

AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 3 October 2017
at 7.00 pm in Ayton Community Hall

Present	Kenny Combe	KC	Graham Dolan	GD
	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	JF	Isabel Kellie	IK
	Helen Laing (SBC)	HL	Dick Noble	DN
	John Slater	JS	Trevor Smith	TS
	Rob Weatherston	RW	Paul Wilson	PW

Two members of the public were also present. 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 circulated previously to members. The campaign to engage public opinion in the decision making process of Police Scotland – Your View Counts – was on-going; young driver training was scheduled to take place at Charterhall, Duns on 17/18/19 October. Ward Priorities included road safety (speeding), misuse of drugs, rural thefts and anti-social behaviour. No incidents had been reported in those areas. However, 14 road traffic related incidents had been reported on the A1 and B6355 roads as they pass through the village. These included vehicle collisions, abnormal loads and reports of drink driving. Enquiries were ongoing into the theft of a motorcycle from an address in Ayton.

2. Open Forum

Two members of Ayton Primary School Parent Council attended. With the arrival of the new Head Teacher, it was hoped to promote closer relationships between the school and the wider community. To this end, a suggestion that the Parent Council would take responsibility for the provision of refreshments at the Christmas Lights Switch On was warmly welcomed. The lights would be put up at the end of November, with the Switch On taking place on **Sunday 3 December**. Reston band and pupils from Ayton primary school would be invited to provide the musical entertainment. **JS**

In addition, it was hoped that the school might have greater involvement in preparations for the annual Floral Gateway competition. A plea was also made to remind pupils to dispose of litter in the bins provided in the village playing field.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Boyd, Margaret Carey, Carol Hamilton (SBC), Ian Logan and Helen Postle.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2017 were approved as a true record. Proposed by **RW** and seconded by **PW**.

5. Matters Arising

- **Cocklaw Farm Pig Arks** – **JS** confirmed that an enforcement file had been opened by Peter Green at SBC and that the issue raised by a resident at the last CC meeting was under investigation.
- **Defibrillator** – a number of names of potential trainers had now been received. **IK** volunteered to try to match trainer and venue availability for training sessions. **IK**
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** – following an exchange of positive correspondence with BHA, a final response was awaiting confirming timescales for the reinstatement of the flagpole. **JS**
- **War Memorial Information Board** – all necessary documentation had been completed and submitted, including statutory notice given to the owners of the site (Church of Scotland). **JS**
- **Peelwalls Meadow** – SBC Roads section had reminded the developer of the need for improvements to the footpath at the bottom of the Chirnside road. It was understood that the work was scheduled for next year.

- **Summer Concert** – a net loss of £390 was reported following this year's aborted event. If it was felt appropriate to proceed with a concert/picnic next year, **TS** advised that the various associated grant applications would need to be submitted by the end of this year. A small group was nominated to consider the pros and cons of organising another event and would report back to the next meeting. **TS/DN/KC**
- **Old Town Speeding** – the extension to the speed limit boundary at the top end of Old Town had been approved. Consideration of other speed calming measures would be deferred in the meantime.
- **3 and 8 Old Town** – no further information had been received about the removal of the solar panels, or whether BHA had appealed the decision.
- **Beanburn Development** – it was known that the architects for the potential development were preparing a 3rd draft of the sustainable urban drainage proposal. Representatives of SBC's Planning and Roads departments would attend the November meeting to discuss the development, with particular regard to drainage, access and infrastructure issues.
- **Bleachfield Water Meadow** - **CH** had been unwell and was still to advise on any discussions with Mr Niven, Factor of Ayton Estate. **CH**
- **Floral Gateway** – it was noted that SBC's Daren Silcock was organising a meeting for representatives of participating villages to discuss issues arising from the competition. In this regard, **JS** would meet with members of the Enhancement Group in the first instance. **JS**
- **School Bus Service** – a recent spot check on the 236 service had shown that the numbers of children standing were within the permitted limit of 23 although it was felt that this was still an unsatisfactory manifestation of overcrowding. **HL** agreed to look into the situation and report back to the next meeting. **HL**
- **Rothesglen, 1 Beanburn, Ayton** – the issue of planning permission for a change of external colour to this Conservation area property had been referred to P. Duncan of SBC. A response was awaited.

6. Planning Application

The Hollies, 13 Welltower Park, Ayton – support was given to an application for a single storey extension. **GD**

7. Area Councillors' Report

Updates were given on attendance at the Floral Gateway awards ceremony, Eyemouth High School prizegiving and BAVS AGM in Duns. Further information was available on the Community Empowerment Act which invited applications for community schemes. £85,000 was available for Berwickshire proposals (over two years). It was noted that a meeting to discuss Trust funding would be held in Duns on 24 October. Any proposal to amalgamate existing funds configuration may impact on current access arrangements to individual funds – for example, the Ayton Cross subscription fund.

8. Treasurer's Report

GD presented the Treasurer's Report in the absence of **MA**. The Project Account stood at £946.58 and the Treasurer's Account at £324.26.

9. Correspondence

RAGES Newsletter was tabled.

10. AOCB

- An informal approach would be made to the owner of a camper van regarding more appropriate parking for the vehicle than its current position in the High Street. **TS**
- Leaves had blocked road drains causing flooding at the Toll Bridge after the recent hail storm. **DN** volunteered to scrape the surfaces of the drains. **DN**

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 7 November 2017 in Ayton Community Hall.