

AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 3 May 2016
at 7.00 pm in Ayton Community Hall

Present	Rob Boyd	RB	Margaret Carey	MCa
	Joan Campbell (SBC)	JC	Kenny Combe	KC
	Graham Dolan	GD	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	JF
	Isabel Kellie	IK	Dick Noble	DN
	Helen Postle	HP	Norman Robertson	NR
	John Slater	JS		

Two members of the public were in attendance, including Barrie Forrest (RAGES). The Meeting was Chaired by John Slater.

ITEMS

Action

1 Police Report

The CPO was unable to attend but had submitted a report. National priorities included the launch of a Crimestoppers Rural Crime Campaign across Scotland and a new public survey allowing communities to tell the Police what was important to them. Ward priorities were unchanged ie Road Safety (Speeding), Misuse of Drugs, Rural Thefts and Antisocial Behaviour. Four local incidents had been reported – bag of flour containing a small ‘crow banger’ firecracker found near Low Cocklaw Farm (disposed of); male reported for driving with no insurance on B6355 at Ayton; advice given re disagreement over a boundary wall in Ayton; male driver, reported for driving under the influence of alcohol in Ayton area, provided a positive breath test and was held in custody in Duns overnight pending court appearance.

2 Open Forum

A member of the public expressed concern about the speed of traffic, especially tractors, being driven up and down Beanburn. There was a green 20mph sign – Twenty’s Plenty – just outside the entrance to the school but it was felt that this advice was not being adhered to. JS reminded the meeting that recent speed checks on farm vehicles in 30 mph zones in the village had not found any evidence to support complaints of speeding. However, it was agreed that this latest concern would be raised with the CPO especially if tractors were being driven without due care and consideration.

JS

Barrie Forrest (RAGES) reported on progress with the reopening of Reston train station. It was noted that Scottish Borders and East Lothian Councils were committed to the project pending resolution of the current shortfall in funding.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Michael Cook (SBC), Ian Logan, Rob Weatherston, Paul Wilson.

4 Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 April 2016 were approved as a true record by GD, seconded by HP.

5 Matters Arising

- **Defibrillator** – GD confirmed that David Dickson (SAS) had been sent a list of potential participants for training.
- **Clock Tower** Flagpole - RB had met with Colin Turner (BHA) who confirmed that the Housing Association was commissioning a structural report on the Clock Tower which would be extended to include an assessment of fixings for the flag pole at no cost to the Community Council. The report should be completed by mid-May. In anticipation of the report

recommending against a central roof fixing, it was agreed that JS would write to the CEO of BHA to ensure her awareness of the level of support in the village for reinstatement of the flagpole in its original central position. JS

- **A1 Action Group** – JS had attended the AGM at which George Henry was also present. GH was aware of outstanding works (signage and white lines delayed by ‘weather’). It was noted that the issue regarding the Castle signs – removed by AMEY – had still to be resolved.
- **Lawfield Drive** - JS and RW had assessed the car park surface as not requiring immediate attention. However, it was agreed that JS would remind BHA that the car park’s condition was far from perfect and ask that it be included for resurfacing in a future Capital Programme. JS
- **War Memorial Information Board** – comments were welcomed on the updated boards currently on display in the Community Hall.
- **Peelwalls Meadow** – advice was awaited from MC (SBC) on the requested site meeting. MC
- **Hedge Plants** - progress with planting was slow. More volunteers were needed. RB
- **Planning Applications** – it was noted that the consultation period on retrospective planning permission for the solar panel installation on Jesmond had concluded without further information. This matter would not be pursued.
- **Bottle Bank** – JS reported that, following an incident elsewhere, Scottish Power had determined that recycle bins could not be located where a collection vehicle would be operating within 6 metres of electric cables. There was no location on the Crofts which would ensure compliance with this requirement. Possible alternative locations included the land adjacent to the Cattery at the north end of the village and a site within Lawfield Drive Car Park. SBC would contact the owner of the former site (Mr D Allan) in the first instance.
- **Ayton Castle Summer Concert** – a claim had been submitted for funding under the Community Grants scheme to support plans for a concert to be held on Sunday 24 July. Subject to insurance cover, it was hoped that both Ayton Castle and Church would be open to the public that afternoon. Ayton Castle had been extremely helpful regarding use of facilities, marquee, teas etc – all being well, 150 – 200 attendees might be expected. JS
- **Floral Gateway Competition** – GD would check on application status for this year’s entry. GD
- **Cambodia Trip** – JS had contacted the school pupil re the agreed Hall subsidy.

6 Planning Applications

Two recent planning applications were noted and supported:

- Colville Lodge, High Street, Ayton – felling of Apple, American Alpine and Holly Trees;
- The Stables, Bearburn, Ayton – replacement roof. GD

7 Area Councillor’s Report

JF gave an update on the Roads Review, reporting that SBC was looking to undertake more permanent repairs than of late. JC reminded the meeting of SBC’s online Waste Management Survey – JS would post reminders on Facebook. JS

8 Treasurer’s Report

£337.24 (Treasurer’s Account) and £1241.81 (Project Account) were reported at the year end.

9 Correspondence

None to report.

10 Play Park Goal Area

NR would write to Daren Silcock at SBC re concern about a dip in the ground at the goal area at one end of the play park, leaving it prone to flooding and, therefore, unusable. NR

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 7 June 2016 in Ayton Community Hall.

