

**Minutes of the North Berwick Coastal Partnership Meeting**

**Tuesday 21st March 2023, 7-9 pm**

**North Berwick Community Centre & zoom**

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| **Voting Members present:** | **Substitute members present** |
| Hilary Smith, Chair (HS) |  |
| Cllr Liz Allan, Elected Member East Lothian Council (LA) |  |
| Cllr Carol McFarlane, Elected Member East Lothian Council (CM) |  |
| Kenny Miller, North Berwick Community Council (KM) | Liz Martin, North Berwick Community Council (LM) |
| Gordon McLelland, Gullane Area Community Council (GM) |  |
| Eric Martin, Dunpender Community Council (EM) |  |
| Brett Walker, Chair On The Move (BW) |  |
| Frank Neate, Gullane Area Community Council (FN) |  |
| Janice Macleod, Chair NBC Children & Youth Network (JMc) | Lauren Cowie, NB Area Youth and Children's Network (LC) |
|  | Hugh McKenzie North Berwick Harbour Trust (JM) |
| Liz Forsyth, Aberlady Community Association (LF) |  |
| Sharon Wellwood, North Berwick High School Parent School Council (SW) |  |
| Lorna Scott, Gullane Village Association (LS) |  |
| Jonathan Taeuber, Aberlady Primary School Parent Council (JT) |  |
| Nicky Fox, North Berwick Community Centre Management Committee (NF) |  |
| Ruth Hunter Pepper, Sustaining North Berwick (RHP) |  |
| Fred McLintock, Dirleton Village Association (FM) |  |
| Stevie Wands, NB Community Sports Hub (SW) |  |
| Alison Clark, NB Environment and Heritage Trust (NBEHT) (AC) | Olwyn Owen, NB Environment and Heritage Trust (NBEHT) (OO) |

**Others in attendance:**

Doug Haig, Connected Communities Manager (DH)

Shirley Gillie, Business Support East Lothian Council (SGi)

Alison Brown, Volunteer centre East Lothian (AB)

Marilyn McNeil, IJB (MM)

Anne Orr, Resident (AO)

Amy Breckon, Dirleton Play Group (AB)

Rory Steele, Fringe by The Sea (RS)

Jackie Shuttleworth, Fringe by The Sea (JS)

Kirsten Milne, Can Do (KM)

Ali Barclay, ELOSCN (ABa)

Daisy Elder, ELOSCN (DE)

Lorna Bellany, NHS (LB)

Lorna Raeburn, on behalf of In Bloom Groups (LR)

\**Unknown individual who arrived late and left early*\*

**Apologies**:

Jane McMinn, North Berwick Harbour Trust (JM)

Colin Campbell, Association of East Lothian Day Centres (CC)

Simon Metzner, NB District Association of Churches (SM)

Tim Harding, Lime Grove (TH)

Ruth Wolstenholme, Lime Grove (RW)

Lucy Daniels, East Lothian Foodbank (LD)

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| **AGENDA ITEM** | | **KEY DISCUSSION POINTS, DECISIONS**  ***Actions*** | | | | | **FAO** | |
| 1. **Welcome, Introductions and Apologies** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | HS welcomed everyone to the meeting. Round the table introductions were made and apologies were noted. HS mentioned that if anyone is interested in the position of Chair to please come forward and let us know. Opportunities to shadow and co-chair. | | | | |  | |
| 1. **Minutes Previous Meeting** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | The Minutes from the meeting held on the 24th January 2023 were agreed and accepted as a true accurate reflection of the meeting. | | | | |  | |
| 1. **Matters Arising** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | HS updated members on the following:-   * New Nursery School access   Concerns were raised previously by the OTM sub group regarding Safer Routes to School. JF agreed to try to move this forward. JF is not in attendance tonight. Await feedback from JF. BW is concerned about lack of community consultation and involvement in processes. Concerned that the community will not be involved in any consultation and will be offered a fait a compli.  SW in JF's absence asked by BW for any update. SW confirmed that as of the date of that meeting ELC had not replied to NBHS PC or via Paul McLennan and NBCC Chair Kenny Miller also confirmed the same. SW highlighting that contrary to ELC suggestions there had been no consultation with NBHS PC or the wider parent forum to date.  BW highlighted concern and frustration of long established hedge rows and small trees being removed as part of the current plan. He and a number of others believed that this was both avoidable and unnecessary.   * North Berwick High Street clutter   LA advised she has had no success so far finding out who is responsible and feels she has been shifted from pillar to post. LA will hopefully have opportunity to meet relevant individuals for an update this week. AC advised there is a report done by a wheelchair users which may help with this issue. AC will share this report with LA. LA welcomes this as evidence to help.  \*Post meeting note – report shared with members.   * Aberlady Water Quality   FN advised still having difficulty getting the minutes from the meeting with SEPA, Scottish Water and ELC. LA advised FN to speak to Malcolm Duck (Chair, Gullane area Community Council) regarding the minutes. LA will pick up with ELC Planning to ensure that they are aware. FN is worried about the length of time in production of minutes. LA acknowledge delay and outlined reasoning. Non-political and human error.  Newly formed Combined Sewage Overflow Group made up of from representatives from all different areas met for the first time today which is great. All those with an interest should contact FN directly.   * Short Term Governance Group   HS advised everyone it would be good practice to set up a short term governance group which would feed into a larger reflective exercise. So far no one has come forward. Anyone wishing to take part please get in touch. Email DH.   * Notice Board Survey – North Berwick   SG had sent out the report Jonathan had done. The NBC Partnership did approve the Countryside Rangers Volunteers application for a new notice board and they are extremely grateful for the funding and are working with the Countryside Rangers directly to progress this project. LF asked if notice boards need planning permission. HS advised if replacement then not but if new then would need to have a discussion with planning to check that out. It was agreed by all that better communication was required to ensure the repair and replacement of notice boards around the town between all relevant bodies e.g. Countryside Rangers, Amenity Services and charitable and Voluntary organisations. | | |  | |
| 1. **Olwyn Owen Chair of North Berwick Environment and Heritage Trust** | | | | | | | | |
|  | OO gave a presentation on the campaign to save the ruined kirk, St Andrews in Kirk Ports. This will be shared with members post meeting. AGM on 6th April 2023 and will be open to everyone. Rebecca Pringle will be coming along to report on East Lothian Council’s New Housing Strategy. | | | | |  | | |
| 1. **Declaration of Interest** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | This is a standing item on the agenda. Please declare any conflict of interest when voting. | | | | |  |
| 1. **Reports from Sub Groups -** \**Please note reports have been added post meeting at Chairs request due to lack of time for reporting during meeting\** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **Children & Youth Network –** DH provided the following update:-   * LC advised that they’re relaunching their Intergenerational programme with Community Connections. Young people to cook and serve older people. To be trialled at end of month at community centre. Wednesday evening – first is on 29th of March. Herb Space are also doing some work with the Abbey Care Home. * How we can better link with the opportunities afforded to us by Fringe by the Sea. Great opportunities on offer for children and young people. DH and LC have already picked this up with JS. Really positive ideas and suggestions for joint working. * ELC Specialist Youth Worker For North Berwick Coastal School Cluster **-** Engage young people with host of additional support needs.   + Wellbeing walks   + Group work   + Skills for life  - disengaged young people participate for a full day   + Girls group   + Transition work   + Disco – 56 young people at community centre   + Attends child planning meetings   + Works with Woodland Trust, RSPB. John Muir etc. * Youth Vision **-** Strategy currently on hold. Looking at how it fits with other ELC Strategies, Sport, Connected Communities, Arts, and Education etc. * Photo competition for pictures to be included with the Youth Strategy. May be an exhibition of work. Deadline – to be recirculated. 17th of April. Revised posters now circulated. * Aberlady – Kirk Stables art classes in Aberlady will be facilitated by local professional artist. 2 classes sold out. * Fund formerly known as Summer of Play – still waiting details. DH pursuing.   **On The Move**  BW advised members that ELCs Chris Milne had given an update on e-cargo bikes at the meeting on the 8th of March. There is funding for consultation in Haddington and money for 3 bikes. These would be owned by ELC and one allocated to Countryside Rangers for difficult access areas; the two others for pilots. NB in Bloom are interested.  Issue raised at the lack of shelters at our rail stations and the future of the vacant kiosk at NB station. Suggestion that it could be used for community use and public toilet and could be secured at peppercorn rent. There’s a need for a lead organisation and LM would see what could be initiated through NB in Bloom.  **Health & Wellbeing Association**  HS advised that at the last meeting they were looking at Place Planning. The Health  & Wellbeing aspect of Place Planning is really essential. The H&WA have written a report that will be circulated to the 3 Community Councils who make up the ward. The highlights include:- having green space and better accessibility to services. Report to be circulated to all members with minutes.  LF asked if anyone was doing anything to celebrate the Coronation. North Berwick Community Council advised that they would be having a Harbour Coronation concert. This will include a pipe band, gospel choir, dancers etc. It will be on Monday 8th May 2023 between 7 - 8pm. No posters or advertising done as yet.  **Support from the Start –** No update available. | | | | |  | |
| 1. **Reports from Village Representatives** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **Dirleton Village Association –** FM Mentioned that Dirleton lies in a hollow and therefore does not have a good mobile phone reception. DVA making enquires to see how we can maybe get a mast in the Chapel area which is the highest point. HS asked him keep us updated.  **Gullane Village Association**  • The GVA have now had 2 follow up Zoom meetings with Local Energy Scotland, funded by the Scottish Government, to pursue funding for upgrading the Recreation Hall heating, insulation, and lighting.  The Business Energy Scotland Support Request form has been submitted to verify eligibility.   • The Gullane Spring Newsletter was delivered to all 1500+ households in the village and we have received a generous personal donation which will cover the £800 cost to produce the summer edition. • Following last year’s great success, we are well underway in preparing for our GVA Family Craft & Fun Day on Easter Saturday 8th April which we hope will again bring local families together for an enjoyable afternoon. • The GVA is actively supporting April’s Gullane Food & Drink Festival and the Recreation Hall is hosting 7 of the events. • We are currently looking into establishing a bursary scheme to replace the previous ELC summer of Play, but which would assist priority families from pre-school to primary gain access to out of school sports and other activities throughout the year.  We would happily receive help and guidance from anyone who has undertaken similar or experience in this area.  **Aberlady Community Association**  Hall Refurbishment  Local Architect has submitted plans for upgrading the hall in 3 phases. Meeting will be held next week to reach out to residents for their support before looking for funding.  Aberlady in Bloom  Ongoing maintenance of Memorial Garden and re-planning of garden outside the Village Hall to be a coastal garden incorporating mainly pebbles and grasses with support from ELC.  Liaising with NB In Bloom and Gullane in Bloom for joint applications for funding.  Boxes in Community Garden re allocated for start of the season.  Stroll and Sit Project  Old benches now repainted and new benches (funded privately and from NBCAP and Community Council) and installed courtesy of Community Payback team. Bins are next in line to be repainted.  Big Community Coronation Lunch and Big Help out Day Plans are in place to have a Street Party style lunch in the village hall on Sunday 7th May.  Invitations for residents in the community to either ask for volunteers for specific jobs and/or volunteers to join established committees on Monday 8th May.  Youth Network  The final element of the current project is taking place in the village hall involving Art Classes during Saturdays. This has proved very popular with the Aberlady youth. For ongoing projects a new team of organisers is needed.  Newsletter  The Spring edition has just been circulated to all Aberlady Residents.  Aberlady Connections/Scone Cafe  Both sessions in Ducks Inn and The Old Aberlady Inn are continuing and are well supported. 12 residents attended the last event.  Aberlady Primary School  Liaison with ACA and the new Head Teacher has begun.  Aberlady Church  Joint services between Gullane and Aberlady Churches will take place on a monthly rota.  **Whitekirk** – EM advised that the community would be holding an Easter Egg hunt for local children.  **North Berwick** – KM advised that the Parking Review report was still outstanding.  **Glorious Gullane Bloomers**  Get ready to place order and get ready for summer:-   * 23 Hanging baskets * 12 Tubs * Blue Stane area maintain * 4 triples 1 extra large at golf club * 17 planters * Millennium Woods bulbs * Need about £3500 * All year planting * ELC Nursery supply plants * Wild Flower area * Like instigate Community Garden * Design a Logo * Get polo shirts gilets/fleeces ? * Signs to say GGB   **North Berwick In Bloom**  We had a committee meeting today and have decided to enter Keep Scotland Beautiful again this year. The theme is ‘health and well-being’ so we plan to plant up the blue boxes in the high street with appropriate displays. We will also put up 100 hanging baskets in the high street and have had all the brackets tested by Scorpio. We will be using plants supplied by EL council nurseries. We are also planning to install more water butts in the town centre. All the other perennial beds will be maintained as usual.  We are holding a coffee morning for our tulip festival on Friday 7th April in the Abbey church Hall. We will be selling tulips and baking and all donations are welcome. There will be a presentation on ‘ how to grow tulips’  **Aberlady**  Aberlady in Bloom news is that we are starting work on a new Village Hall landscaping scheme and making plans for our planters (14) and baskets (probably 10).  We are hoping to have some more volunteers as a result of activities on ‘The Big Help Out’ day - the Bank Holiday of the Coronation weekend.  SW advised a local resident is keen to revisit the traditional **North Berwick Law Run**. SW has been trying to help set up meetings between the resident and an Edinburgh Club. The historic date for this run is 1st Wednesday in August at 7.30pm. SW would encourage anyone who is interested in this event or helping organise this event to please get in touch with him.  A suggestion came forward that the Pipe Band could possibly play in the Lodge at the same time as the Law run, but this would need to be coordinated. Could also possibly link up with Fringe By The Sea. Need conversations to see how we can link people together and see the best way forward.  SW happy to have a chat with RS re free sessions regarding table tennis or other sports that could be made available for the Fringe by the Sea Free Fringe event.  RHP gave members an update on the Skate Park and thanked the NBC Area Partnership for being their 1st funder which helped them raise further funds. All the funds have now been raised and work will be starting soon. There is a slight delay. There is a site visit on Monday and hopefully everything will go according to plan. HS wanted to say a massive thankyou to RHP on behalf of everyone for this amazing achievement in pushing this project forward. RHP confirmed there will be a final push for lighting at the skate park and to have a library of kit that people could borrow to try out some of the activities.  RHP confirmed to members that they are almost there with the Big Belly Bins and again thanked the NBC Area Partnership for the funding. Working with local artists and the Sea Bird Centre and everything is on schedule (now a slight delay) watch this space. | | | | |  | |
| 1. **Budget Report** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | DH presented the budget spend to date.  Amenities Services - £0  Roads - £38,200  General - £50,000  Holiday Hunger - £3,000 | | | | |  | |
| 1. **General Budget Priorities 2022/2023** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | HS thanked everyone who had returned their scoring sheets and explained how this is a very important part of the process to assess the criteria and framework. Looking at consistency.  DH reconfirmed the up to date position of the General budget. The following applications were discussed:-   * Can Do – Transport – All 6 Area Partnerships - £9,289.00   KM gave a presentation which explained the background to the organisation and the need for the application. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.  Members voted 17 YES 0 Abstain 0 Objections   * Coastal Community Museum – Display Case - £3,847.00   Members voted 11 YES 1 Against   * Fringe by The Sea – Free Fringe - £5,000   RS gave Members an update on the organisation and the event they were applying for funding for.  Members voted 14 YES 0 Abstain 0 Objection   * ELOSCN - North Berwick Play Group - £7,312.00   AB gave Members an update on the new situation and Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.  Members voted 15 YES 0 Abstain 0 Objections   * Aberlady Community Association for New Goal Posts - £190.00   HS explained the late application which had been received and shared with Members prior to the meeting. LF updated members on the need for the new goal posts and shared the petition that 47 young people had signed.  Members voted 13 in room 0 Objections 0 Abstain | | | |  | | |
| 1. **A.O.C.B.** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | HS thanked everyone for coming along tonight. | | | | |  | |
| **Dates of Next Meetings** | | **2023 Meeting Dates**   * Tuesday the 2nd of May 2023, * Tuesday the 20th of June 2023 * Tuesday the 29th of August 2023 * Tuesday the 14th of November 2023 | | | Apologies to  [nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk) | | | |