

# Ayton Community Council

## Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 2 February 2021 via Zoom

<b>Present:</b>	Margaret Carey	<b>MC</b>	Catherine Chisholm	<b>CC</b>
	Kenny Combe	<b>KC</b>	Graham Dolan	<b>GD</b>
	Isabel Kellie	<b>IK</b>	Helen Laing (SBC)	<b>HL</b>
	Paul Priestman	<b>PP</b>	Rob Weatherston	<b>RW</b>
	Sarah Woodbury	<b>SW</b>		

The Meeting was Chaired by Kenny Combe.

### Items

### Action

#### 1. Multi Member Ward (Police) Report

**KC** outlined the main issues presented in the East Berwickshire report for January:

##### Local Policing Priorities -

- protecting the most vulnerable
- reducing violence and anti-social behaviour (including assaults and vandalism)
- reducing acquisitive crime (theft). Four episodes were detailed: in Cockburnspath, Eyemouth (2) and Chirnside
- improving road safety. It was noted that, on 29/01/21, a driver had been issued with penalty points and a fine for careless driving on the A1 near Ayton
- tackling serious and organised crime. The highlighted campaign concerned online scams and fraud.

Other campaigns concentrated on safety advice for those tackling mountain, outdoor and water activities; and an on-line link for advice on keeping homes and personal property safe.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence had been received.

#### 3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting (via Zoom) held on 1 December 2020 were approved. Proposed by **MC** and seconded by **SW**.

#### 4. Matters Arising

- **50 Houses Development (Beanburn/Lawfield Drive)** - since the last meeting, there had been a useful telephone discussion between Colin Young, BHA, and **IK** who was also in receipt of regular updates from the Site Agent. Mr Young advised that BHA's allocation policy currently saw a third of all new houses (10 in this development) retained for existing tenants ie primarily those who wished to upsize/downsize. He said that BHA were finding that the majority of other applicants were city dwellers which might be a reflection of the current pandemic. It was anticipated that applications would be invited around May 2021 with the houses being handed over to BHA by July. The sewer connection was still to be made - it was anticipated that this might happen in February.  
**IK** had received two complaints from residents of Lawfield Drive about an accumulation of mud and litter in the car park used by site workers at the bottom entrance to the site. These matters had been referred to the Site Agent for resolution.
- **Building of 4 Houses B6355 (Line of Sight)** - **IK** agreed to complete the preliminary on-line request form for referral of the issue to SBC's Scrutiny Committee. **IK**
- **Stop Look and Listen** - repairs to the footpath surface at Shearlaw Road were still outstanding. In addition, it was noted that a manhole cover on the path just into the playing

field was now sitting proud of the road surface, presenting a tripping hazard. **HL** would pursue this as a matter of urgency with the appropriate SBC officer. **HL**

- **Clock Tower Flagpole** - it would not be possible to undertake the repair work while the current access restrictions were in place.
- **Christmas Lights** - **KC** thanked the team who had successfully and uneventfully taken down the tree and lights. As agreed previously, a separate group to oversee the Christmas arrangements would probably be established later in the year. **GD**
- **Area Partnership Meeting** - **SW** had attended the second (virtual) APM on 3 December when most funding bids had been supported, including that submitted by Ayton Heritage SCIO. **SW** advised that a sub group had been established to streamline the funding allocation process.

**5. Planning Applications** - none noted.

#### **6. Ayton Resilience Group**

The Resilience Group now had 14 members. **CC** gave an update on the continuing support being provided to families in the village. Referrals for food boxes were made by BHA and Ayton Primary School and ARG were currently distributing them to some 13 families in Ayton. In addition, **CC** advised that road salt bins had been replenished and some pavement gritting had taken place. The work of the Group was acknowledged with thanks.

#### **7. Area Councillor's Report**

**HL** reported briefly on the following:

- Energy Efficiency Campaign (Citizens Advice Bureau)
- Extra Care Housing (BHA)
- COVID vaccination programme progress
- Postponement of SBC budget meeting until March
- Review of smaller (ie fewer than 50 pupils) schools
- 20mph review - **KC** had submitted response from ACC.

#### **8. Treasurer's Report**

**GD** reported a balance of £556.15 in the Treasurer's (working) Account and £1240.63 in the ringfenced Project Account. It was noted that Soil Sisters had made a welcome donation of £128 for Christmas Lights. **GD** also confirmed that information had been sent to SBC for the annual insurance estimate.

**9. Correspondence** - all previously circulated.

#### **10. Potholes**

**PP** advised that two large, deep potholes had reappeared in the middle of the road leading north from the village, just beyond the Ayton Law access road. **HL** would bring this to the attention of Gary Haldane (SBC - Roads). **HL**

#### **11. Dunclutha**

Water was again flowing from the garden of this property on to the public pavement making it unsafe both for pedestrians and, because of the bus stop, for people using public transport. Following complaints, SBC had erected temporary barriers, redirecting pedestrians on to the road. A senior resident in the village had contacted ACC to advise that she had raised a formal complaint with SBC about the perceived lack of action to find a lasting solution to this hazard. The Committee was reminded that a 14 day notice had been served on Mr Wheelhouse, the property owner, in December 2019. It was unclear what, if any, subsequent enforcement action had been taken. **KC** and **HL** would pursue. **KC/HL**

#### **12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held via Zoom at 7.00pm on Tuesday 2 March 2021.