

Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) on Thursday 4th February 2021 (7.00pm) via Zoom

Present: Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Debbie Cullen (Secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Mark Cullen (MC), Ralph Glatt (RG), Heather Anderson (HA, Scottish Borders Councillor), Guest – Duncan Greig, The Southern Uplands Partnership and 6 members of the public.

01.02 WELCOME and APOLOGIES

None received.

02.02 MATTERS ARISING

Gavin thanked everyone who had helped in the organisation and delivery of the Christmas Covid bags which has received lots of positive feedback and thanks.

03.02 THE SOUTHERN UPLANDS PARTNERSHIP - Talla-Hartfell Wild Land Area

Duncan Greig, The Southern Uplands Partnership joined the meeting - Information attached.

04.02 BROADBAND

MC informed that he had received a response from Openreach regarding the problems experienced in relation to the Tweedsmuir Community Broadband Project, via David Mundell. **MC** responded with a number of factual corrections. A further response was subsequently received from Openreach. For the first time Openreach acknowledged and apologised for their poor performance with regard to the project. Openreach stated they were persuing with the Scottish Government, the possibility of prioritising Tweedsmuir within the R100 project schedule. The options for next steps were discussed.

Action:

MC to -

- draft an update for the community and windfarms – to circulate drfat to TCC members prior to next meeting
- contact Duncan Nisbit, for details of any properties within Tweedsmuir not covered by the R100 project
- check whether TCC are able to raise a complaint with Ofcom – whether our complaint regarding Openreach’s performance would meet the criteria for submission of a complaint
- continue to monitor other potential alternative (to Openreach) infrastructure providers

05.02 RESILIENT COMMUNITIES – COVID 19

Anyone within the Community requiring help or support were encouraged to contact any member of the Community Council or Lesley Kirkwood, Resilient Community Coordinator - leskirkwood@btinternet.com

06.02 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

07.02 TREASURERS REPORT

Copy attached.

08.02 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS

Tackle Bags - Application to SSE Youth Bursary for **£250** from Thomas Roper on behalf of Kids Cool Klub. **Approved.**

09.02 POLICE REPORT

Copy attached.

Local residents were reminded of the importance of reporting any concerns/ local issues by phoning 101.

10.02 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

HA reported -

- at a full meeting of Scottish Borders Council today (January 28), Councillors backed plans for a total rebuild of Peebles High School- forecast to cost £46 million.
- a review of pre-school provision is currently taking places across SBC. **HA** reported having been reassured that pupil numbers will not be the only criteria used to determine the viability of these provisions.
- SBC has received a positive settlement from the Scottish Government. Discussions are scheduled for March to finalise regarding spending plans and the allocation of the additional funding.

11.02 SBC Mainstreaming Report Consultation.

<https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/customer-communities/mainstreaming-equality-in-scottish-borders-council/>

TCC will be making a response (after the main meeting) but individuals were encouraged to make individual responses.

12.02 CROOK INN

Duncan Davidson, Chair, Tweedsmuir Community Company, updated on activity taking place on site. Work is ongoing to enable progress of the café, the first stage of the site development.

13.02 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

LM reported on -

- the work taking place on the development of the heritage database
- the development of the Tweedsmuir Community Company Website
- the interpretation signage for Logan Walk. This is being finalised and should be in place before Easter
- the work taking place to review the potential use of outside space on the Crook site. It may be possible to access funding for initiatives such as veg growing etc.
- **LM** has now completed her training as a Community Walk Leader. It is hoped to be able to develop local community walks when Covid restrictions allow.
- discussions with SBC regarding local provision of a glass recycling facility

14.02 LITTER

Litter bins and signage have now been installed at a number of locations. It was agreed that 6 x bin bag rings be purchased for use during the next community litter pick.

Action:

LM to purchase equipment and forward invoice to **BB**.

15.02 REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Thanks were expressed to all those involved in preparing for and delivering the activities which took place over the Christmas period – the Carol Concert, Santa visit and Goodie Bags and Community Walks.

16.02 WEBSITE

LM and local resident, Frances Leckie (FL) reviewed the current TCC website. The main issues appear to be –

- lack of information about the Community Councillors and how they can be contacted
- the need to review and remove outdated information

Info which could be added include recent back copies of Community News and the Service Directory.

It was also recommended that the website be migrated to a secure server.

There was a brief discussion regarding the purchase of a laptop to support the work of the TCC Secretary role.

Action:

FL to action movement of website to a secure serve

MC to progress purchase of laptop

17.02 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- The deadline for the next Community News is **15th February**. Any items for potential inclusion should be forwarded to duncandavidson@btinternet.com
- The Scottish Land Commission is holding a virtual public meeting, *Land matters because we all use and need it*, covering the Scottish Borders on **Wednesday 17th February** at 7:00 pm. There will be a short presentation on their work, followed by a Q&A session with the Commission Chair, Andrew Thin, and Land Commissioners Sally Reynolds and Lorne MacLeod. See attached flier for registration details.
- The next Tweedsmuir Talk will take place on **26th February** – details attached.

18.02 AOB

It was noted that the relatively newly painted white lines at the A701 junction are beginning to fade. To raise with SBC Councillors at the next meeting.

Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 4th March 2021 (7.00pm) Via Zoom