

Tweedsmuir Community Council

Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) on Thursday 3rd February 2022 (7.00pm), Tweedsmuir Village Hall and via Zoom

Present: Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (Treasurer and Vice Chair), Debbie Cullen (Secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Mark Cullen (MC), Ralph Glatt (RG) Eric Small, (Scottish Borders Councillor) and 7 members of the public

01.02 WELCOME and APOLOGIES

None received.

02.02 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Accepted as correct.

03.02 MATTERS ARISING

None not covered in the agenda.

04.02 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A pre-application consultation letter and proposed plans for a telecommunications radio base station for the Shared Rural Network project on behalf of Three, at a site on the Silver Jubilee Way has been received. Details attached.

05.02 TREASURERS REPORT

Copy attached.

Action:

LM to -

- contact Lesley Kirkwood, Resilient Community Lead re: costs associated with maintenance of defibrillators and to feedback to **BB**
- contact Mr. and Mrs. Rees re: donation towards costs of electricity for charging of the defibrillator (**LM** subsequently confirmed sum to be £30)
- inform Doug Roper of the need to submit an invoice to **BB** for the cost of the replacement noticeboard for the Crossroads

06.02 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS

- **Materials and equipment to facilitate tree planting in the Community Garden** – Application to the Ventient Windfarm Microgrant Fund for £220 from Frances Leckie. **Approved.**
- **Funding to support community groups to cover costs of Village Hall hire**
- (modification of previous grant application)- Application to the Ventient Windfarm Microgrant Fund for £250 from Lesley Mason. **Approved.**
- **Support for participation in gymnastics** – Application to Ventient Windfarm Microgrant Fund for £250 from Faye Hewitson.

Action:

- **GP** to inform Faye of the need to resubmit her application using the SSE Youth Bursary form for consideration at March meeting.

LM reported on an application submitted to SSE Windfarm fund for £10,950 to Review and Update Tweedsmuir's Community Plan.

MC reported on an application submitted to Ventient Windfarm fund for £9786 to support Community Fire Safety Improvement.

LM that an application had been made by the Village Hall Committee to cover the cost of roof repairs and the installation of solar panels.

BB reported having been contacted in his capacity as Panel member for the SSE Windfarm seeking his views on a potential funding proposal. With the agreement of the Windfarm, **BB** outlined a potential proposal to make funding available (outwith the usual grant application process) to all 3 Upper Tweed Community Councils to support the Review/development of a Community Plan and possibly subsequent implementation. Following discussion, it was felt that although clarification would be sought on a number of issues the Community councillors felt this would be a very positive initiative.

Action:

- **BB** to feedback comments to SSE.

GP reported on an initial meeting he, along with **MC**, had recently attended regarding the establishment of an Endowment Fund, to maximise the benefits for the SSE Windfarm Fund. Representatives from Skirling and Upper Tweed Community Councils were also in attendance. One of the main issues discussed was the need to ensure the facility to withdraw as well as deposit monies into the Fund.

07.02 POLICE REPORT

Reports for Dec 2021 and Jan 2022 attached (There are no stats associated with December's report).

08.02 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

ES reported that discussion re: budget setting is ongoing. Much other business has been suspended due to the forthcoming elections.

09.02 CROOK INN

LM reported that -

- the contractors work on the garden site is nearing completion and a programme of gardening activities is being planned
- work on the Wee Crook is progressing virtually on schedule, there is however, an issue with completing the power connection due to a shortage of key components

10.02 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

LM reported that -

- the Ecomuseum was launched on the 10th December 2021. There are now over 530 entries in the system
- the Logan Walk was opened in December 2021
- interpretation boards have been erected at the opening of the Logan Walk and the Kirk
- the walk from the Crossroads through the planted area has been completed
- 'You are here' notice boards and paper maps are in the pipeline
- planning is underway for an outdoor musical event, in conjunction with Eastgate Theater, on 6th August 2022
- a grant for £45k has been secured to support work in the Community Garden funding equipment, a composter, sheds etc.

LM has received an approach from South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) to participate in a series of pilot workshops looking at understanding and measuring the social value of investing in place (e.g. a village/area/community. Information including the dates for the sessions is attached). Ideally, 8 members of the community are needed to take part in 3 facilitated workshops.

The Information gathered would Inform S'SE regarding the potential value of such workshops and provide the community with useful information prior to the review of the Community Plan. Anyone who interested in taking part should contact Lesley Mason - lesleymtwedsmuir@icloud.com

11.02 CONSULTATIONS

Scottish Borders Council is asking Borderers for feedback to help determine if a number of trial traffic measures introduced over the COVID-19 pandemic should be made permanent. The 40mph speed limit trial survey can be found online at <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/40mphconsultation> A separate public survey for Caddonfoot Road can be accessed here <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/caddonfootroadconsultation>

12.02 CONDITION OF TALLA ROAD & FORESTRY TRAFFIC

GP reported having received a number of complaints regarding the road conditions at the entrance to the Forestry track on the Talla Road and disturbance associated with the noise of haulage vehicles accessing the track before 6am.

RG reported –

- having contacted SBC regarding a blocked drain which is contributing to the standing water
- that periodic sweeping of the road has been undertaken
- the contractors had been contacted regarding concerns associated with vehicles accessing the track before 6am

Residents are reminded of the importance of reporting any issues re: road conditions to SBC and SBC Environmental Health services regarding noise nuisance.

13.02 INFO RE: SBC DOG EDUCATION OFFICER

DC reported the CC had been contacted by Rose Hogg, SBC Dog Education Officer. The aim of her position is to promote responsible dog ownership and Ms Hogg outlined a number of activities she could offer the community including conducting poo surveys, providing advice on dog fouling complaints and enforcement and running sessions promoting responsible dog ownership.

Following issues with dog fouling in the vicinity of the Kirk in December 2021 it was agreed that a community bin would be placed in Church Lane to encourage responsible disposal of rubbish, primarily dog waste. Local resident Caroline Mathias volunteered to empty the bin.

Ms hogg can be contacted at Email- Rose.Hogg@scotborders.gov.uk

Action:

- **MC** to erect waste bin
- **DC** to contact Ms Hogg on behalf of TCC regarding any other suggestions for reducing dog fouling.

14.02 FLORAL GATEWAY AWARDS PROPOSAL & WILDFLOWER CONSULTATION

Information attached.

15.12 DATE/VENUE FOR TCC AGM

The next AGM is due to take place on 5th May '22. The Village Hall will, however, be in use as a Polling Station. A decision regarding the date/venue for this meeting was deferred until the next meeting.

16.12 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **13th February 10am – 2pm: Bird & Bat box building** at the Village Hall. Boxes to be erected in the Community Garden. Places still available, contact **LM** if interested.

- **18th February 2022: Tweedsmuir Talks** Vicki Davidson, Development Officer from Ettrick & Yarrow will be talking about their Steading Development
- **3rd March 2022: Scotts Night** (Postponed from January) Details attached.

17.02 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **DC** reported having received a copy of the Patient Group Meeting Minutes from Biggar Medical Practice (copy attached). A number of those present expressed concerns about ongoing issues in relation to accessing appointment at the Medical Practice. However, some positive experiences were also reported. It was agreed that TCC should again contact the Practice expressing concerns about issues of access and also request an indication as to when processes for forward booking of appointments might be reinstated. If anyone has recently experienced any specific issues with accessing service at the Medical Practice, which they would like to be raised (without sharing medical or personal information) please email **DC**.
- Action:**
- **DC** to draft a letter to the practice outlining the concerns of residents.
 - Road closure – B7016 Burnetland – west of Broughton, 2nd March 2022 for 1 day – between the hours of 9:30 and 15:30
 - SBC Engagement Tour – details attached.
 - Some funding is available to support the celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee. If you have any thoughts or ideas about we could celebrate in Tweedsmuir, please let one of the councillors know and they can be discussed at the March meeting

**The next meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on
Thursday 3rd March 2022 (7.00pm) Tweedsmuir Village Hall
& Via Zoom**

Any potential agenda items can be forwarded to –
Tweedsmuirsecretary@outlook.com

WWW.TWEEDSMUIRCOMMUNITYCOUNCIL.ORG.UK **CONTACT:** TWEEDSMUIRSECRETARY@OUTLOOK.COM

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

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

Resilient Communities contact Lesley Kirkwood