

# AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 7 March 2017  
at 7.00 pm in Ayton Community Hall

<b>Present</b>	Margaret Carey	<b>MCa</b>	Kenny Combe	<b>KC</b>
	Michael Cook (SBC)	<b>MC</b>	Graham Dolan	<b>GD</b>
	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	<b>JF</b>	Isabel Kellie	<b>IK</b>
	Ian Logan	<b>IL</b>	Helen Postle	<b>HP</b>
	Dick Noble	<b>DN</b>	John Slater	<b>JS</b>

The Meeting was Chaired by John Slater (**JS**) and was attended by one member of the public.

## ITEMS

## ACTION

### 1. Police Report

The CPO was unable to attend but had submitted a report which had been circulated previously to all CC members. Current campaigns concerned changes to penalties for mobile phone use while driving (£200 fine and 6 penalty points); and warning dog owners about sheep worrying consequences. Ward priorities remained unchanged – road safety (speeding); misuse of drugs; rural thefts; anti social behaviour. Hare coursing continued to be an issue in Berwickshire. Two local incidents were noted – a large pothole on the High Street had been reported to SBC; and cannabis was found in the possession of two male occupants of a vehicle stopped in Ayton during routine patrols.

### 2. Open Forum

Nothing to report.

### 3. Apologies for Absences

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Boyd (**RB**) and Trevor Smith (**TS**).

### 4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 February 2017 were approved. Proposed by **GD** and seconded by **RW**.

### 5. Matters Arising

- **'The Pub is the Hub'** – all information had been passed to the proprietor of Hemelvaart. It was noted, however, that no funding was currently available to support this initiative.
- **Defibrillator** – the Scottish Ambulance Service had contacted **GD** for hall availability for training. There was also a request to register defibrillators with SAS. **GD**
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** – costs for the reinstatement of the flagpole were expected to be available shortly. No planning approval was required for this work which was the replacement of an existing feature. **RB**
- **A1 Action Group** – the CEO for Transport Scotland had responded to John Lamont's letter. Amongst other things, it was acknowledged that the C120 sign approaching the Ayton north junction from the south was incorrect and would be changed. The CEO commented, however, that it was 'not policy' to sign every C road as this would lead to a 'clutter of signage'. There was discussion over the validity of this comment and it was decided that the views of affected residents (Littledean, Alemill, Whitecross etc) would be sought in the first instance. **JS**
- **War Memorial Information Board** – **RB** and **JS** were preparing applications for Planning Permission and Listed Building approval. **RB/JS**
- **Peelwalls Meadow** – it was agreed that a final attempt be made to obtain a response from the Estate Factor (D. Niven) to previous correspondence. Mr Niven would be made aware of the CC's growing frustration over this issue and of a proposal that the local press be appraised of concerns regarding pedestrian access between the development and the village. On a more

positive note, it was noted that Daren Silcock (SBC) would arrange to have vegetation scraped from the B6355 footpath.

**GD**

- **Summer Concert – TS** had emailed CC members with a report on progress with, and ideas for, the Summer Concert in the grounds of Ayton Castle. Following discussion, it was felt that one area for improvement on last year's event might be increased car parking availability. **JS**  
With regard to charitable support, it was agreed to defer a decision until event costs were finalised. Proposals for extensive children's entertainment and fund raising were noted but it was considered that this would elevate the event above its original intent to be a village gathering. The inclusion of a piper as part of the entertainment, rather than to open the event was welcomed, as was confirmation of 23 July as the agreed date.
- **Solar Panels – JF** confirmed that the matter of solar panel installation at nos 3 and 8 Old Town had been referred to SBC's Enforcement Officer and that retrospective planning approval was now being sought by BHA. It was agreed to monitor the situation to ensure appropriate comment was submitted by the Community Council.
- **BT Phonebox** - nothing to report.
- **Christmas Lights** – any suggestions for increasing/extending the current lights display should be made to **JS**.
- **Jubilee Oak Tree** – it was understood that a replacement oak tree (10' – 12') was to be sourced from Cheviot Trees, courtesy of Reston Community Co.
- **Old Town Speeding** – new signage was to be installed. **MC** would ask for guidance on arranging a routine speed review of traffic on that section of the road and advise **JS**. **MC/JS**
- **Abundant Borders** – nothing to report.
- **Road Surface (B6355 junction)** – **MC** advised that this area had been included in a resurfacing programme. No timescale was yet available.

## 6. Planning Applications

None noted.

## 7. Area Councillors' Report

**MC** advised that the Local Council elections would be held on 9 May 2017.

**JF** reported that Wait's Buses were resuming local village services under a Local Authority franchising scheme.

Councillors Cook and Fullarton were thanked by the Chairman for their input to the work of the Community Council over the past years.

## 8. Treasurer's Report

**GD** presented the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Maureen Anton (**MA**). The Treasurer's Account stood at £746.64 and the Project Account at £1242.27.

## 9. Correspondence

- **Eyemouth Scout Group** - it was agreed to make a donation of £50 to Eyemouth Scout Group in support of their fund raising efforts towards attending a Jamboree in Denmark this coming July.

**GD/MA**

- **Pathways** – a communication had been received from Simon Jones, Factor of Ayton Castle, about a possible bid (with the support of the Community Council) for Lottery funding to construct pathways and open up access to the grounds of the Estate. This proposal was welcomed and was referred to the village Walk It Group. **IK** and **RW** (two of the Group's leaders) would liaise with Simon in the first instance.

**IK/RW**

## 10. Any Other Competent Business

Concern was expressed about HGVs using the Prendergest/Millerton Bridge road en route to Reston. Any sightings should be reported to the Police.

## 11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 4 April 2017 in Ayton Community Hall.