

# North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership

## Minutes of the North Berwick Coastal Area Partnership Meeting Tuesday 17 January 2017, 7-9pm at Hope Rooms, North Berwick

### Meeting Chaired by:

Lesley Kay, Co Chair (LK)

Voting Members present:	Substitute members present
Sue Northrop, Co Chair (SN)	
Cllr. David Berry, Elected Member (DB)	
Cllr. Jim Goodfellow, Elected Member (JG)	
Gordon Moodie, North Berwick Community Council (GM)	
Tom Drysdale, GACC (TD)	
Dorothy Arthur, GACC (DA)	
Anne Orr, Dirleton Village Association (AO)	
Gordon Gray, Duncroft Community Council (GG)	
Tim Harding, Lime Grove TRA (TH)	
Laura Forrest, Law Primary School Parent Council (LF)	
Graeme Armstrong, Community Sports Hub (GA)	
Nicky Fox, NB Community Centre Mgmt Committee (NF)	
June Gibberd, Support from the Start (JG)	

### Others in attendance:

John Baird, Resident (JB)  
 Tillie Baird, Resident/Health & Wellbeing Network (TB)  
 Robin MacEwen, Cycleforth/NB Movies (RM)  
 I Anderson, NBHTA, NBCFR Group (IA)  
 Jim Conway, Resident (JC)  
 Erin Mwembo, Resident (EM)  
 Eddie Clark, NB Environment Trust (EC)  
 Grace Martin, Scottish Seabird Centre (GM)  
 Sandra King, Area Manager, East Lothian Council (SK)  
 Katie Nevans, Community Development Officer, ELC (KN)

### Apologies:

Donald Hay, Aberlady Community Association (DH)  
 Irene Galloway, Law TRA (IG)  
 Alison Clark, Dirleton Primary School Parent Council (AC)  
 Sue Cairns, ELTRP  
 Carlyne Murray, Business Support Administrator, East Lothian Council (CM)

AGENDA ITEM	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION/ DECISION
<b>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</b>		
	Apologies received were noted.  Cllr Berry informed the Partnership that he would not be standing for election in May due to visual impairment. The Partnership thanked him for all his valuable contributions to the community.	
<b>2. Minutes from Previous Meeting</b>		
	<b>Tuesday 8 November 2016</b> – minutes were approved by GG and TH.	
<b>3. Matters Arising</b>		
	No matters arising.	
<b>4. Budget/Short-term Priorities</b>		
	SK gave a brief update on short-term priorities which were underway: <b>Attainment Budget</b> The Support from the Start Family worker vacancy is currently being advertised. The Worker will be employed through Carefree Kids East Lothian KN will provide supervision. Interviews will be held in February.	

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	<p>Referrals capped at 25 children aged 0-8.</p> <p>There is still around £10,000 to be allocated from the attainment budget. Law Primary &amp; Aberlady Primary to submit a proposal for "Hooked on Books" which will increase vocabulary. This will be a school and community approach to increase life chances for children and raise attainment.</p> <p><b>General Budget</b>  Minibus Drivers - Allocated £3,000 Community – expand number of drivers. Local groups encouraged to apply however due to insurance the stipulation is that drivers must be an employee of ELC. This prohibits local people from applying. One youth worker who also works for council has come forward.</p> <p>Repainting murals the Partnership agreed to allocate funding to the North Berwick Community Council. Funding will help pay for a survey of the walls and repainting of the murals.</p> <p>NB Youth Project to submit costings for work to explore need for a Youth shelter and Youth Centre £500. The Young People have made an intergenerational film about the youth facilities in the past and how these have dwindled. This film was viewed by the Partnership. IW remarked how said to see so many youth facilities which are no longer available.</p> <p>Fountain at Aberlady – costs are in excess of £1,000 and the work is likely to be carried forward into the next financial year.</p> <p>Agreed to circulate the short-term priorities list to the partnership and discuss implications for future priorities.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>SK</b></p>
<p><b>5. Key Themes from Community Conversation</b></p>		
<p><b>Town Centre Charrette</b></p>	<p>We received confirmation of the successful bid in December which has put constraints on the Partnership as the fund has to be spent within this financial year. Negotiations with Scottish Government re timescale. £15,000 needs to be allocated to appointed consultant before end of March to carry out extensive consultation leading up to the Charrette. The Charrette could then be carried forward to the next financial year Apr/May. ELC agreed to carry out procurement to appoint consultant but timescale are tight. Important to have backing from Transportation as outcomes could be incorporated into strategy. There is a need to keep the momentum and enthusiasm from the Community Conversation. Important that this intensive programme includes as many voices from across North Berwick Coastal area especially those are never heard. This is a real opportunity for people to share experiences about what impacts on their quality of life e.g. people who don't use the High Street and why. All the partnership sub groups and networks will be involved to ensure as wide a representation as possible, creating a shared vision. Holistic approach to find practical solutions to parking/transport/access/ Issues.</p> <p>Important to enthuse people and increase their knowledge of what the Charrette is and the opportunities and strengths of this creative process.</p>	

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	<p>Press release to be sent out as soon as possible to explain the process. Traffic wardens are now operating. JC raised the issue of increased traffic on Law Road which is a direct route to school.</p>	
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<p>The next Health &amp; Wellbeing meeting will be held on 25 January. At the last meeting it was agreed to rename the network from Older People to Health &amp; Wellbeing as this is a key priority for the Area Partnership. The network is growing, developing widening out to the communities across the Partnership. SN has met with representatives from Aberlady and Dirleton and each community may have different needs. People from all different communities attend and there is now a stronger focus on the themes identified through the Community Conversation. HS provided an input of the analysis of data collated. This entails a broader stream of work and the network will help build on the themes identified. The analysis from the themes identified through the Community Conversations indicates that health and wellbeing is a priority.</p> <p>Paul Currie/Bryan Davies from Health &amp; Social Care will be attending</p> <p>Stepping Out is working with other mental health agencies to pilot Crisis Cafe/drop ins for people experiencing mental health issues e.g. a weekly drop in offering information, support and signposting. A recent survey found that Stepping Out members are generally able to get support which avoids the need for Crisis support. Some of the members may volunteer to support others. This will link to DWP sessions held in the library for people needing support with Universal tax Credits. This is now a worrying issue as many families are finding themselves with rent arrears. Food Bank referrals have increased in the area.</p>	
<b>Community Development Trust</b>	<p>The Partnership sent a letter to ELC regarding asset transfer for Lime Grove. North Berwick Community Council has written formally and has received a reply stating that ELC is considering disposing of this land, and will be consulting with the community. This may be one of the last brown field sites in the area.</p> <p>There appears to be a history of council land and property being sold in the town - Priory Wynd, Redcroft, Rhodes, Ben Sayers, and caravan park. All sold to housing developers.</p> <p>The Community Conversation identified the desire for a Community Hub integral community space/youth space/arts centre, employment, affordable housing, health services, growing spaces.</p> <p>The Partnership had asked for people to take part in a working group and this met in December with the Scottish Development Trust and Community Ownership Support Service. They advised that there isn't a need to set up a Development Trust at this stage as that would be a lengthy process. Becoming a limited company with charitable status would be a quicker route. It will be important to demonstrate that the community wants to move forward with securing the land for community use and to have a plan in place for what this will be used for. A Public Meeting will take place at North Berwick Community Centre on Thursday 26 Jan at 7pm. The purpose will be to find out if people wish to go forward, generate enthusiasm and explore further the potential use. The Partnership agreed to fund the publicity flyer and poster from the</p>	<b>KN/SK</b>

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	<p>Communications allocation. £110. Agreed for collection of flyers from North Berwick Community centre for volunteers to distribute. Electronic version will be circulated around the networks including the school. Agreed to use the World cafe approach to gather as many views and ideas from people as possible. KN to introduce this, SK to provide details re format on World cafe.</p> <p>Stages in process – first to gather community support for asset transfer. Collation of possible uses, negotiations with ELC, prepare business plan. Over the next 6-8 months there will be masses of work to do.</p>	
<p><b>Village priorities and planning</b></p>	<p>SN – The Community Conversation highlighted that the Area partnership is not just about North Berwick and to be more inclusive of the villages and rural communities.</p> <p>The new chair of Dirleton Village Association aims to get other groups to look at what villagers want for their community to improve health and well being for all not just be about the village conservation. Each community will have a better understanding of the place in which they live. More work is needed to support villages to take the ‘Community Conversation’ forward.</p>	
<p><b>Scottish Seabird Centre – Marine Centre</b></p>	<p>Grace Martin, Project Director, Scottish Seabird Centre gave a quick summary of developments for the creation of the National Marine Centre. £4million expansion. They secured Heritage Lottery Fund to appoint an external team of consultants. The team are now in place and this is a great opportunity to raise the profile in East Lothian and further afield. Wish to consult on and extend their education programme linking with universities, environmental, marine agencies and schools. Constraints of space and need to refresh exhibition space. Declining visitor numbers and current operation is no longer viable. Scotland’s first marine plan released in March which will raise the profile of issues facing the marine environment. Project engaging at national and local level offering new opportunities for North Berwick Coastal and further afield.</p> <p>Visitor numbers – a full analysis is to be confirmed including conversion rate. 200,000 visitors a year vast majority visit only the cafe/shop. Actual seabird exhibition visitors around 20,000.</p> <p>The Scottish Seabird Centre will take part in the Charrette given the predicted increase in visitor numbers.</p> <p>IA from North Berwick Harbour Trust gave some information about their investment of 1.3 million in the harbour - developing harbour pier and sea wall defences. The Dinghy Park/Mooring/commercial fishing and Yacht Club is booming. There is a national waiting list for moorings. North Berwick Coastal has an excellent marine environment e.g. Bass Rock, Isle of May regular visits from David Attenborough and the new Anstruther Ferry. There is a convergence of interests and The Trust has to manage access for all.</p> <p>Grace agreed to return in March to give a fuller slide presentation.</p>	
<p><b>6. Participatory Budgeting</b></p>		
<p><b>Short term priority allocation</b></p>	<p>We discussed how best to manage the decision making process for financial budget allocation. This in part can be heavily influenced by who’s round the table. SN introduced the concept of Participatory</p>	

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<b>methodology 2017/2018</b>	<p>Budgeting which the Scottish Government is supporting as part of the community empowerment agenda. It is still a fairly new concept. This is an explicit process of allocating funds in the community in a more inclusive way and transparent way ensuring all voices are heard. We agreed to circulate links on the methodology to the partnership and try to learn from others who have adopted this approach.</p> <p>We want to continue to make the process as inclusive and open as possible and develop a methodology that people can understand and that supports good decision making. We agreed to invite a speaker to come and explain 'Participatory Budgeting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SK</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SK</b></p>
<b>7. Partnership Membership/Good Governance</b>		
	<p>The North Berwick Environment Trust has requested membership with voting rights. This is a community organisation interested in the built environment and conservation.</p> <p>As the Partnership will be reflecting on the membership at the next meeting to ensure fair representation across the North Berwick Coastal area it was agreed to discuss the request then. The implications on governance will be added as an item on the agenda.</p> <p>A full list of partnership members to be circulated to ensure clarity of voting rights. We will be discussing this and are asking everyone to think of groups that they believe should be involved in making decisions. The networks and subgroups provide a way for everyone to get involved in the conversations, but the membership vote on decisions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CM/ALL</b></p>
<b>8. AOCB</b>		
	<p>North Berwick Harbour Trust is inviting applications from the community to apply to rent Beach Huts for seasonal projects. Information available on their Facebook page. Encourage groups to have a think about this opportunity. The trust has made major investment in the harbour including the east facing defence wall, the beach hits will be located in this area.</p> <p>NF suggested Area Partnership fund Chalk boards which can be attached around the trees in Dirleton Avenue to promote community events.</p>	
<b>9. Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 21 March 2017</b>		
	<p><b>2017 Area Partnership Meeting Dates – 7 til 9pm in the Hope Rooms</b>  Tuesday 21 March 2017  Tuesday 16 May 2017  Tuesday 20 June 2017  Tuesday 19 September 2017 – Annual Public Meeting, NB High School  Tuesday 21 November 2017 – NB High School</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Wellbeing Network</b> - Weds 22 Feb 2017 @ 2pm in NB Centre  <b>On The Move sub group</b> – Weds 8 March 2017 @ 7pm, Hope Rooms  <b>Arts Centre Group</b> – Friday 17 March at 10am in North Berwick Library</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Apologies to</b>  <a href="mailto:nbc-ap@eastlothian.gov.uk">nbc- ap@eastlothian.gov.uk</a></p>