

NORTH BERWICK COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, 19TH MARCH 2018

Present: Nicky Fox, Chair; Ken Gordon, Stroke Club; Alex Galloway, German; Kirsty Wood, ELSNP; Chris Dale, Embroidery/Quilting groups; Paul Duffney, Men's Shed; Jackie Tagg, Lip reading group; Rosie Bennett, Girl Guiding; Sue Northrop, Dementia Friendly North Berwick; Diann Govenlock, ELC-Community Learning and Development

Guest speakers: Jim Bennett, SKS Scotland; Lesley Kay, Lime Grove Asset Transfer Group

1. APOLOGIES:

Katie Nevans; Tracey Cunningham; Cllr Jim Goodfellow

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, 16TH JANUARY 2018:

The minutes, approved; proposed by Jackie Tagg, seconded by Kirsty Wood.

3. FINANCE REPORT

February 2018

Income for February totalled £5,053.25. Of this sum c. £2,380 was collected from room hire, £125 in children's class fees, a £1,548 donation from NHS for Good Food, Good Health initiative run by Katie and £1,000 funding from NB Trust for the kindness co-operative.

Expenditure in February totalled £1,252.21. This figure included Tutor's wages c. £627, Refurbishment costs of the small room downstairs c. £223, Kindness co-operative c. £226 (stocking the community shelf c. £122, assisting three families with gas/electric £90, purchasing ingredients for home cooked food for the community freezer c. £14). Other expenditure incurred was for the children's classes with resources/ingredients purchased for art, baking and science detective classes c. £111. There were some refunds for the junior art classes cancelled at the start of term £54.

For February, the accounting records show a profit of £3,801.04.

The balance sheet shows the committee are holding funds of £72,521.71. Including the reserves as shown. The communities and families fund up-to-date available funds are £2,860.36, the kindness fund, has available funds of £743.64 and there is £535.73 in the Christmas cheer fund.

Frances Lee
Assistant Administrator

4. NB RED EMERGENCY PLAN

Sue Northrop is the Emergency Co-ordinator for the NB Community Council plan. She explained what happened over the 4 days of the Emergency Plan, triggered by a Red weather warning. The community centre is the designated centre to hold the emergency meeting on 2nd March. There was a fantastic community response, but there were problems about getting access to and locking up the community centre including the alarm codes and key safe. Diann Govenlock said the school janitor might have been able to assist. Sue will organise a review of how it works and Diann will get involved for the community centre so we make the links.

As well as an event for the community to share ideas and learning from the emergency, there is a lot of interest in a community event to celebrate what has been achieved. There have previously been discussions about events for Volunteers week and for carers. Nicky is also arranging a second Firestarter event that looks at local change including mental health services on 2nd May. Sue and Diann will report back, on the emergency plan and Nicky will share information about mental health.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

- (i) **Application to use coffee lounge Thursday 10 – 12 noon, Health Visitors for Breastfeeding Group:** Agreed in principle but need to check times. Possible snoezelen room as an interim venue. 10 – 12 might not be free for coffee lounge.
- (ii) **Enquiry to purchase the gymnastic beam – POSSIBLY SALE.** Diann will check with other groups to see if we can get a better price and ask Tracey if she knows anyone.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. Jim Bennett (SKS Scotland) and Lesley Kay (Lime Grove Asset Transfer Group)

Lesley explained the history about the development of the Lime Grove proposal, based on the initial work of the Arts Centre Group and funded by the NB Coastal Area Partnership. She explained that Lime Grove is the last piece of brownfield land in the town and it has become available. The proposals for the site founded on a series of community consultations, public meetings and a survey. North Berwick Trust holds substantial funds for the benefit of residents in North Berwick and these funds will soon become accessible.

The Coastal Area Partnership provided funding for a business plan for the Lime Grove site and as a sub group, Lime Grove Asset Transfer Group commissioned Jim Bennett – SKS Scotland and requested a business plan, specifying ownership and control by the community. Lime Grove site offers an opportunity to be transformational and grounded in commercial reality as external funding is limited for North Berwick, as it perceived by others as a wealthy community.

Jim Bennett, works across Scotland with communities to build sustainable community projects. The business plan addresses community wants, needs, impact and financial viability. The Plan projects a £ 6m social return over 25 years, provision of services for all generations, 10 full-time equivalent jobs including, 3 waged traineeships and protection of the site's biodiversity. Various elements include a new large youth project to address the lack of provision for young people. Soft play for children under 10 years, flexible theatre space, tourism, bunkhouse accommodation offering employment opportunities and to generate income and reduce impact of air B&B. Plus community gardens and outside space all for bio diversity. Café will be at the centre. The proposal has assessed against displacement, demand for café at this stage, should have food at centre of it. Discussed support from NB Trust, ELC and others and community survey. Seventeen possible areas narrowed down to five areas. Includes IG facility, end of life care, nursery etc.

Site costed at 2.5-3 million, ELC informally is looking at market value, and building costs etc. NB Trust – assets trust Group considering the Trust owning the building and delegated to a new charity.

How does this affect the community centre? The Lime Grove Asset Transfer Group/SKS Scotland, tried to avoid negative impact and displacement and say they have identified there is a potential overlap work, to a maximum of £12k. The steering group for Lime Grove has agreed that prices will be higher and therefore should not have an impact on the community centre. There are no plans to duplicate the work that happens within the community centre e.g. offering children's classes.

The draft plan is completed and soon to be forwarded to East Lothian Council and North Berwick Trust.

Questions

1. **Jackie – Commercial level of services** – how will this address inequalities and lack of opportunities for some young people who cannot afford current provision?

Jim B– Social enterprise approach to balance impact and viability. Brief is to be viable without grant support. Would need to charge for youth services for Lime Grove to operate, so Youth Project would need to generate some charging for services and identify income streams that cross subsidise. Social business approach and business plan is primarily about financial viability.

Lesley –the plan is to be more inclusive and sustainable. Youth project is committed to tackling inequality and would reimburse etc. Lesley would take steps to ensure no one felt excluded.

Kirsty – projects can still access grants including the North Berwick Trust to cover costs.

2. **Rosie – Skate park?**

Jim B/Lesley there was a consensus not to have at this site, due to practicalities, bio diversity and views. Indoor site – not good option here.

Nicky – building already there so are they committed to skate park.

Lesley Skate Park is not financially viable in this plan.

3. **Alex - £12K income streams** exercise classes, children’s parties and impact on community centre.

Jim B – Business plan linked to soft play access only not other facilities and a big and growing population in North Berwick so greater demand.

Nicky – From our point of view, this is an issue and ‘a lot of Saturdays.’ A consistent income stream.

Rosie – not affected by the Space so should be ok.

4. **Chris – location at edge of town** – not looking at weddings due to being residential area. Local residents expressed concerns.

Nicky – music – will be live music venue, like small theatres and performances, but possible concerts and an active transport policy, includes parking for 100 cars.

Jackie – Lime Grove already has a parking problem and likely to be overspill and possible options for buses or car park at Tesco’s.

5. **Jackie – all accessible and multi-sensory for multiple disabilities?** – Yes.

6. **Paul – Films?**

Jim B– Yes, will discuss with architects early on and will take income stream across. There will be compromises e.g. there won’t be a sprung- floor for dancing.

Lesley – There will be further discussion about the building and what it’s for needs to be - a flexible space that can be adapted.

7. **Why can North Berwick Trust not buy the land?**

NB Trust could buy the land but need a business plan to engage with local authority. Need for a global picture of the plan. Health forum has considered this.

8. There was a discussion about the impact of decisions and how they fit within a bigger picture e.g. discussions about the Abbey. **JG /LK** it is an opportunity to buy the land and discuss further options with the community as the idea develops.

Illustrative options:

- If NB Trust buys the land, it allows more time.

- Could link into the NBCC Town Plan, aimed at creating an inclusive vision for all North Berwick.
- Realistic and sustainable plan, not binding but a guide.

General agreement that it would be good to own the land for the community. Nicky thanked Lesley and Jim B for their hard work on behalf of the community.

Next steps – business plan needs completed by Wednesday 21st March. Discussed at Area Partnership tomorrow and Council on Wednesday.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

New website and access to classes – Alex will discuss it later with Sheila. Will link to plans for a community day (above).

RBS mandate – agreed.

Children joining East Lothian Play Scheme – possible security issues. One option is a gate for when the play scheme are in. Looking at the wooden gate as per small hall.

Gap in the railings at front of centre – We will get a quote for wire to fill the gap. Frances will email us all.

GDPR – Data protection. On the agenda for next meeting re personal data, we hold. All organisations need to issue notice of information held and intent. Information commissioner’s office website has the information and templates for all information held by everyone. By 25th May. <https://ocp/prg/il/for-organisations/>.

Child protection/Adult protection – Kirsty advised the committee that she had updated the Management Committee child protection policy and forwarded it to East Lothian Council. The committee enquired about Adult protection and Sue said that she would look into this.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 21st May 2018 at 7 pm in the community centre.