

AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 6 September 2016
at 7.00 pm in Ayton Community Hall

Present	Rob Boyd	RB	Margaret Carey	MCa
	Kenny Combe	KC	Michael Cook (SBC)	MC
	Graham Dolan	GD	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	JF
	Isabel Kellie	IK	Dick Noble	DN
	Helen Postle	HP	John Slater	JS
	Trevor Smith	TS	Paul Wilson	PW

The Meeting was Chaired by John Slater. One member of the public attended.

ITEMS

Action

1. Community Garden Project

Karen Birch (Abundant Borders, in conjunction with BHA) attended to speak about a community garden project for Ayton. BHA was interested in supporting the establishment of 'no dig gardens' ie garden systems which managed themselves. In this regard, the undeveloped field backing on to Summerhill Drive had been identified as a potential site. BHA was already sponsoring a similar project at Linkim Court in Eyemouth. Karen explained that the high output/ low input community garden would be dependent upon community involvement, particularly from young people. In this regard, Karen was directed to Caroline Lathe, Horticultural teacher at Eyemouth High School. No timetable had yet been established for the project. The council noted the proposals with interest and directed Karen to other community groups such as the village Enhancement Group for support.

2. Police Report

The CPO was unable to attend but had submitted a report. The results of the Policing Survey Quarter 1 should that the main national issue of concern to people across Scotland was the threat of terrorism, followed by violent crime. Local issues related to anti-social behaviour, housebreak-ins and drug dealing or misuse. Ward priorities remained unchanged: road safety, misuse of drugs, rural thefts and antisocial behaviour. There had been 10 local incident reports, including fly-tipping between Ayton and West Flemington and a motor cycle accident within the village where the driver was found to be under the influence of alcohol.

3. Open Forum

The ex-Treasurer of the Community Council attended to voice concern that the CC Website needed to be updated and that his name had been removed from the list of councillors following his resignation earlier this year. It was agreed that the website would be updated as soon as possible and that advice would be taken on the requirement to maintain members' names on the list of councillors until their period of election had expired, regardless of current status. **GD**

4. Rule 4b – Co-option of Trevor Smith, Croft View, High Street, Ayton

The co-option of Trevor Smith as a 12th member of the Community Council was approved unanimously – proposed by JS and seconded by GD.

5. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Weatherston (RW) and Ian Logan (IL).

6. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July 2016 were approved as a true record. Proposed by RB and seconded by MCa.

7. Matters Arising

- **School Transport** – JF reported a disappointing lack of progress on this issue, despite best efforts from those concerned. It seemed unlikely that SBC would move from their current and long standing position of a three mile limit for the provision of free school transport.
- **Beanburn Traffic Speed** – the CPO had confirmed that the 20 mph sign was advisory only. It was hoped, however, to engage in a general discussion with local farmers about safe driving of farm vehicles on the village streets and surrounding roads.
- **Defibrillator** - D Dickson (SAS) had been in contact to advise that he was in the process of booking dates for Heart Start training in the Community Hall. **GD**
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** - RB advised that the reinstatement of the flagpole was imminent. Notices would be placed in the Berwickshire News and the Ayton Village Facebook page. **GD**
- **A1 Action Group** – JS confirmed that he would attend a meeting of the group in Haddington on Monday 26 September 2016. **JS**
- **War Memorial Information Board** – costs obtained from Fantasy Prints amounted to £2000 (ex VAT and installation) for 3 boards. Confirmation had been received that funding would be available from SBC. Although the Church Board had agreed in principle to the positioning of the boards, it was possible that planning permission and listed building approval would still be needed. JS would confirm. **JS**
- **Peelwalls Meadow** – MC agreed to organise an early site meeting to discuss on-going safety concerns relating to the footpath from the new housing development into the village. **MC**
- **Hedge Plants** - DN agreed to temporarily house the hedge plants at his workshop until arrangements could be made for their planting in hedgerows to the north of the village. **DN**
- **Bottle Bank** – no progress was reported. It was not yet known whether a doorstep glass collection service might be affordable, following the recent Household Waste Survey. **MC**
- **Ayton Castle Summer Concert** – JS confirmed a surplus income of £222.32 from this popular event. The Council agreed that this sum be donated to BARK (as per Ayton Castle's chosen charity). GD led a vote of thanks to JS for all his hard work in organising such a successful afternoon. Applications for funding a similar concert next year should be ready for submission by the end of the year TS volunteered to take responsibility for the organisation of 2017's concert and JS agreed to support TS in this regard. **JS/TS**
- **Floral Gateway** – a text message received during the meeting advised that Ayton had won the Floral Gateway (small villages) award 2016, beating Greenlaw (2nd) and Ancrum (3rd). Congratulations and many thanks were offered to all those whose contributions and hard work had resulted in this award for Ayton – special thanks were given to Vic Swain and Ann Dolan.
- **Play Park** – IK had still to contact Daren Silcock about reinstatement of the ground at the goal posts. **IK**
- **Resilient Communities** – JS was advised to contact K Sewell about outstanding repairs to the roof of the store shed. **J**
- **Solar Panels** - no update was available on the retrospective planning application for solar panels installed at 3 Old Town. **JS**

8. Planning Applications

An Application to construct a rear extension for storage at the Village mini market was discussed. It was understood that the Planning Application was flawed as the ground in question was, in fact, owned by three parties. It was considered that, whilst the need for additional storage was acknowledged, the validity of the objections raised was also recognised. JS/GD would word a response to SBC. **JS/GD**

An application to install replacement windows and effect other external remedial works at Rosebank, High Street, Ayton was supported.

9. Area Councillors' Report

MC referred to a BT proposal which would remove local telephone kiosks at the Crofts (Ayton) and Lambertton because of low or no usage recorded in the past 12 months. It was felt that public telephones provided an important service for rural areas when other services were down. It was agreed that JS would word a representation on behalf of the village to support the

retention of the kiosks.

JS

JF spoke about changes to local bus services. It was felt that timetables needed to be updated.

JF would speak to John Dellow in this regard.

JF

10. Treasurer's Report

GD presented the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Maureen Anton. The Treasurer's Account stood at £391.53 and the Project Account at £1241.96. Ringfenced arrangements were unchanged.

MA

11. Correspondence

IK agreed to represent the CC at the AGM of RAGES on Monday 12 September 2016

IK

12. Christmas Lights

The extensive display of Christmas lights would be replicated this year with a light up event on Sunday 27 November 2016. JS would contact IL re preparatory works.

JS

13. Any Other Competent Business

A complaint had been made about HGVs still driving through the village instead of accessing the A1 as agreed. Registration nos, owner's details etc could be notified to JS for onward transmission to the Police.

JS

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 4 October 2016 in Ayton Community Hall.