

**Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council, at Tweedsmuir Village hall, on Thursday,
February 4 (7.30pm)**

Present : Gavin Parker (Chairman), Cllr Lesley Mason (taking minutes), Cllr Sarah Northcott, Cllr Brian Bushell (treasurer), Cllr Kaitlyn Roper, Scottish Borders Councillor Keith Coburn and 7 members of the public.

The minutes of the council's meeting on January 7 were approved.

01.02 Apologies

Secretary Cllr Paul Greaves. The chairman wished Paul a speedy recovery

02.02 Matters Arising

(a) Companies had been sourced regarding community first aid training, Andrew Mason to obtain quotes for the next meeting

(b) Christmas party Funding - a letter had been received from Morag Roper on behalf of the Christmas party committee asking for the community council to provide an annual grant to the group. Cllr Bushell and Cllr Mason declared that they were both on this committee and would not vote. It was unanimously agreed to fund the Christmas party annually to the sum of £50.

03.02 Lamping

A letter has been forwarded to the police, Cllr Northcott stated she had not received a reply to her email to Nicola Craig, the community police officer, asking for clarification on the gun laws. Keith Coburn suggested copying Inspector Bennet into all correspondence with the police.

The chairman had spoken with Mr. McKenna, who has the stalking rights, and he is willing to come to the next meeting to clarify the situation. It was agreed that the Chairman should invite Mr. McKenna to the next meeting. It was also agreed that a representative from the police should be invited to attend the meeting to provide clarification on the gun laws.

Mrs. Kirsty Stevens had written to the community council thanking them for their support with this matter, and stating that there had been improvement in the last month.

05.02 Broadband

BT had provided a list of postcodes that would be covered by superfast broadband (appended to minutes).

It was agreed that the community council would continue to liaise with Ettrick and Beyond.

06.02 Public Transport

Broughton Community Council are hoping to receive funding for several more community buses to run to Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Tweedsmuir residents will be asked for feedback on this proposed service via the website, and asked to feedback to councillors before the next meeting.

It was suggested that to avoid unnecessary travel to Tweedsmuir by the bus, a note of preferred pick up point should be noted when tickets are purchased.

07.02 Treasurers report

No change since the last meeting

08.02 Microgrants – Windfarm grants

Infinis Windfarm fund are currently recruiting between 2 and 4 new panel members. The chairman asked if anyone was interested in this to come forward, full training will be provided.

(a) Village Hall grant for decorative lighting - Approved £195.89 (Cllr Mason and Cllr Parker did not vote due to a conflict of interest)

(b) Digby Welsh (Church Signage) - application was for too much money, on hold until next meeting.

© **SEE Application** - Andrew Mason had submitted a grant on behalf of the community council to SSE for sports/ music / arts grants for Young People within the community.

(d) Infinis Grant - Cllr Northcot was hoping to submit a grant application to Infinis by the 7th March for the Village Website. Keith Coburn agreed to be a reference for this grant.

(e) Resilient communities are going to require a storage shed - possibly funding through the Tweedale Community Grant Fund (Jean Robertson)

(f) Flood Appeal - Foundation Scotland funds, it is possible to claim up to £500 for flood damage

09.02 Resilient Communities

Tweedsmuir is now registered as a resilient community, and the council are providing us with resources, which will be delivered to the village hall. The chairman expressed his thanks to Andrew Mason and Lesley Kirkwood for their work to achieve this.

Sandbags can be collected from Peebles Fire Station should any individual need some.

10.02 Communication/Website

Cllr Northcott reported that quotes to develop the website had gone out to tender, with a deadline to reply of the 24th February. This should allow submission of a grant to Infinis by the 7th March.

11.02 Police Report

The Chairman read the report that had been provided by the community police officer (attached)

12.02 Scottish Borders Councillor's report

Councillor Coburn reported that there had been a lot of budget meetings at the council, and also a number of meetings relating to the recent flooding.

Mr. Rod Sibbald asked Cllr Coburn to clarify the 130 redundancies that had been announced at SBC. Cllr Coburn indicated that the majority of these would occur through voluntary redundancies and natural wastage.

Cllr Coburn discussed the function of the Scrutiny Panel, and Cllr Bushell asked if this would be the correct forum to ask for an investigation into the costs of Carlouse Bridge repairs. Cllr Cockburn advised that this matter should be taken to the scrutiny panel.

Area Forum : 2nd March 6.30 at Rosetta Road Peebles, to discuss the recent flooding. There will be a discussion on the policy and co-ordination of the flood plan in Tweedale, and all the relevant agencies will be present. Cllr Coburn recommended that all interested individuals attended.

13.02 Crook Inn

Mr. Duncan Davidson reported that they Tweedsmuir Community Company were still waiting to hear from their recent grant applications to The Scottish Government and The Big Lottery

14.02 Any Other Business

(a) Change of Meeting date – The May Community Council meeting will be changed to the 12th May.

(b)Fruid Road .Samantha and Bill Billingham, new residents at Fruid, commented on the terrible state of repair of the Fruid road, with huge pot holes, that posed a significant danger. Cllr Coburn agreed to pass this information on to Mr. Jason Headly

© **Broughton Primary School** Cllr Mason informed the meeting, that at the last Parent Council Meeting, Donna Mansen had indicated that a new management structure for the school was being reviewed and would be laid out by April of this year. She noted that the school was in need of significant input to bring it up to standard.

(d) Wool from the Hills – Diary Date – Friday 18th March, 7 for 7.30 (£10 ticket) including 3 course meal. Evenings entertainment provided by Well Road Productions.

The next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council is at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on March 3, 2016, 7.30pm