

Ayton Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 4 December 2018

at 7.00pm in Ayton Community Hall

Present	Margaret Carey	MC	Kenny Combe	KC
	Graham Dolan	GD	Jim Fullarton (SBC)	JF
	Isabel Kellie	IK	Paul Priestman	PP

In Attendance Tracey Dick, Chair of the Parent Council, Ayton Primary School
Neil Sutherland, Director, Wardell Armstrong LLP – for Item 2
Four members of the public

Items

Action

1. Police Report

As the CPOs were unable to attend, **KC** presented the November Police Report, which had previously been circulated. Current campaigns included raising awareness amongst residents about a new telephone scam where BT users are asked to assist trapping alleged hackers by providing the scammer with online access to their online banking details. Residents are reminded that legitimate companies will NEVER ask for computer or online banking access; winter driving – improved support and information is being made available on the Police Scotland website to drivers using the trunk road network this winter; road safety tips for drivers. Ward priorities remained unchanged. It was noted that enquiries were ongoing into the theft of an electric pedal cycle from a cupboard within a communal stair in the village.

2. Residential Development adjacent to Hardwicke, High Street, Ayton

Neil Sutherland presented proposals for the development of the site of the former garage showroom and land beyond, adjacent to Hardwicke, High Street, Ayton. The drawings showed that 12 detached dwelling houses could be accommodated on the site. The land had already been allocated for housing in the Local Plan. Outline Planning Permission had been granted in 2008 for 5 houses to be built on the land previously occupied by the garage but had not been implemented because of the financial recession. Planning Permission had now lapsed. The new application for Planning Permission in principle showed an increase in units to 12 extending into the field beyond. The houses shown were smaller units than previously proposed, in line with current demand for more affordable houses. It was noted that discussions regarding road layout were ongoing between the developer, David Allan, and the owners of Hardwicke.

KC thanked Neil Sutherland for his presentation. The CC would continue to monitor progress with the Planning application.

3. Open Forum

A resident of the village raised concerns about the condition of the road and pavements at the north exit/entrance to the village. **JF** (SBC) acknowledged the massive road repair backlog facing SBC in view of budget constraints. However, he undertook to ensure that this section was included in the list of outstanding works still to be tackled. **JF**

4. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Catherine Chisholm, Carol Hamilton (SBC), Helen Laing (SBC), Dick Noble, Rob Weatherston and Sarah Woodbury.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 November 2018 were approved. Proposed by **MC** and seconded by **PP**.

6. Matters Arising

- **Beanburn Housing Development** – nothing to report.
- **Footpath at the Crofts** – nothing to report.
- **Defibrillator** – in the absence of **HL** (SBC), discussion regarding funding options for an additional machine were deferred to the new year.
- **Housing Development off B6355** – nothing to report.
- **Resilient Communities** - a new padlock for the store was still to be purchased. **KC**
- **100 Year Commemoration of the end of WW1** – the commemoration arrangements had gone well. Thanks were offered to **KC** all his hard work in organising funding for the Tommy sculpture and the placing of the individual crosses at the War Memorial.
- **Speed Limit Signs** – it was agreed that the new **30 Means You** signs would be affixed to the official speed limit signs, beginning with those in Old Town. **PP**
- **Christmas Lights 2018** – many people had contributed to the successful placement of the street lights and Christmas tree lights. Special thanks were extended to Ian McLachlan, James and Abigail Bewsey and Ian Logan. The switch on ceremony involving Reston Concert Band and children from the Primary School also went well with catering and drinks provided as a joint enterprise by members of the Parents Council (Aytton Primary School) and the Community Council.
- **Jubilee Oak Tree** – it was noted that Camilla Bailey had organised the planting of a replacement quercus oak tree in the playing fields. Whilst this initiative was well meaning, it was felt that Mrs Bailey should be reminded that allocation of CC funding for the tree should have been approved in advance rather than as a retrospective reimbursement. **KC**
- **Reston/Aytton Back Road (D112/6)** – **HL** (SBC) had received a response from Brian Young (SBC) about the poor condition of the Reston/Aytton back road. He confirmed that SBC was aware that the road was in a deteriorating condition but that it was not currently on the Works Programme due to 'limited funds and higher priorities'.
- **Castle View** – in view of on-going procrastination about responsibility for the purchase and fitting of a sign reading **1 – 4 Castle View**, it was agreed that **JF** (SBC) would obtain a cost for having the sign made by SBC's in-house team and liaise with **GD** thereafter. **JF/GD**
- **Garden Ground of the Old School, High Street Aytton** – comments indicating the CC's opposition to this proposed development had been submitted.
- **Dog Hotel – Alan Jess, Shearlaw Road, Aytton** – it was noted that a retrospective planning application had been submitted in respect of the fence and entrance gates for this property (Orchard House) – see Item 7.
- **Dog Fouling** – **HL** (SBC) had forwarded an email from Daren Silcock advising of the availability of targeted stencils to remind dog owners of their responsibility. Since then, it was reported that stencils had appeared on the playing field paths.

7. Planning Applications

- **Alterations to Dwelling House – Craigavon, High Street, Aytton** – supported. **GD**
- **Dog Hotel – Alan Jess, Shearlaw Road, Aytton** – **JF** (SBC) would look at the implications of this retrospective application for alterations to perimeter fencing of the property on the Safer Routes to School initiative. **JF**

8. Area Councillor's Report

JF (SBC) reminded the meeting of the forthcoming December meeting of the Border Area Partnership which, amongst other matters, would be discussing the revised Localities Bid allocation process.

9. Treasurer's Report

GD presented the report. The Treasurer's Account stood at £715.85 and the Project Account (including monies for the defibrillator and Christmas Lights) at £1337.71.

10. Correspondence

Correspondence had been received about time limited parking spaces, none of which was pertinent to Ayton.

11. Any Other Competent Business

- **Notice Boards at the Crofts Car Park** – no reply had been received from J Inglis in response to a request to repair or replace the village notice boards at the entrance to the Crofts Car Park. Bill Black had kindly offered to effect repairs. Approval was given for the necessary expenditure. **GD**
- **Safer Crossings for Children** – some of the pavement signs at the safer crossings needed to be renewed. **IK** would contact Daren Silcock. **IK**

12. Date of Next Meeting

There was no meeting of the Community Council in January. The next meeting would be held at 7.00pm on **Tuesday 5 February 2019** in **Ayton Community Hall**.