

Ayton Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 1 May 2018
at 7.00pm in Ayton Community Hall

Present	Margaret Carey	MC	Kenny Combe	KC
	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	JF	Isabel Kellie	IK
	Helen Postle	HP	Dick Noble	DN
	John Slater	JS	Rob Weatherston	RW

In Attendance CPO Suzanne Jacobs (Item 1)
Annette McGraith (Item 2)

The Meeting was Chaired by John Slater.

Items

Action

1. Police Report

The CPO presented the Police Report for April. Police Scotland were urging rural residents and businesses to take steps to prevent fuel theft – information on security measures was available on the Police Scotland website. Other current campaigns included prevention and reporting of child sexual exploitation and national stalking awareness. Ward priorities were unchanged. During the month, 38 police incidents were created in respect of the beat area covering Auchencrow, Reston, Ayton and Burnmouth. **JF** noted that mobile speed awareness signs were available to purchase at an approximate cost of £1200. It may be that communities with speeding issues could collaborate in the purchase of a sign.

2. Citizens Advice Bureau

Annette McGraith attended from Roxburgh and Berwickshire CAB to talk about the work of the Bureau and to ask for help in publicising the need for additional voluntary workers, especially in the Eyemouth office. Annette described the main issues addressed by CAB, including Benefit entitlement, Employment, Money, Consumer matters, Housing and Relationships. A comprehensive training programme was available for volunteers interested in becoming General Advisors, following which the weekly commitment would be a minimum of 6-8 hours. Further details on this and on Board member vacancies were available on the Citizens Advice Scotland Website.

3. Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Graham Dolan, Paul Wilson, Trevor Smith and Carol Hamilton (SBC).

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 April 2018 were approved. Proposed by **DN** and seconded by **RW**.

6. Matters Arising

- **Footpath to Peelwalls** – although it had been confirmed that £25k had been ring-fenced by SBC for safety improvements to the footpath at the new housing development, no works had yet been undertaken. It was understood that this work had to be completed before first occupancy. **JS** would contact Keith Patterson (Roads). **JS**
- **Footpath at the Crofts** – **JF** reported that no money had been made available for these works. However, the extension to the footpath might be supported by the proposed 2 house development in the Crofts, or by an application to the small grants scheme. **JF**

- **Beanburn Development** – nothing to report. Temporary works had been undertaken to alleviate the chronic flooding problems experienced by BHA tenants at Lawfield Drive.
- **Defibrillator** – arrangements to contact Gail Coates were in hand. **IK**
- **Clock Tower Flagpole** – **JS** would ask Rob Boyd for an update. It was understood that the fabrication of the support frame had been commenced 2/3 months ago and that the replacement access ladder should be available mid – late May after which the reinstatement of the flagpole should proceed without delay. **JS**
- **War Memorial Information Boards** – an order for the boards had been placed with Fantasy Prints. It was hoped that installation of the boards could take place within the next month or so. **JS**
- **Summer Concert** – Trevor Smith had provided an update on issues relating to this year's Summer Concert at the Castle. Problems with funding, band engagement and the unavailability of St Abbs Market stallholders had prejudiced the successful staging of the event. With regret, therefore, it was decided to cancel this year's concert. **TS** would notify the Castle accordingly. **TS**
- **3 and 8 Old Town** – it was noted that solar panels were still in situ at no 3 Old Town. **JS** would contact Paul Duncan for an update. **JS**
- **Bleachfield Water Meadow** – nothing to report.
- **Hedge Plants** – planting would be delayed until the autumn.
- **Housing Development off B6355** – kerb works had been undertaken.
- **Resilient Communities** - in hand. **JS**

7. Planning Applications

- **Springbank, Beanburn, Ayton** – external redecoration. Supported. **GD**
- **Blacksmith's House, Old Town, Ayton** – extension to form sunroom. No Comment.
- **Ayton Mini Market** - variation of premises licence from 11 to 14.8 sq metres. Supported.

8. Area Councillors' Report

JF reported on approved roads schemes for the coming year, including the resurfacing of Ayton High Street (timescale not yet known). Residents were encouraged to look at the results of the recent survey on public transport, available on the SBC website. There was discussion on the next tranche of funding (£50k for the Borders) against Localities Bids – applications were now being accepted. It was noted that the population had been divided into two categories: urban (3000+ pop) and rural (-3000 pop) although it was still unclear whether the lack of proportional allocation with the voting system had been resolved to help smaller communities such as Ayton.

9. Treasurer's Report

JS presented the Treasurer's Report in the absence of **MA**. The Project Account stood at £3682.95 and the Treasurer's Account at £502.15.

10. Correspondence

- Eyemouth High School was asking for funding support for Leadership Skills training. A donation of £50 was approved. It was also suggested that a direct approach to BHA in this regard might be worthwhile. **JS** to advise. **JS**
- It was agreed to support the village's application to take part in the 2018 Floral Gateway and Community Awards competition. However, it was noted that SBC had taken action to reduce certain grounds maintenance frequencies. For example, summer grass cutting would be reduced from every 10 days to every 20 days. The provision of bedding plants for communal areas was still to be clarified. It was also noted that the introduction of dog fouling wardens was now restricted to communities where parking wardens were employed as the two roles were being combined. This was not helpful to Ayton.

- A proposal to install a plaque to commemorate the existence of a WW1 airfield at Cairncross was supported.

JS

11. Any Other Competent Business

- **JS** outlined the timetable for the forthcoming Community Council elections: the process would begin on 10 July with the seeking of nominations and would conclude with elections (if necessary) on 21 August. Bill Black had agreed to act as Returning Officer.
- **100 Year commemoration of the end of WW1 – KC** advised that commemorative crosses would be available for purchase from the British Legion at £1.00 each. **KC** would investigate numbers required for the community and would report back with a view to funding by the Community Council.

KC

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on **Tuesday 5 June 2018 in Ayton Community Hall** and would be preceded by the **Annual General Meeting** to commence at **6.45pm**. All are welcome to attend both meetings.