

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (CC) at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Ralph Glatt (RG), Mark Cullen (MC), Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor) and 5 members of the public.

The minutes of the last council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were approved.

### **01.08 APOLOGIES**

Paul Greaves (Secretary), Lesley Mason (Community Councillor), Heather Anderson (Scottish Borders Council), Nicola Craig (Police representative).

### **02.08 MATTERS ARISING**

None.

### **03.08 BROADBAND**

**MC** reported on recent correspondence with the representative from BT Openreach (BTO). BTO have re-submitted the Gigabit voucher applications to the Department of Media, Culture and Science. There is reportedly a 4 week delay in processing vouchers. Paul Graves has recently received a copy of the master spreadsheet listing the list of properties included in the submission. This will be validated by the Broadband Committee. Any residents new to the community will be contacted to ensure they are aware of the project and given the opportunity to participate in the Gigabit scheme.

BTO have yet to provide a confirmed contract price. However, assuming the contract price is relatively unchanged, the increased value of the Gigabit scheme will now require that the balance of the monies due to BTO will need to be paid at the outset. In order to minimise any future delays, it was agreed that SSE should now be approached for their contribution. This would ensure the funds can be transferred from the Tweedsmuir Community Company account to BTO when contract is signed. **MC** to forward bank details for the Tweedsmuir Community Company to **BB**. **BB** will then contact SSE regarding the transfer of funds.

Self dig – The agreement of all landowners affected has been obtained. A meeting between the landowners and BTO to be scheduled. Work on the self-dig tender document ongoing.

Christine Parker (CP), local resident, raised the issue of a potential increase in insurance premiums for the Tweedsmuir Community Company to cover the self-dig. This will need to be covered by the project.

### **04.08 VE DAY CELEBRATIONS**

A suggestion had been received from colleagues in Broughton for a joint initiative /activities to celebrate VE Day on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020. It was felt this would be worthwhile. **GP** to liaise with Broughton and set up a joint meeting to discuss.

### **05.08 CHRISTINE GRAHAME VISIT**

Christine Grahame (CG, MSP) has extended the offer of a visit to the community. **PG** to contact **CG** regarding her availability. Once details of the visit are confirmed members of the community to forward issues of interest/concern.

## 06.06 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

One application had been received.

**Ref 19/00946/FUL** *Outbuildings Hearthstones Steading*

*Change of use from outbuilding and alterations and extension to form holiday accommodation.*

## 07.06 TREASURERS REPORT

**BB** reported that after some delay, monies have been received from Ventient (Glenkerie). Monies for micro-grants are still awaited from S.S.E.

**BB** provided an update on the CC's financial position, summarised below.

### Transactions for the period 1/4/2019 – 31/7/2019

|  | £        |
|--|----------|
| Carried forward from previous financial year | 1,046.62 |

#### Income since 1/4/2019

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| SBC grant                        | 540.00          |
| SBC hall hire                    | 280.00          |
| Ventient (Glenkerie) micro-grant | 1,820.00        |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>2,866.62</b> |

#### Expenditure since 1/4/2019

|                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Printer toner (SBC)                 | 42.69           |
| Web-site hosting (SBC)              | 17.99           |
| S.S.E Snow blower shed and training | 400.00          |
| S.S.E micro-grant for football kit  | 250.00          |
| S.S.E micro-grant for book club     | 250.00          |
| S.S.E Youth bursary - Mason         | 250.00          |
| S.S.E. Youth bursary – Mason        | 250.00          |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>1,460.68</b> |

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Balance</b> | <b>1,405.94</b> |
|----------------|-----------------|

### Transactions since 31/7/2019

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Income from S.S.E. Youth bursary grant   | 2,500.00 |
| Expenditure S.S.E. Youth bursary - White | 245.00   |

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Revised balance</b> | <b>3,660.94</b> |
|------------------------|-----------------|

## 08.08 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS

None received.

## 09.08 POLICE REPORT

No report had been received. **GP** to follow-up as a report has not been received for several months. **ES** reported that reports had not been received by any Community Councils across Tweeddale and he undertook to raise this issue at the next Local Area Forum meeting.

**BB** reported that the sign at Fruid Reservoir had been stolen during the past few weeks. It wasn't known whether Scottish Water had reported the theft to the police. Further break-ins at the Crook Inn where also reported.

## 10.08 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

**ES** reminded residents that Merlindale Bridge will be closed at the beginning of September. As there will be no bus service, taxi services will be provided for school children. **ES** to forward further details as soon as he receives them.

**CP** offered to post any new information on the Tweedsmuir Community Facebook Page.

**BB** expressed his thanks to SBC for progressing the final stages of the local resurfacing work on the A701. **GP** to send a formal letter of thanks to SBC.

#### **11.08 CROOK INN**

Duncan Davidson local resident, was pleased to report that the grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund had been successful. The grant will support a range of initiatives to develop and promote the local area - 'Destination Tweedsmuir'. This will support not only the potential development of the Crook but also, by bringing people to the area, support other local activities/businesses. A meeting will now be organised to decide upon next steps and how best to harness the expertise and interests of as many local people as possible.

**ES** confirmed that a grant application by Tweedsmuir Community Company, to support this initiative, is being considered at the forthcoming August Partnership Board meeting.

#### **12.08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- It was noted that new tenants/owners for the Laurel Tearooms in Broughton are being sought.
- Residents were reminded about the road closures associated with the Tour O the Borders cycle event on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Information has been circulated to residents, copy attached.
- Christine Parker confirmed that Bananas Pre-school Provision will close on 10/10/19. It remains unclear what arrangements are being made, by SBC, for pre-school children in the area after this date.
- Eastgate Theater has offered an outreach event for community in the autumn. Christine Parker to liaise with Theatre regarding possible dates in October/November.
- **BB** requested an update on the outcomes of the meeting attended by **GP** in June regarding community decision making and governance.

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will  
take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at the  
Village Hall at 7.30pm**