB**
- **Dumping of Garden Rubbish** – it was agreed to monitor the dumping of green rubbish bags at the Crofts car park in the hope of identifying and deterring the offender(s). **All**

6. Planning Applications

No new planning applications were noted. It was reported that previous applications for vehicular access at 20 The Crofts and the erection of a dwelling house at Whitfield had been approved. GD advised that no paper copies of planning applications – other than for major schemes – would be sent out after 1 April 2016. It was acknowledged, therefore, that the closest regard would have to be paid to the SBC Planning website for relevant applications. **IK**

7. Area Councillor's Report

JF reported on the forthcoming SBC budget pronouncements. There would be a continued freezing of Council Tax. SBC would require to contribute £6m of savings overall (on a budget of £260m) in 2016/17: £400m would be topsliced from all Scottish Local Authorities. Local opinion had been sought on 'acceptable' expenditure savings – the most frequently cited potential saving related to the Great Scottish Tapestry.

8. Treasurer's Report

NR reported £1703.67 in the Treasurer's Account of which £816.84 was earmarked for the Christmas Lights. Noted that expenditure on Christmas Lights (previously mentioned). was still to come out of the account. The Project Account remained unchanged at £1000.61 (including £383.19 for the defibrillator). However, expenditure on Hedge Plants (previously mentioned) was still to come out of the account. NR also advised that an anonymous donation of £100 had been received in December for the Christmas Lights.

9. Correspondence

GD tabled two letters received in January 2016 from SBC: the first letter advised that SBC had agreed to proceed to adopt the Local Development Plan; the second letter related to SBC carrying out a 'Call for Sites' as part of the preparation of Supplementary Guidance on Housing. All proposals must be submitted by 31 March 2016.

10. AOCB

- **Road surface at Shearlaw Road** – a complaint had been received about potholes at Shearlaw Road. JF would pursue with Paul Matheson. **JF**
- **Roadworks south of Ayton Church to A1 junction** – a small partitioned area south of Ayton Church was thought to relate to works started by Scottish Water. No activity had been noted for some time. JF would pursue. **JF**
- **Christmas Lights 2016** – following an appeal, a few offers of help with 2016 Christmas Lights had been received. **More help was always welcome.** A more stable fixing for the tree was required - consideration would be given to establishing a squad in the first instance. **DN/RB/**
Thanks were recorded to Ian Logan for all his help – latterly with the removal of the lights. **GD**

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 1 March 2016 in Ayton Community Hall.