**Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council, at Tweedsmuir
Village Hall, on Thursday, 7 June  2018 (7.30pm)**

**Present:  Gavin Parker (GP, chairman),  Brian Bushell, (BB, treasurer and vice chairman, Paul Greaves (PG, secretary),  Lesley Kirkwood (LK), Lesley Mason (LM), Ralph Glatt (RG). Duncan Davidson (DD, chairman, Tweedsmuir Community Company) and 4 members of the public.**

**The minutes of the council’s meeting on 5 May  were approved**

**01.06 APOLOGIES**

Eric Small ( Scottish Borders Councillor),  Heather Anderson (Scottish Borders Councillor), Kris Chapman (Scottish Borders Councillor)**,** Nicola Craig (police representative), Mark Cullen (Tweedsmuir Community Council)

**02.06  MATTERS ARISING**

None

**03.06 RENEWABLE SCHEME FOR TWEEDSMUIR**

Tweedsmuir resident Simon Goldfinch accompanied by colleague Dr Tom Grassie, a senior lecturer in renewable energy  at Napier University, gave a presentation on the possible renewable power schemes suitable for the village. A copy of the  presentation is attached.

GP thanked both Simon and Dr Grassie  for their attendance, and the meeting expressed interest in continuing with this research. It was suggested that windfarm monies could be applied for to help with the project, and PG agreed to contact Simon to discuss a way forward.

**04.06 BROADBAND**

PG reported that an extremely useful meeting had been held with Steve Johnstone, of BT, with regard to the superfast scheme set for Tweedsmuir. GP, who had attended the meeting, said the project was now very much do-able, and councillors agreed that the way forward should be to send out a letter to all residents, inviting them to a public meeting at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Friday, 29 June (7:30pm). PG said that the broadband committee would meet shortly to make arrangements. It was also agreed that a £100 microgrant should be sought by the TCC to fund light refreshments at the meeting.

**05.06 PURCHASE OF SNOW BLOWER**

PG reported that he had forwarded on Simon Goldfinch’s credentials as a possible trainer  in the use of the snow blower to the insurers, but was awaiting a response. PG added that a site for a new grit bin along Kirk Road had now been identified, and that he would contact SBC to decide on the way forward.

**06.06 STATE OF THE ROADS**

GP reported that all of the potholes on the village roads had now been repaired and thanked SBC for undertaking this work. LM added that the flooding problem along the Talla Road had also been addressed, but that the poor drainage along the road to Carlowse Bridge had still to be rectified.

LK reported that there was erosion occuring underneath the A701, opposite the entrance to Oliver House, which, given the heavy haulage using the road, posed a potential danger. PG promised to bring this matter to the attention of SBC.

**07.06 SOURCE OF THE TWEED MONUMENT**

On Friday 4 May, a meeting was held at the monument with  Mr David Younger, Tweedsmuir CC representatives Paul Greaves and Brian Bushell,  SBC councillor Heather Anderson and SBC official Elaine Nicol. The meeting had been called by Mr Younger, who has become increasingly concerned about the state of the monument. At the meeting there was much discussion about the cleaning of it and undertaking basic maintenance round the site to cut back overgrown vegetation etc, and Councillor Anderson asked whether the community council would be prepared to take on this project, given its access to windfarm monies. PG said that it was unclear who owned the site, and GP added that his understanding was that the TCC would have to take on ownership in order to apply for windfarm grants. Councillors agreed that they would be willing to take on the cleaning of the monument, but that SBC would probably be more suitable to take on any development at the site. PG said he would pass on the TCC’s comments to councillor Anderson.

**08.06 COMMUNITY PLAN**

GP said most of the items in the plan were now being progressed.

**09.06 CROSSROADS DEVELOPMENT**

GP reported that a meeting was due to be arranged with the landowner to move the project on.

**10.06 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None

**11.06 MICROGRANT  APPLICATIONS**

None

**12.06 POLICE REPORT**

On May 13, a motorcyclist was fatally injured on the A701 near Tweedshaws.

No rural thefts reported.

**13.06 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

No councillor was in attendance

**14.06 CROOK INN**

DD reported that architects were in discussion with the SBC’s planning department regarding the new development of a cafe and bunkhouse at the site, and that a planning application would be submitted shortly. DD added that a grant had been obtained to finance a company to help with funding applications and monies were also now available for a project manager, working two days a week.

**15.06 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Database:** PG reported that, under new data regulations, the TCC was obliged to contact each household on the database, giving residents the opportunity to be removed from it, should they so wish. PG said this must be done every year. The meeting agreed PG should send out an email to the database as soon as possible, and that this should be done every year just before the annual meeting.

**Glenkerie windfarm:** LM said two more members were needed for the windfarm panel, with organisers hoping to attract young people to join as well as being keen that Tweedsmuir should add to its representation.

**Talla Linns:** Drains on the side of the road, which had been cleared by a local resident in the past, were now blocked again. GP said this would be reported to SBC

**Rubbish:** PG said that some of the rubbish from the recent litter pick-up had still to be collected from the crossroads. PG agreed to contact SBC about this.

**Treasurer’s Report:**The Treasurer informed the meeting that the 2107/18 Accounts had passed inspection by the Independent Examiner, Katie Miller and had been submitted and approved by SBC.

The expenditure for the 1st Quarter ending 31st of June is as follows:-

£500.00p - 2 applications of £250 each to the SSE Youth bursary

£17.99p - internet host fees

£170.40p  - installation of one de-fib.cabinet at the village hall

£26.50p – bin bags, gloves etc for annual clean-up exercise

£714.89p TOTAL

At the next meeting in August a table will be submitted showing expenditure v allocation for the entire budget.

**The next meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council will be held on
Thursday, 2  August, 2018 (7:30pm). Please note there is no meeting in Jul**