

# AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 4 July 2017

at 7.00 pm in Ayton Community Hall

<b>Present</b>	Margaret Carey	<b>MCa</b>	Kenny Combe	<b>KC</b>
	Graham Dolan	<b>GD</b>	Carol Hamilton (SBC)	<b>CH</b>
	Isabel Kellie	<b>IK</b>	Helen Laing (SBC)	<b>HL</b>
	Helen Postle	<b>HP</b>	Dick Noble	<b>DN</b>
	John Slater	<b>JS</b>	Trevor Smith	<b>TS</b>
	Paul Wilson	<b>PW</b>		

The Meeting was Chaired by John Slater (**JS**).

## ITEMS

## ACTION

### 1. Police Report

The CPO was unable to attend but had submitted a report which had been previously circulated to members. Current campaigns included the tackling of viewing of indecent images, and advice to the public on how to keep safe in the event of a firearms or weapons attack. Ward Priorities included road safety (speeding), misuse of drugs, rural thefts (a housebreaking to an unoccupied property in Ayton had been reported) and antisocial behaviour. In addition, a report had been received of a vehicle parked for four days outside a High Street property in Ayton which was causing an obstruction. The owner had been contacted and was arranging recovery.

### 2. Open Forum

A representative from Abundant Borders was in attendance to report on progress with the garden at the back of Summerhill Park. Confirmation had now been received of the site's long term future as a community growing space. It was acknowledged that the garden's establishment had not gone as smoothly as hoped but volunteer gardeners from the village and from Abundant Borders had now assumed responsibility for the development and maintenance of the garden. Over time, the ground would become a 'no dig food forest' for growing mainly perennial fruit and vegetables.

### 3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Jim Fullarton (SBC) (**JF**), Ian Logan (**IL**) and Rob Weatherston (**RW**).

### 4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 June 2017 were approved. Proposed by **MCa** and seconded by **HP**.

### 5. Matters Arising

- **Defibrillator** – **TS** advised that a date for the training session would be available shortly. It was noted that Martin Galloway (Coldingham) was also willing to train Ayton residents. **TS**
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** – the vexed issue of the flagpole was being actively pursued. BHA's Colin Young was the main contact for finalising issues regarding installation and funding. The CC's working group comprised **JS**, **KC** and **DN**. **All**
- **A1 Action Group** – the grass at the south junction with the A1 had been cut.
- **War Memorial Information Board** **HP** advised that a Planning application was still to be triggered for the siting of the boards (£13 fee up front), following which a site plan could be downloaded from the SBC website. It was noted that, from September, 'hidden' funds could be accessed by Community Groups bidding for public project finance. It was understood that the Ayton Memorial Fund stood at £3000. **JS**
- **Peelwalls Meadow** – **JS** undertook to write to Lucy Hoad (SBC) to ask why the promised upgrade of the bottom end of the public footpath leading to the village had not yet been undertaken. **JS**

- **Summer Concert** - **TS** gave a progress report on preparations for this year's Summer Concert at Ayton Castle on Sunday 23 July. Reston Band and On the Fiddle were both available; the marquee was booked and the Reston marquee obtained; the sound system was being organised through Live Borders; all licences had been applied for; insurances were still to be confirmed. 12 volunteers were needed on the afternoon, preferably including one with a First Aid Certificate; posters were done and would be distributed this week; a bar would be run by the Hemelvaart Bier Café – 10% of the takings would come to the Community Council. **TS** (**CH** left the meeting at this point).

- **Jubilee Oak Tree** – the evergreen oak tree had been planted. Camilla Bailey was thanked for her input in the successful replacement of the Jubilee Oak in such a short time.

- **Old Town Speeding** – it was agreed that **JS** would forward all relevant email correspondence to **HL** to aid her pursuance of this matter; **DN** would prepare proposals for a stone plinth indicating the boundary of Ayton village; **GD** would contact Simon Jones of Ayton Castle regarding necessary verge works. **HL/ DN/JS/GD**

- **3 and 8 Old Town** – it was understood that Lucy Hoad's recommendation to refuse any appeal regarding the removal of the solar panels had been accepted.

- **Beanburn Development** – provisional plans had been available for inspection and comment at a public meeting on the development held at the end of June. It was understood that 53 residential units of social housing were being proposed. Main concerns raised related to drainage issues, access, and the impact on the infrastructure of the village. **JS** had asked the Architect to share with the CC a summary of the written submissions made on the day by those attending the meeting. It was agreed that the Community Council was in a strong position to inform forthcoming planning applications for this development before they were submitted. To this end, **HL** agreed to circulate dates for a meeting with all three SB Councillors at the earliest opportunity. **HL**

- **Playing Field Benches** – Daren Silcock had agreed to take forward the replacement of all three damaged benches as a small scheme to the next Area Forum Committee meeting.

## 6. Area Councillors' Report

**HL** reported on a recent debate on new Localities Funding. £500k was to be made available for locality projects, of which Berwickshire's share was £91k. Bids were to be approved by the 'community' with no cap on individual schemes.

## 7. Treasurer's Report

**GD** presented the Treasurer's report in the absence of **MA**. The Project Account stood at £1242.57 and the Treasurer's Account at £446.01. (It was noted that the Code of Conduct document would be circulated for signature at the next meeting.)

## 8. Correspondence

- A letter had been received from Caroline Lathe of High Street, Ayton suggesting various improvements to the lower Bleachfield water meadow/dog walking field. It was agreed that the letter be forwarded to Doug Niven for his attention. **GD**

- A letter from SBC advising of local community path maintenance grants for Community Councils was referred to the Ayton WalkIt Group in the first instance. **IK**

## 9. Floral Gateway

It was noted that judging for this year's Floral Gateway competition would take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 1 August. **GD** had prepared the associated newsletter and would distribute to households. **GD**

## 10. Date of Next Meeting

There was no meeting in August. The next meeting would therefore be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 5 September 2017 in Ayton Community Hall.