

Tweedsmuir Community Council

Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) on Thursday 2nd September 2021 (7.00pm), Tweedsmuir Village Hall and 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) Guests – Carlota Souto, Mark Hamilton Landscape Services and Charlotte Cavey-Wilcox, Scottish Woodlands and David Telford, Telford's Forestry and 11 members of the public

01.09 WELCOME and APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Eric Small, Scottish Borders Councillor.

02.09 MATTERS ARISING

Correction to August meeting minutes. Heather Anderson, Scottish Borders Councillor, raised the issue of access at Hillhouse. A member of the public raised concerns about the recent crossing of Talla Water by a Forestry vehicle and queried whether this had been necessary due to problems with access to the forestry track. **RG** reported that the vehicle had crossed Talla Water as it was too large to navigate the forestry track, not because of any access issues at Hillhouse.

03.09 SCOPING PROPOSALS - OLIVER FIELD

Carlota Souto outlined the current proposals and the consultation process (presentation attached). A discussion then took place during which various issues were raised.

- The consultation process. At least one member of the community, directly affected by the proposed planting, reported not having received any information from the planners regarding the proposal.
- Scottish Woodlands informed that all written responses to the consultation would be forwarded to Forestry Commission Scotland (questionnaire attached).
- The Hydrology Report. Several residents expressed concerns about the potential impact of the proposed planting on their water supply. It was noted that the supply is already vulnerable, a situation that could be exacerbated by the proposed planting. Particular concern was expressed re: the apparent failure of the hydrology report to take into consideration the effect of future climate change upon water availability. Scottish Woodlands acknowledged that the impact of climate change should be factored into this report and undertook to ensure this work was undertaken.
- The wider impact of forestry activity. This includes the negative impact on the local transport infrastructure, contribution to traffic noise and visual impact in the absence of any community benefit.
- GP reported that following the last TCC meeting, letters had been written to -
 - Mairi McAllen, MSP - Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform (including forestry) outlining TCC's concerns re: Forestry planting plans
 - The mandatory consultees for forestry planning, requesting information about the criteria used to approve/reject forestry planning applications.

Action:

- Scottish Woodlands to revisit the hydrology report as outlined above.
- A group to be formed to make a response to the Oliver Field consultation. The first meeting of this group will take place on Friday 10th September at 7pm in the Village Hall. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact **GP** by phone 07731896531 or email gavinparkerpolmood@gmail.com
- Responses received from NatureScot and Historic Environment Scotland, to letters sent following last TCC meeting to be circulated with the minutes.

04.09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

05.09 TREASURER'S REPORT

Copy attached.

06.09 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS

- Tweedsmuir Community Company, Community Coffee Morning – Application to Ventient Microgrant for £250 from Lesley Mason. **Approved.**
- Tweedsmuir Gardening Group - Application to SSE Microgrant for £250 from Phillip Blissett. **Approved.**

07.09 POLICE REPORT

Copy of August's report attached. **DC** reported that there was a possibility that a Police representative may attend the October meeting.

08.09 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report available as Councillors not present.

09.09 CROOK INN

Duncan Davidson, Chair, Tweedsmuir Community Company reported on the progress being made with the Wee Crook.

10.09 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

LM reported on -

- the interpretation boards due to be erected shortly
- the significant amount of work that has taken place in the garden
- the progress in development of the online eco museum

11.09 CONSULTATIONS

- Social Care reform – <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-care-service-scotland-consultation/> The consultation closes on the 18th of October 2021
- Planting at Meggethead – info attached
- Planting plan for Hopekist – copy attached
- Greyside Windfarm Development – www.graysidewindfarm.co.uk

12.09 WATER SAFETY

Lesley Kirkwood (**LK**), Lead - Resilient Communities, noted the increase in water based activities taking place locally and drew attention to information available to help individuals access water based activities safely. Link to resources –

<https://rnli.org/safety/respect-the-water/floating-facts>

<https://rnli.org/video-player/D98BB773-9556-4A0D-8AA8D2790D512E64>

<https://youtu.be/AA6P3EuR1w8>

<https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/-/media/ScottishWater/Document-Hub/Factsheets-and-Leaflets/Leaflets/120620SWOutdoorAccess2020v2AWlorespages.pdf>

13.09 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Community Coffee Morning – Date for rescheduled event to follow.
- Macmillan Coffee Morning – Saturday 25th September in Tweedsmuir Village Hall 10am -12pm.
- Autumn programme for Tweedsmuir Gardening Group to follow

14.08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

RG reported that Deer Stalking will resume shortly. The red flags and padlocks on the signs will be in place to make walkers and bikers aware of ongoing deer management.

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on
Thursday 7th October 2021 (7.00pm) Tweedsmuir Village Hall
& Via Zoom**

WWW.TWEEDSMUIRCOMMUNITYCOUNCIL.ORG.UK **CONTACT:** DEBBIE.CULLEN@ME.COM

Chair: Gavin Parker Treasurer: Brian Bushell Secretary: Debbie Cullen

Other Councillors: Lesley Mason; Mark Cullen; Ralph Glatt;

Resilient Communities contact Lesley Kirkwood