

**MINUTES – Meeting of the North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership,
28th October, 7-9pm, Hope Rooms North Berwick**

Meeting Chaired by :

David Small, Director of Health and Social Care, East Lothian Council (DS)

Members (and substitute members) present

Cllr. David Berry (DB)

Cllr. Jim Goodfellow (JG)

Sheila Sinclair, North Berwick Community Council (SS)

Hilary Smith, North Berwick Community Council (HS)

Linda Hall, North Berwick Community Council (LH)

Elma Danks, North Berwick Community Council (ED)

Rosanne Ainslie, Gullane Area Community Council (RA)

Tim Harding, Lime Grove TRA (TH)

Niall Bradley, Aberlady Primary School Parent Council (NB)

JF, Gullane Primary School Parent Council (JF)

Lesley Kay, North Berwick Area Children and Youth Network (LK)

Ian Watson, North Berwick Area Children and Youth Network (IW)

Evelyn Watson, NB High School Parent Council (EW)

Gordon Gray, Dunspey Community Council (GG)

Donald McDonald, Gullane Area Community Council (DM)

Niall Bradley, Aberlady Primary School Parent Council (NB)

Eric Thomson, Gullane Village Hall Management Committee (ET)

Graeme Armstrong, Gullane Community Association Village Hall (GA)

Others in attendance

Kaela Scott, Local Community Planning Officer, East Lothian Council (KS)

Stephanie Carr, Assistant Local Community Planning Officer, East Lothian Council (SC)

Apologies received

Nicky Fox, NB Community Centre Management Committee (NF)

Eric March, Association of East Lothian Day Centres (EM)

Isla Mackay, NB High School Pupil Council (IM)

Sandra King, Community Learning and Development, East Lothian Council (SK)

Lynne Martin, North Berwick High School (LM)

Brian Verth, North Berwick Community Sports Hub (BV)

Chloe Doris, NB High School Pupil Council (CD)

Ellen Stevenson, NB High School Pupil Council (ES)

Grace Cain, NG High School Pupil Council (GC)

Zoe Laidlaw, NB High School Pupil Council (ZL)

Jeremy Findlay, Gullane Area Community Council (JFin)

Agenda Item	Key discussion points	Action
1. Welcome	DS welcomed everyone to the meeting. All present introduced themselves and apologies were noted.	
2. Approval of the minutes	<p>NB asked that the minutes show that he had sent his apologies rather than attended the meeting (currently he was listed as both)</p> <p>IG – was also listed as attending and apologising – staff to seek clarification from her and amend the minutes accordingly</p> <p>The minutes were approved with no further amendments</p>	<p>Staff: amend minutes of the meeting dated 9th September 2014.</p>
3. Matters Arising	<p><u>Engagement with young people</u></p> <p>SC referred to ongoing discussions with Lynne Martin and the High School Pupil Council, explaining that there has been cross-over between the themes discussed at the Area Partnership meetings and those areas of concern raised at pupil council meetings. The issue of cyber bullying and the inappropriate use of social media, as well as the links these have with mental health concerns may have potential to be followed up more closely. SC noted that staff will be in attendance at the next pupil council meeting, and will continue to engage with the students throughout a wider school survey and possible actions plans moving forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the topic of cyber bullying, EV pointed out recent presentations on this topic were carried out at the Pencaitland Parent Council Meeting and have proved to very interesting and useful. <p>Some concern was raised at the non-attendance of the pupil council representatives, however KS emphasised that the school holiday period, and general busy time that schools are experiencing at present have been one of the main contributors to this. She assured that engagement and communication with the pupil council was ongoing.</p> <p><u>Resilient Communities Workshop</u></p> <p>KS explained the role of this workshop in involving communities to develop their own community resilient plans in response to real-life emergency and crisis scenarios. KS encouraged any comments to be made by those who were in attendance at this event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS spoke very highly of the workshop, noting its usefulness and positivity. HS continued to explain the importance of communities not relying on the usual back-ups in times of crisis, but rather, pulling resources together as a community. • It was noted that Cockenzie and Port-Seton currently already have a community plan in place and Pencaitland have adopted an asset register approach. For example, in Pencaitland, if a tree came down, the community council is contacted, who is then able to contact a neighbour nearby that is licensed to use the 	

suited electrical equipment to remove the tree.

- HS continued to point out that it is really about communities helping themselves- the council will unfortunately not always have the adequate resources to assist.
- ED questioned how this information and discussions from the workshop would be fed out to the community. HS explained that each discussion table at the workshop was broken down into localities, and as such, there would be different concerns from community to community. The point was made, that, ultimately, there are resources already readily available in the community- it is about bringing these resources together in an effective and meaningful way.

KS provided clarification on the various approaches that communities could adopt as part of their own resilience plan. She noted that the role of community councils in being first point-of-contact could be an initial option, but will not necessarily be suitable across all settings and appropriate for all communities.

- KS pointed that there an offer of support on the part of the council in place to develop local resilience plans, and the model that is followed will cater to what is most effective for the specific community.
- KS further emphasised that this Resilience Plan, as with other community relevant strategies are not intended to be developed in isolation but integrated into the Area Plan.

RA questioned if there were areas in Scotland where resilient plans, such as the ones discussed at the workshop were operating successfully. KS noted that this was the case, and confirmed a sample of these examples would be added to the minutes.

Please refer to attached email document for the Community Resilient Plan of St. Abbs- Scottish Borders.

For more information on Resilient Communities, please refer to <http://www.readyscotland.org/my-community/>.

Broadband Connectivity

KS referred to the recent community broadband meeting that took place on the 9th of October that highlighted the areas of the county who were unlikely to significantly benefit from either the commercial roll out of broadband or the Digital Scotland programme designed to cover the rest of Scotland.

- GG commented on the Broadband meeting that despite being interesting, it was initially quite difficult to understand.

KS emphasised the importance for communities now, in moving forward to work together rather than separately or individually in looking at ways to aggregate demand – although acknowledging that

Staff: To add a sample of successful community Resilient Plan examples to the minutes)

a single solution may not suit all communities.

Currently in progress is the development of a survey that will be available on the East Lothian Consultation Hub and particular communities that are at risk of missing the new broadband service will be encouraged to fill this out.

KS reinforced the idea that continuing to work alongside Community Broadband will be paramount, with DS adding that it will be important to involve as many premises as possible to demonstrate the demand.

JG noted that the BT Open Reach Scheme aims to have coverage for North Berwick Town by 2017, but stressed this was a provisional date, and an aspiration. He emphasised that unless further change occurred, or other options presented themselves, businesses in the North Berwick Town Centre will continue to struggle.

MIR Consultation Process

DS made reference to item 5 in the agenda, and noted the importance of the MIR consultation in putting this into context.

DS explained that the council have now approved the Main Issues Report to go out for consultation (approved 28th October 2014). Consultation on the MIR will begin on the 17th November and there will be a variety of ways interested individuals and groups can respond including a public meeting in the North Berwick Community Centre on the 4th of December.

DS highlighted the Area Partnership meeting on the 3rd of February will also focus on the MIR. He noted that these two consultations have two different purposes – the first being an open consultation for the public to have its say on the proposals and raise any concerns, the AP meeting being designed as a more deliberative forum providing opportunity to review the responses from the public meeting etc and attempt to collectively come to a ward wide view.

- It was brought to attention that the date put forward for the second consultation on the 3rd of February 2015 clashes with a community council meeting.
- There was also concern raised this date is too close to the end of the consultation period.

KS explained that the reason behind this date is deliberate to allow the Planners who will be attendance to have a sense of the responses received from across the ward already and bring this to the meeting.

It was agreed to change this date however to avoid clashing with the community council . KS noted she will raise this with planning staff,

	<p>and obtain confirmation as soon as possible.</p> <p>Decision: To change the date of the second MIR consultation from to Tuesday 27th January.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JG noted there is a link on the front page of the East Lothian Council website to the draft MIR document. He emphasised the idea that although there is temptation to refer straight to the section on North Berwick, it is highly recommended, and useful, to read the information that appears earlier in the document. JG explained this includes information on the thinking behind the MIR and its philosophy, and made the point that feedback is sought, importantly, on the process as well. He encouraged those at the table to read as much of the report as possible. <p>ED questioned the timing of the availability of a hard-copy of the MIR. DS explained the report had only been approved for consultation on that day and would be available very soon – with the consultation not opening until the 17th November.</p> <p>Information about the MIR and the consultation process can be found at http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/ldp</p> <p><u>Any other matters?</u> No other matters were raised.</p>	<p>Staff: Confirm with relevant planning staff change of date of the AP MIR consultation to Tuesday 27th January 2015</p>
<p>4. Consolidation of key issues and targeted actions</p>	<p>KS made reference to the previous AP meeting where members had divided into 3 groups to discuss the prioritised key themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> opportunities for young people, travel and transport increasing older population. <p>KS distributed a document that pulled together these discussions into potential ideas moving forward. She emphasised that these still remain beginning discussions. KS encouraged those in attendance to take this collation back to their groups and bring ideas forward for incorporation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HS sought clarification that this document remained a work in progress and questioned if any solutions or comments could still be added. There was some concern raised that ideas could be limited as the group was allocated each theme in individual groups. KS confirmed that ideas submitted via email following the last meeting have already been added, and any further feedback is strongly encouraged. DS noted that from this process, some key actions can be identified, and it remains a work in progress. <p><u>Travel and Transport</u></p>	

DB highlighted that building an understanding of the current travel and transport environment, and where budgets are already committed, for example, will enable more targeted plans of action to be put forward and referred to the reference made to the Community Rail Partnership.

- KS explained that RM, Asst. Local Community Planning Officer had attended a meeting of this group regarding making links between issues being raised at Area Partnerships and their Action Plan.

KS reinforced the positive timing for input on travel and transport, explaining that at present, it was a productive time to be having these conversations, particularly as initiatives such as the Local Transport Strategy are progressing.

- the date of completion of the Local Transport Strategy was questioned. DS confirmed it remains a program in discussion.
- RA pointed out the significance of not having a Local Transport Strategy over the past few years, and noted that the non-existence of a strategy has inhibited the success of grant applications.
- KS confirmed that, despite being put on hold in previous years, it is being acted on again.

KS also highlighted the point re Community Transport, noting that, to date, there has not been an effective, creative approach across East Lothian and that community transport unfortunately has not been developed on a larger scale.

- ED referred to the success of the Day Centre in raising £70,000 to go towards a bus for the North Berwick Day Centre, which is due to arrive in March. She made pointed out, however, that as they have a blue badge for the bus they are unable to rent it out to other parties. There was general agreement that this is not ideal to have a bus potentially sitting idle for long periods of time or not being used to full capacity or potential.
- GA expressed concern regarding the recent grant success of the community council for a bus, noting that this would be highly advantageous for the junior sports section of the Sports Hub. At present, there is reliance either on parents, or the expense of renting a mini bus for kids to complete in inter-county tournaments.
- DB explained the importance of gaining input into what the community really requires, and noted that unless this occurs, it is a barrier to things becoming a community asset. He stated that the community buses do not currently link together there is a need for more joined-up thinking.
- JG clarified the use of the bus at the North Berwick High School, and confirmed that everyone was entitled access to

	<p>this bus- it was not solely for use by the High School. DS commented that considering a situation such as these, perhaps there is scope for more information-giving regarding these vehicles and community transport in general.</p> <p>DS confirmed that supported bus-routes are being re-tendered and that the timing for this discussion is significant enabling a positive input.</p> <p>JF put forward to area of concern surrounding core paths, and what progress was occurring in this area. KS confirmed that a meeting took place with the Core Path Officers of council who have stated they are updating their strategy, and more accurate information will become available in the next couple of weeks. This will essentially provide a clearer picture of existing and planned core paths, and how active transport will ultimately be addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GA expressed surprise at the inclusion of ‘need for personable ticket office’, in the travel and transport section, deeming this should not be a priority. • KS emphasised that this document was a collation of all ideas that have been put forward so far, not a document that was being put forward at present to be acted on. • KS confirmed from an email response from Scot Rail via CH that a platform extension at North Berwick station has been approved and will take place. It has been confirmed that increased capacity on the trains can only take place with an extension of the platform. • DB pointed out the possibility of a regular Dunbar service, explaining that if this linked with North Berwick, capacity problems could be significantly alleviated. <p><u>Increasing Older Population</u></p> <p>KS explained the relevance of the Health and Social Care Integration Consultation in addressing the issue of an increasing older population. Despite there not being an extensive list of potential actions currently, KS went on to add there will be a more focussed discussion surrounding this theme in the near future.</p> <p>DS requested clarification on the time-scale of the Local Area Plan. KS explained the intention is to have a framework, and draft plan around March / April 2015 but that much of the timing will depend on the contribution of members.</p>	
<p>5. Building up our understanding of the</p>	<p>KS referred to the next three key themes of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sustainable local economies b. Greenspace and the local environment c. Access to appropriate, affordable housing 	<p>AP: To add any relevant feedback and/or extra comments.</p>

<p>following themes to identify focus areas for the Area Plan (in the context of the upcoming MIR consultation)</p>	<p>She made reference to the strong link between these themes and the MIR, and explained the importance of beginning to understand what the specific issues are in this area and what changes need to be made.</p> <p>The AP was encouraged to take part in a whole group task, and asked to record, for each of the three themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) What are the current issues or areas of concern? ii) What do we still need to find out? <p>Responses from this can be found in Appendix 1.2.</p>	
<p>6. Next steps</p>	<p><u>Consultation on Health and Social Care Integration</u></p> <p>In advance of the next AP meeting on the 25th November which will be discussing the Health and Social Care Integration, DS delivered a brief introduction to this Integrated Joint Board explaining their role in providing strategic direction for the delivery and health and social care across East Lothian</p> <p><u>Please refer to attached document for a copy of this presentation.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The complexities of this proposed integration, and potential challenges were raised, particularly questions surrounding the success of a unified approach being achieved by two very different strategic bodies. • DS emphasised the responsibility and importance of the Integrated Joint Board in essentially guiding the delivery of an ongoing shared response to a singular problem. • DS encouraged the AP to begin to consider the areas of North Berwick where this Integration could have a substantial impact. He reinforced the importance of reflecting on the health and care issues that are unique to North Berwick, for example, the high prevalence of stroke in this ward, and matching the level of care required for this. <p>Prior to the Consultation on the Health and Social Care Integration on 25th November, the AP and wider community are encouraged to consider where the priorities lie in North Berwick, and how this integration can assist with setting strategic goals for the delivery of health and social care in the ward.</p>	
<p>7. AOCB</p>	<p>KS informed members about the East Lothian Community Rail Partnership Launch Event taking place on Tuesday November 18th from 2 to 4pm. A copy of the invitation will be attached with the minutes.</p> <p>KS emphasised that this Partnership is much broader than simply rail usage, and there is potential for significant work to be carried out in relation to how people are accessing public transport, including disabled accessibility issues.</p>	<p>ACTION: - RSVP to: Annette Filby: (E) Annette@acorp.uk.com</p>

8. Dates of next meetings	Tuesday 25th November, 7-9pm , Dirleton Primary School: focus on Health and Social Care Tuesday 27th January, 7-9pm, TBC Hope Rooms, North Berwick: focus on the MIR	Please send any apologies to: nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk
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Appendix 1.1. North Berwick- moving forward (Consolidation of three themes discussed 9th September)

Opportunities for young people

Key issues Identified	Progress	What is still to be looked at?	What actions are being put forward so far?	Next Steps....
<p>This can be broken into 4 key areas:</p> <p>a) Social media/mental health</p> <p>b) Limited training and employment opportunities</p> <p>c) Loss of Space</p> <p>d) Travel between villages, North Berwick and beyond</p>	<p>24/6 – meeting identified challenges for young people/ youth services</p> <p>August – Pupil Council prioritised key issues</p> <p>9/9 – Opportunities for young people identified as a priority theme – small group[discussion identifying key issues</p> <p>Ongoing consultation with Pupil Council</p>	<p>- Investigating links between mental health statistics and cyber bullying prevalence in North Berwick</p> <p>- How can we ensure social media is being used appropriately?</p> <p>- Looking at the discrepancy between current training and employment opportunities and what is intended to be provided- the barriers to this becoming reality.</p> <p>- Considering future implications of loss of SPACE= potential new options for dedicated youth spaces, considering future possible travel and transport options</p> <p>- Specific transport needs for young people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveying young people re the extent of the cyber bullying issue in the area • Cyber bullying campaign within school aligned with positive social media use promotion- consider creative options such as a phone application • Corporate responsibility from local employers- are incentive payments required? • Working with East Lothian Works to develop opportunities in the East of the county • SAQ qualifications conducted by youth project workers • Provision and/or encouragement towards apprenticeship schemes 	<p>The Ideas put forward need to be consolidated into specific, achievable actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with the Pupil Council to identify key issues and engage with the wider school population • Work with the NB Area Youth Network to identify key barriers to delivering local accredited training

Appendix 1.1. North Berwick- moving forward (Consolidation of three themes discussed 9th September)

Travel and transport

Key issues Identified	Progress	What is still to be looked at / looked at in more detail?	What actions have been put forward so far?	Next Steps....
<p>a) <i>Integration of public transport</i> - lack of synchronisation between buses and trains</p> <p>b) <i>Active transport</i>- more cycle paths and walkways</p> <p>c) Need for a co-ordinated and creative response to <i>community transport</i></p>	<p>24/6 – meeting identified travel and transport as a key issue</p> <p>9/9 – initial small group discussions identifying the scope of the issue</p> <p>Sept. / Oct. – Staff making links with the Community Rail Partnership to map the proposals in the draft action plan against issues identified</p> <p>– staff liaising with core path officers</p> <p>- Staff mapping community transport provision across East Lothian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties highlighted for safe travel for wheelchair users (into Edinburgh) or those who are partially sighted • Specific core path requirements across the area – including dual use pavements • Parking and congestion issues in North Berwick Town - and whether there is a need for internal town bus links and/or park and ride/stride locations • Hospital travel – for patients and visitors (Haddington and Edinburgh) • Barriers to cycling to school • Road safety issues – particularly on rural roads • Increasing capacity of trains at North Berwick and Drem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement in weekend services eg. Sunday travel to Haddington - Town route painted on pavement Eg. dedicated footpaths for children - More cycle paths and walkways- to school and to Drem - Drem station= urgent improvements needed here- significant barriers for those in a wheelchair and elderly people. - Community Shopping bus service – to Haddington and/or North Berwick - Need for public toilets at North Berwick Station - North Berwick town bus service, no service for new homes which may cause new congestion. - The extension of the North Berwick Rail station to accommodate longer trains - More policing for traffic- bringing back the traffic wardens - The need for public toilets at the railway station - The need for a personable ticket office as opposed to solely automated ticket machines and online ticket purchases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rationalise the range of potential actions to identify and prioritise realistic short / medium and long term actions - Consider Area Partnership representative on the Community Rail Partnership - Work with core path and cycle path officers at ELC to get a ward wide update on planned / stalled and proposed core paths (including maintenance needs) - Seek input to the Partnership on the Local Transport Strategy before it is published for consultation - Consider establishing a Community Transport working group – with links across the Area Partnerships

Appendix 1.1. North Berwick- moving forward (Consolidation of three themes discussed 9th September)

Increasing Older Population

Key issues Identified	Progress	What is still to be looked at?	What actions are being put forward so far?	Next Steps....
<p>The number of aged people in the area presents challenges and opportunities</p>	<p>24/6 – meeting identified that the higher proportion of older people in the community meant there were specific local issues here</p> <p>9/9 – initial small group discussions began looking at the range of issues this brought up</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map and test service provision – existing and expected- investigate where pressures may be • Explore opportunities for social enterprises in the social care field, opportunities that, in turn, can create suitable local employment • Discrepancies in funding and arrangements between Day Centres in the ward • Is this an issue that should be looked at under the broader theme of health inequalities • Impact of changing provisions and the uncertainty regarding the future of the Edington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop community strategies= Dementia Initiative • Increase number of, and scope of volunteer roles 	<p>Ideas need to be put into specific action plans- short-term and long-term and feasibility assessed</p>

Appendix 1.2 *Brainstorming Task- The next three key themes*

Greenspace and the Local Environment

Current Issues/Areas of Concern

- Accessibility to the beach: beach wheelchairs, beach matting
- Beach- especially East Beach: is a mess with rubble etc all over it
- Sea Erosion at Beaches/Coastal Erosion x 3
- How is it possible to stop development by stealth?
- Allotments?
- Large Car Park at Rugby Club- (ten minute walk to town): No signs or directions to this space
- Ensure the parks and green spaces remain: No buildings
- Beach Car Park charging will encourage dog walkers to use open space areas where there is free parking
- Proposed Cockenzie Development x 3
- What's happening with the old Council depot at Rodes Farm?: These are nice buildings but unsafe and unsightly in their current state.
- Parking provision (or lack of) at new sports hubs in green space
- Still issues of serious dog fouling

What do we still need to find out?

- Possible impact of Cockenzie developments on the environment
- How to clone/extend NBIB to cover for budget squeeze on Landscape and Countryside services from ELC
- How to plan for adequate green space when developers are trying to squeeze in every house they can?.
- New development (s) at Gilsand/Mains Farm- good pedestrian/cycle access: developers often plan "sealed" developments with too few access points by foot and cycle
- What willingness is there in the community to adopt a more "green" approach: for example car zones

Appendix 1.2 *Brainstorming Task- The next three key themes*

Access to appropriate, Affordable housing

Current Issues/Areas of Concern

- Allow local connection for social support
- Developers don't allow for affordable housing
- Still not enough local affordable houses: always expensive developments
- Affordable housing should be for people already living in area or working in the area
- Local, affordable housing for people resident or working in the area

What do we still need to find out?

- How much sway do we have in setting the prices of an affordable house?
- How to regulate existing housing to accommodate low rental: reduce impact of booming 2nd Home market: Start up of local housing association
- How to build community not just houses: tendency for developers to build homogenous ghettos
- What type of housing is required:? One, two, three bedrooms
- If we build/develop affordable housing- will the transport links exist?

Appendix 1.2 *Brainstorming Task- The next three key themes*

Sustainable Local Economies

Current Issues/Areas of Concern

What do we still need to find out?

- It's not all about tourism (low wage sector)
- Night transport to allow people to stay local but play in the city
- Closure of Commercial Property (good for housing?): of all different sizes
- Closure of tourist info
- Tourist office: Promote tourism
- Help people work in East Lothian (not Edinburgh)- Broadband
- Training and Employment opportunities for young people
- Lack of modern small business premises, especially near station
- Need accessible and affordable start-up funds for small businesses to develop properly
- Affordable Office Space
- Affordable rents or rates for shops and businesses
- Provision of town centre office space for SMBs

- How to encourage 'micro' Businesses, small start-up's and low impact businesses that can offer meaningful employment for all.
- What impact will Cockenzie developments have on efforts to grow year round tourism?
- What financial (?) Incentives for landlord etc to maintain commercial/business properties
- Creative EDU thinking for innovative enterprise Eg. East Links Country Park, Foxlake, Space, Why Not