

# AYTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2018  
at 7.00pm in Ayton Community Hall

<b>Present</b>	Rob Boyd	<b>RB</b>	Margaret Carey	<b>MC</b>
	Graham Dolan	<b>GD</b>	Carol Hamilton (SBC)	<b>CH</b>
	Isabel Kellie	<b>IK</b>	Helen Laing (SBC)	<b>HL</b>
	Ian Logan	<b>IL</b>	Helen Postle	<b>HP</b>
	Dick Noble	<b>DN</b>	John Slater	<b>JS</b>
	Trevor Smith	<b>TS</b>	Rob Weatherston	<b>RW</b>
	Paul Wilson	<b>PW</b>		

The meeting was Chaired by John Slater. Two members of the public were in attendance.

## Items

## Action

### 1. Police Report

Community Beat Officer, Suzanne Young, would be working alongside East Berwickshire CPO Drew Young although neither was able to attend the meeting. Reports for December and January had previously been circulated. Other than updates on the ward priorities - Road Safety (Speeding), Misuse of Drugs, Rural Thefts and Anti-Social Behaviour - incidents of note included the recovery of a small amount of herbal cannabis from an address in Ayton (January) and several reports of road/vehicle concerns (December). Of particular note was the report made by a member of the public who had attended Eyemouth Police Station to voice safety concerns about the low kerb on the footpath between Ayton and Peelwalls. The Police had informed SBC.

### 2. Open Forum

**Footpath to Peelwalls (see above)** - a member of the public attended the meeting to reiterate his concerns about vehicles mounting the kerb on the footpath between the village and the Peelwalls houses. **JS** advised that this matter had been a much debated subject between the CC and various external agencies. It was noted that the developer was required to undertake this work as a condition of planning approval for the Peelwalls development. **JS** would pursue a timescale for the works with SBC.

#### **JS**

**Planning Application - Sawmill House, High Street, Ayton** - the householder attended the meeting to voice his bemusement and frustration at the planning process involved in achieving improvements to a listed building in Ayton's conservation area. Despite initial advice to the contrary, it was now understood that an application to replace windows with those embracing modern environmental standards but with the same external appearance as the original windows, would be rejected. On this basis, the householder had withdrawn the application. As a member of SBC's Planning Committee, **HL** agreed to highlight this situation in regard to a review of planning regulations. **JS** was awaiting advice from SBC on how best to publicise the need for Planning Permission to properties located within a Conservation Area.

**HL/JS**

### 3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Kenny Combe (**KC**) and Jim Fullarton (SBC) (**JF**).

### 4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 December 2017 were approved, subject to the inclusion of apologies for absence from **HL**. Proposed by **RW** and seconded by **PW**.

## 5. Matters Arising

- **Footpath at the Crofts** - with regret, it was noted that the householder whose mobility had been restricted by the lack of a footpath at his house, had died. It was agreed that this issue should still be pursued. **JF**
- **Beanburn Development** - no progress was noted on the proposed housing development. However, Colin Young (BHA) had advised that an interim solution to the flooding issues at Lawfield Drive was currently being priced with a view to an early implementation.
- **Defibrillator** - nothing further had been heard on this matter. **IK** would pursue before the next meeting. **IK**
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** - monies for the fabrication and installation costs of the flagpole were awaited from BHA. It was noted that the access ladder to the roof was now unsafe and would be replaced by BHA as insurers would otherwise not cover any risks faced by the installation. **JS**  
The costs of replacing the finial would be met by the CC.
- **War Memorial Information Boards** – it was understood that funding had now been released for this project to proceed.
- **Peelwalls Meadow** - it seemed unlikely that SBC would effect a change in the signage to remove the erroneous **S** on the word Meadow.
- **Summer Concert** - the small working group (**TS, DN, KC**) established to consider the risks/benefits of holding another concert after last year's aborted event, had not met. However, **TS** had identified 3 options for consideration by the CC:
  1. Do nothing i.e. there would be no concert
  2. Stage an event similar to that held in 2016 i.e. a Sunday afternoon village picnic/concert
  3. Hold a whole weekend event to 'showcase' activities in the village. **TS** had already approached the Bowling Club and School in this regard.After some discussion, the CC voted in support of either option 2 or 3. With the Chairman's casting vote, option 2 was agreed. A provisional date of Sunday 3 June had already been agreed with the Castle. **DN** indicated that he wished to be replaced as a member of the working group; **IK** agreed to take his place, together with **TS** and **KC**. The group would report to the CC on progress made with the event's organisation over the next three months. **TS/KC/IK**
- **Old Town Speeding** - no further information.
- **3 and 8 Old Town** - **JS** would contact Peter Green (SBC) for an update.
- **Bleachfield Water Meadow** - no response had been received from Mr Niven although it was assumed he was in receipt of the CC's correspondence.
- **Rothesglen, Beanburn, Ayton** - no further information.
- **History Project: St Dionysius Church** - Archaeology Scotland had advised that the anticipated support funding for this project could not be confirmed before the new financial year ie April 2018.

## 6. Planning Applications

- **Sawmill House, High Street, Ayton** - withdrawn. See item 2 above.
- **Ayton Castle** - works to trees. Supported. **GD**
- **Land West of 15 The Crofts, Ayton** - erection of two dwelling houses. Supported. **GD**
- **Ayton Cocklaw Farm** - temporary siting of static caravan in farm steading. No comment. **GD**
- **Littledean Sawmill** - change of use of sawmill building and alterations to form dwelling house. This project was supported on the understanding that the integrity of environmental and historical concerns was maintained. **GD**

## 7. Area Councillors' Report

- Localities Funding - Bids: voting for bids made against the funding was now open. All were encouraged to vote and to publicise the process. Another round of funding would soon be available.
- **HL** reported on discussion on Transport at the recent Berwickshire Area Partnership Meeting. The next meeting would focus on economic development and lifelong learning.
- **HL** had information on the local action group supporting WASPI - Women Against State Pension Inequality.

## 8. Treasurer's Report

**GD** presented the Treasurer's report in the absence of **MA**, Treasurer. The Project Account stood at £1430.30 and the Treasurer's Account at £751.75.

## 9. Correspondence

- **Eyemouth Scout Group** had issued an invitation to CC members to attend a presentation on 20 February in acknowledgement of the recent donation made by the Council.
- **John Lamont, MP**, was inviting support for a petition to save local branches of RBS from closure.
- **Barrie Forrest, RAGES**, was inviting support for a petition to expedite the opening of Reston Station.
- **The manager of Roxburgh and Berwickshire Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)** had asked to attend a meeting of the CC. An invitation would be extended for the March meeting. **JS**
- **JS** had drafted responses for the **CC's annual activities insurance renewal**. **TS** would check that all information had been included. **JS/TS**

## 10. Any Other Competent Business

- **DN** reminded the meeting that the hedge plants purchased some time ago were still awaiting their permanent transplantation to the hedgerows on the north road. It was agreed that discussion would be held at the next meeting to organise a squad for this work.
- **Nominations for Community Council Members** would be sought this summer, not before 26 June, and, if necessary, would be followed by elections on 21 August 2018.

## 11. Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be held at 7.00pm on **Tuesday 6 March 2018** in Ayton Community Hall.