

Ayton Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 7.00 pm in Ayton Community Village Hall

Present:	Kenny Combe	KC	Margaret Carey	MC
	Catherine Chisholm	CC	Graham Dolan	GD
	Carol Hamilton (SBC)	CH	Isabel Kellie	IK
	Helen Laing (SBC)	HL	Paul Priestman	PP
	Rob Weatherston	RW		

In Attendance: Five members of the public.

The Meeting was Chaired by Kenny Combe.

Items

Action

1. Police Report

As the CPOs were unable to attend, **KC** presented the April Police Report. Current campaigns included Shut Out Scammers with advice on how to beat doorstep crime; and the promotion of safe and responsible motorcycling as the summer season begins. Ward priorities remain unchanged – road safety (speeding), misuse of drugs, rural thefts, antisocial behaviour. Five incidents of note relating specifically to Ayton had been recorded in the Beat area in April. On 17 April, a member of the public contacted the police to report an incident of dangerous/antisocial driving on the High Street. Following enquiry, the driver was traced and issued with an ASBO. The other incidents related to concerns for welfare, minor road traffic matters and civil disputes.

2. Open Forum

- **Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award** – Camilla Bailey (CB) advised of three boys who wished to undertake community works in the village as part of their Gold Award requirements. Any suggestions should be made to Mrs Bailey in the first instance. Tracey Dick (TD), Chair of the Parent Council, advised of works that were needed in the Primary School playground and would liaise direct with CB in this regard. **TD/CB**
- **Peelwalls Meadows** – a distressing incident resulting in the death of a pet dog had again raised the vexed issue of safe pedestrian access between Peelwalls Meadows and the village and perceptions about the speed of vehicles on that stretch of the B6355. **HL** had already had discussions with SBC Roads Officers and it was confirmed that speed restrictions and lighting extensions were limited by lack of property frontages on the road. However, other potential improvements such as a compromise to the speed limit of somewhere between 60mph and 30mph and improved signage could be considered. **CC** would act as spokesperson for Peelwalls Meadows residents and would liaise with **HL** regarding other potential supporting action such as a petition to SBC. **CC/HL**
- **Localities Bids** – TD advised the meeting of the detailed application submitted by the Parent Council for £10,000 to purchase a sound, lighting and video control system for the Primary School. Registration for bids would open shortly. The Parent Council hoped to do a household drop of information encouraging eligible residents to vote in support of this bid.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Sarah Woodbury.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 April 2019 were approved. Proposed by **PP** and seconded by **CC**.

5. Matters Arising

- **Resilient Communities** – it was now understood that SBC was producing a revised brochure for the Resilient Communities initiative. The new brochure was awaited. **GD**
- **51 Houses Development (Beanburn/Lawfield Drive)** – **IK** updated the meeting on recent face to face communications between a sub-group of the CC (**KC, GD, RW, SW, IK**) and senior representatives of SBC's Planning and Roads Departments, and a follow up meeting with the BHA design team. Over 130 documents associated with this application were now available on the public portal – none of the residents' comments were supportive of the proposed infrastructure. The CC sub-group was disappointed by responses from the Roads Department and from BHA following what had felt like constructive meetings. However, the main issues of concern – the excessive number of houses proposed for the site; how supply had been matched with local demand; increased traffic on the Beanburn and associated school safety concerns; lack of response from education and health/social care – had not been addressed, despite assurances to the contrary. The CC acknowledged revised proposals for improvements to the draining/sewerage systems but did not feel in a position to comment. A Beanburn resident in attendance advised that he had written separately to the Planning Officer regarding a drawing submitted with the documentation which implied a 'widening' of the road infringing on his property boundaries and about which he had been given no prior indication. A CC comment on the planning application was being prepared on the basis that we **OBJECT** to the application still relating to 51 houses, albeit in two phases; and we **OBJECT** to the proposals for the supporting inadequate infrastructure. **IK**
It was understood that the application would likely be heard in Committee on Monday 3 June at SBC Headquarters. Members of the public were welcome to attend.
- **Defibrillator** – **HL** would contact Daren Silcock about eligibility for funding a second defibrillator under the Small Grants Scheme. **HL**
- **Housing Development off B6355** – the work to improve the line of sight had still not been undertaken. It was understood that a SBC representative was due to inspect the site.
- **Castle View Houses** – Daren Silcock had agreed to organise and purchase the street sign.
- **Stop, Look and Listen** – work to repair the subsidence on the path at Shearlaw Road was outstanding. **IK**
- **Dunclutha (Paul Wheelhouse)** – **PP** reported that SBC's environmental health department had advised that the continuous water seepage from the grounds of this property appeared to be mains water and not sewage as had been feared. The matter was now in the hands of Scottish Water. In the meantime, **HL** was asked to investigate the possibility of having a safe pedestrian route coned off adjacent to the wet pavement as people were now walking on the road. **HL**

6. Planning Application

- **East Reston Farm** – installation of Ground Source Heat Pump including underground pipes and 2 no. containers to house equipment. No comment.

7. Area Councillors' Report

- **Area Partnership Meeting** – the draft Berwickshire Locality Plan had been further developed at last week's meeting. The plan is structured around the themes of economy, skills & learning; health, care & wellbeing, quality of life; environment & place.

8. Treasurer's Report

GD presented the report. The Treasurer's Account stood at £270.60 and the Project Account (ringfenced) at £1338.15.

9. Code of Conduct

The members of Ayton Community Council agreed unanimously to adopt SBC's Code of Conduct for Community Councils.

10. Correspondence

A communication from Bill Stewart, Session Clerk at Ayton Parish Church, had asked the Community Council to comment on proposals to refurbish the interior of the building to allow it to become more of a community facility. The Church is a significant building in the village and was felt that this proposal merited face to face discussion in the first instance. Bill Stewart would be invited to address the proposal at the June meeting of the CC. **GD**

11. Any Other Business

RW raised concerns about the state of the main road through the village at the South Castle Lodge. It was felt that there was a responsibility on utilities companies to reinstate roads where work had been undertaken on their services. **HL** would look into this issue. **HL**

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at 7.00 pm on **Tuesday 4 June 2019** in Ayton Community Hall.