

2019 Minutes

# TWEEDSMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

This document included the minutes from the following list of meetings

- Feb 2019
- March 2019
- April 2019
- May 2019
- June 2019
- August 2019
- Sept 2019
- October 2019
- November 2019
- December 2019

**Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council, at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday, 7 February, 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, treasurer and vice chairman), Paul Greaves (PG, secretary), Mark Cullen (MC), Lesley Mason (LM), Lesley Kirkwood (LK), Heather Anderson (HA, Scottish Borders Councillor), Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor), Duncan Davidson (DD, chairman of Tweedsmuir Community Company), and 3 members of the public.

**The minutes of the council's meeting on 6 December were approved 01.02**  
**APOLOGIES**

Community councillor Ralph Glatt and police representative Nicola Craig

**02.02 MATTERS ARISING**

**Snowblower:** PG informed the meeting that the snowblower had now arrived and training would be arranged shortly.

**Signage:** ES said £325 had been allocated from Scottish Borders Council's small grant scheme for the erection of take-your-litter-home signage at the Source of the Tweed monument on the A701 as per the suggestion of community councillor Lesley Mason last year.

**03.02 BROADBAND**

PG said the application to Glenkerie for £69,000 had now been submitted and the broadband committee had since undergone a question-and-answer session with Foundation Scotland, who run the scheme for Glenkerie. Foundation Scotland was expected to give a recommendation to the local panel at the end of February before the panel meets on 13 March for a decision.

It was decided to send out brief newsletter to the community council's database to bring everyone up to date with the latest developments.

**04.02 CHANGE WORKS**

PG apologised for not contacting Change Works to see if a public meeting could be arranged in Tweedsmuir as per the December meeting, and said he would contact them shortly.

**05.02 BUS SERVICE**

GP reported Tweedsmuir Community Council had sent a letter (see below) to Scottish Borders Council (SBC), supporting Upper Tweed Community Council's bid for an allocation of £300,000 from the SBC budget towards providing a better bus service in the Upper Tweed area.

*Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing on behalf of Tweedsmuir Community Council to support Upper Tweed Community Council's request that consideration be given to the allocation of £300,000 in 2019/20 and subsequent years to finance those areas at present "public transport deprived." We offer our support for the following reasons:*

*1 Tweedsmuir, just 35 miles from a capital city, has **NO** public transport provision at all. Residents expressed their dissatisfaction with this state of affairs most forcibly when the*

*community council canvassed views for its community plan, and introducing some sort of transport provision to the village is high on the council's list of aims.*

*2 Although the UTTC's request is to improve services in Broughton, any improvement there would be of immense benefit to Tweedsmuir residents, who we are sure would travel the six miles to Broughton to make any bus connection. TCC, therefore, would welcome any pilot schemes, as identified in the UTTC letter, and feel sure they would be well used by residents of both Broughton and Tweedsmuir.*

*3 Any additional bus services would encourage tourism and help regenerate an area that has witnessed steady decline over the past 20 years, with the closure of Broughton village shop the most recent example of a distressing trend.*

*It is high time that the present deplorable lack of public transport is tackled, and we would urge the budget team to support the allocation of £300,000, as requested by UTCC, for an improvement that would have real and tangible benefits for the communities of the Upper Tweed valley.*

## **06.02 STATE OF THE A701**

Resident Rod Sibbald said he regularly travelled on the A701 to Moffat and complained that the road had deteriorated to such an extent that it was now in a dangerous condition and required urgent repair. He said drivers often drove in the middle of the road to avoid the potholes at the edges and that along large parts of the roadway there were no white lines at all.

ES said residents should complain as individuals by using the SBC website as per the link below:

[https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/site/xfp/scripts/xforms\\_form.php?formID=297&language=en](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/site/xfp/scripts/xforms_form.php?formID=297&language=en)

PG also agreed to contact SBC with a formal complaint.

## **07.02 CROSSROADS DEVELOPMENT**

GP said this would be developed once the broadband scheme had gone through the windfarm funding scheme.

## **08.02 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

**Ballet lessons:** Application to SSE youth bursary scheme for £200 for ballet lessons for Carla Kotze - **Approved.**

**Horse riding:** Application to SSE youth bursary scheme for £250 for horse riding lessons for Christian Kotze - **Approved.**

**Dyslexia support:** Application from Nicola Kotze to SSE for £250 for course to teach dyslexia support - **Approved.**

**Laptop purchase:** Application to SSE youth bursary for purchase of laptop for Aidan Kotze - Declined pending further discussion/clarification

## **09.02 POLICE REPORT**

### **Rural Thefts**

Between 1410 and 1730 hours on 31st October a red Honda Quad bike was stolen from a shed at Tweedshaws Farm. On 21st November a report was received that the Crook Inn had been broken into and a quantity of copper and lead stole.

### **Speeding/Road Traffic**

There have been no reports of speeding or accidents since your meeting in November meeting. Road Policing Officers and the Safety Camera Partnership along with local officers continue to give attention to the A701.

### **Incidents of Note**

Between 5th and 7th January a unit at Mossfennan Lodge was broken into and attempts made to steal a generator battery. A £1000 worth of damage was caused.

Between 30th December 2018 and 26th January 2019 a quantity of power tools were stolen from Broughton Knowe.

### **10.02 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

HA reported that the budget process at SBC was now well underway, with the budget due to be decided on 25 February. She added that SBC had also initiated planning to cope with a no-deal Brexit.

ES reported that the council had voted in favour of dialogue with Midlothian council with regard to improvements at the Leadburn junction, near Penicuik. Although the junction was in Midlothian, the number of people using it from the SBC area was significant and, therefore, made it imperative that improvements be carried out there.

ES also reported that the Dreva Road, Broughton, would be closed for drainage repairs on 25 February.

### **11.02 CROOK INN**

DD said that the work of groups set up to look into ways of marketing the area and the Crook was ongoing, with an emphasis on ideas for walking, cycling, heritage, landscape and business aspects of running the planned bunkhouse and cafe. Bruce Clarke, the new project officer for the Crook, had asked whether the community council database could be used to disseminate information about the project. Councillors agreed that, once approved at a monthly meeting, an attachment could be included with the minutes, which would give residents the option of not opening the attachment if they so wished.

### **12.02 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Sports equipment:** LM asked whether the council would support a project to buy sports equipment for the community and the purchase of a new storage unit to house the equipment. Councillors agreed that this sounded a good idea and agreed it should be developed.

**Dog fouling:** Resident Rod Sibbald said there had been a number of incidents of dog fouling in Kirk Road from the crossroads down to the church. Mr Sibbald agreed to purchase signage to ask dog owners to clear up any mess, with the council reimbursing Mr Sibbald for the cost. **Tree planting:** Mr Sibbald applauded the planting of hundreds of trees in the village recently. He had been told by one of the planting team that this had been paid for out of the forestry owner's own pocket and that the trees would, when mature, offer an array of autumn colour. PG agreed to contact the forestry owner/agents to thank them.

**Next meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council will be held on 7 March at the village hall (7:30pm)**

**Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council, at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday, 7 March, 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, treasurer and vice chairman), Paul Greaves (PG, secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Heather Anderson (HA, Scottish Borders Councillor), Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor), and 3 members of the public.

**The minutes of the council's meeting on 7 February were approved**

**01.03 APOLOGIES**

Community councillors Ralph Glatt, Lesley Kirkwood and Mark Cullen and police representative Nicola Craig

**02.03 MATTERS ARISING**

**Source of the Tweed:** ES reported that monies to fund signage at the Source of the Tweed site had been approved by Scottish Borders Council. The signs will advise visitors to pick up their litter and take it home with them.

**Signage:** It was reported that dog-fouling signs had now been put up along Kirk Road by resident Rod Sibbald.

**03.03 BROADBAND**

PG said the application to Glenkerie for £69,000 was due to be considered by the local panel on Wednesday, March 13. If successful, this would be the final piece of the jigsaw and it was hoped work on the Community Fibre Partnership project would begin in the summer.

**04.03 CHANGE WORKS**

It was decided to ask Change Works if they would like to attend the community council meeting in April to give a short presentation. Change Works are a charity who advise on how to properly insulate your home, and have opened a branch in Peebles.

**05.03 ANNUAL MEETING**

With the council now four years old, BB reported that councillors would have to stand down at the annual meeting in May and that the community would need to be canvassed to see if any

resident would like to join the council. If there were more than six nominations, an election would be needed. BB said he would contact SBC for guidance on how to carry this forward.

**06.03 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None

**07.03 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

None

### **08.03 POLICE REPORT**

**Rural Thefts:** No thefts reported.

**Speeding/Road Traffic:** No reports of speeding or accidents.

### **09.03 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**

ES reported that, as part of the budget recently approved by SBC, a rollout of Apple ipads to all schoolchildren in SBC area would commence in the coming months. The budget also included provision to employ six extra police officers and a sergeant - costing £280,000 - for the Borders area.

HA thought ipads were a great idea but the opposition had suggested a pilot scheme first and worried that not enough preparation would be done before the scheme's roll-out.

**Source of the Tweed:** HA said she was now aware that the monument was part of the Borderlands project, From Source to the Sea. This is a second attempt to get the project off the ground after an application to the Big Lottery for funds had been rejected three years ago.. **Buses:** The opposition budget proposals suggested there should be no cuts to the bus budget until a complete review of the service had been undertaken. HA reported that the taxi pilot scheme at West Linton, introduced after a £100,000 cut to the 101 bus service to Edinburgh, had been a success, with an increasing number of people using it. ES said the idea could be used in areas like Tweedsmuir, with HA adding that it would be real waste of money if SBC do not build on the pilot scheme. SBC is due to hold a rural transport conference in June when TCC will be invited.

### **10.03 CROOK INN**

Planning application to SBC for the new cafe and bunkhouse is waiting for a bat survey to be completed.

### **11.03 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Litter pick:** Councillors decided that better signage was needed to protect volunteers during the litter pick. One option would be to borrow the signs from the SBC. ES said he would contact SBC re the signage. Dates for the pick: 30-31 March to 6-7 April.

**Thank you:** BB reported that he had received a letter from resident John Burnham, thanking the community council for the microgrant he used to purchase equipment for his mountain rescue duties.

**Water supply:** GP said that estimates had now been received to connect the village hall and Crook Inn to the main water supply.

**Minute secretary:** Resident Debbie Cullen volunteered to take on the duties of minute secretary for the duration of the superfast broadband project.

**Next meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council will be held on 4 April at the village hall (7:30pm)**

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Paul Greaves (PG, Secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Lesley Kirkwood (LK), Ralph Glatt (RG), Mark Cullen (MC), Heather Anderson (HA, Scottish Borders Councillor), Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor) and Morag Coburn (MC) representative from Change Works and 9 members of the public.

The minutes of the last council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March were approved.

### **01.04 APOLOGIES**

Police representative Nicola Craig.

### **02.04 MATTERS ARISING**

None.

### **03.04 CHANGE WORKS**

The Meeting commenced with a presentation by Morag Coburn from Change Matters, working from their hub on the High Street in Peebles.

MC outlined the work of Change Works. It's aim is to provide practical advice and support for householders and businesses to reduce their energy consumption and energy costs. Examples of the services they provide include supporting individuals to compare their bills and where appropriate switch energy provider, advising on renewable options and providing lists of contractors to carry out energy efficiency measures. Energy saving devices are available on loan from the hub and there will soon be the opportunity to trial an e-bike for free.

MC encouraged local residents to visit the hub in Peebles and/or sign up for the Change Works newsletter which provides information and advice to help save energy, cut fuel bills and reduce your carbon footprint.

Christine Parker, local resident asked if Change Works could advise regarding possible insulation measures for the Village Hall. MC to forward contact details for the team who could assist.

HA enquired about the learning points from the project. MC provided numerous examples and undertook to provide HA with the evaluation report when available.

### **04.04 BROADBAND**

PG was pleased to confirm that following a recent presentation to Glenkerie Wind Farm Trust all monies for the project – Fibre Broadband to premises including the self-dig elements have now been secured. MC reported that BT Openreach was seeking clarification from the relevant Government department regarding the Gigabit voucher scheme. It is possible that the vouchers may only be valid for 12 months and may therefore need to be resubmitted. Once this has been clarified the Broadband committee will be seeking an updated (and final) price for the project. A project plan will then be developed to encompass the works, communications, access to funding and tendering for self dig elements. It is hoped to be able to sign the contract with BT Openreach within the next 2-3 months and project completion within 12 months. PG reported that MC had volunteered to project manage the Community Fibre Partnership Project.

Thanks were extended to all past and present members of the Broadband Committee for their hard work on behalf of the community.

Rob Sibbald, local resident, enquired about the possibility of a press release. It was agreed that this would best be tied in with a Community Meeting to be held once the Project Plan has been finalised.

Kirsty Stevens, local resident, enquired about access to legal advice regarding the contractual arrangements. It was acknowledged that legal advice will be sought regarding the tender/contact regarding the self dig elements.

1

#### **05.04 A701**

Rob Sibbald reported that a meeting and 'drive along' had recently taken place with Donald Scott from Scottish Borders Council regarding the road conditions on the A701 south of Tweedsmuir to the Scottish Borders Council border. Some white lining has already taken place and repair of potholes and surface dressing is planned between Tweedsmuir and Thorpehopefoot. However, the state of the remaining stretch of road is so poor as to require significant work for which there is currently no identified funding. It will therefore be added to the 'priority list' along with other similar stretches of roads across Scottish Borders to be addressed as and when funding becomes available.

Alternative sources of funding e.g. Timber Transport Fund are being explored. The possibility of re-designation of the A701 to a Trunk Road, maintenance of which are subject to different funding arrangements was discussed. HA to write to M Matheson about this.

All residents encouraged to continue to report any potholes on the SBC website.

#### **06.04 ANNUAL MEETING/NOMINATIONS REMINDER**

Nominations to be submitted by 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Annual Meeting Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019, The Village Hall AGM will take place an hour before this meeting at 6.30pm.

Thanks were expressed to BB who had distributed nomination forms across the community.

#### **07.04 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None received.

#### **08.04. MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

**Rugby Camp** Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Fergus Mason - **Approved**

**Driving lessons** Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Hazel Mason - **Approved**

#### **09.04 TREASURERS REPORT**

BB reported that applications will be made to both SSE and Glenkerie Wind farms for 'top up' funding for the grants.

Audited accounts will be available for next months General Meeting.

HA reported that a review of funding for Community Councils will be taking place. HA to forward details of the consultation when available.

#### **10.04 POLICE REPORT**

**Rural Thefts:** None reported



**Crook Inn:** Call out to reports of suspicious activity

**Speeding/Road traffic:** 2 incidents reported. Road safety/speed monitoring continues. Speeding through the community was discussed along with potential strategies to reduce speeding. HA reported that some communities are taking part in Community Speed Watch Schemes. HA to send info to GP. To discuss at future meeting.

#### **11.04 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**

**HA** confirmed that funding for Community Council to remain unchanged for coming year but review to take place re: future funding.

The next meeting of the Tweeddale Area Partnership will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

Agenda to be confirmed.

Possibility of a future conference regarding rural transport, HA to keep Community Council updated.

2

#### **12.04 CROOK INN**

Application being made to the Heritage Lottery Fund. If successful the project team will be seeking greater local involvement/expertise to move forwards. Bat survey due to take place shortly.

#### **13.04 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Broughton Community Share Offer** Info available, [www.broughtonvillagestore.co.uk](http://www.broughtonvillagestore.co.uk)

**Lets lunch** GP had received some information about this initiative scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> June aimed at bringing communities together. It was suggested that this could take place in the Village Hall on the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> June (after the Broughton School Fare) and be tied in with the community meeting regarding the Broadband Project. TBC.

**Elected members details** It was agreed these could be included in the next Community Newsletter.

**Minute taker** Thanks were extended to Debbie Cullen, local resident, for volunteering to take on this role while PG is more heavily involved with the Broadband Project.

**Litter pick** LM noted volunteers for the pick due to take place this weekend.

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Paul Greaves (PG, Secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Lesley Kirkwood (LK), 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 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were approved.

### **01.05 APOLOGIES**

Police representative Nicola Craig.

### **02.05 MATTERS ARISING**

Collection of rubbish resulting from recent litter pick. ES confirmed that SBC have undertaken to remove the tyres collected during the recent litter pick.

### **03.05 BROADBAND**

MC reported on the outcome of a recent conference call with representatives from BT Openreach (BTO). There has been a change in personnel with the new contact for BT being based more locally in Edinburgh. A response from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport regarding the gigabit voucher scheme has not been received. BTO are currently undertaking a re-survey in the locality before confirming the contract price and issuing a contract. It is hoped that a contract will be available for signature within the next 3-4 weeks. Work could then be expected to start on site in approximately 4 months. Local landowners have been contacted and given their consent to work taking place across their land. MC to forward contact details of local landowners to BTO. Wayleaves may be required. A designated Bank Account has now been set up for the project.

MC to forward the account information to BTO.  
BTO confirmed that they would be happy to be involved in any publicity about the project when the project details are finalised.

### **04.05 River Tweed sign**

PG reported having contacted SCB council regarding the signage at bridge over the river.

### **05.05 A701 latest**

Information has been circulated regarding the forthcoming road closures. PG reported that details of residents needing access during the works had been forwarded to SBC and confirmed that access should be possible for Tweedsmuir residents.

PG also reported that TCC jointly with SBC have written to the Timber Transport Fund regarding possible funding for A701 road repairs currently beyond the budget of SBC. Residents were again encouraged to continue to report any potholes on the SBC website.

### **07.05 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None received.

## **08.05 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

None received.

1

## **09.05 POLICE REPORT**

No report has been received. PG to contact to obtain report. It was agreed that although it was not necessary for a police representative to attend the meeting, unless there was a significant matter of local importance, a report was required in order to update residents of any issues in the locality.

## **10.05 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**

**ES** reported that preparations for possible participation in the forthcoming European Elections were currently taking precedence over any other activities.

A review of the cost effectiveness of CCTV in the Borders was currently being undertaken as much of the infrastructure is now outdated but will be very costly to replace and maintain.

A consultation regarding Alcohol in Public Places is currently underway. A copy is available from **GP** or the SBC website.

## **11.05 CROOK INN**

Activities are taking place on site including a Bat Survey, security measures and architect visits.

## **13.04 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Update on Ventient Glenkerie CB Award LM** reported the following Grants had been awarded during the past financial year –

- Biggar and District Civic Society: To improve local non-statutory signage, £9,140
  - Upper Tweed Community Enterprise Company: Contribution to purchase of Broughton community shop, £10,000
  - Biggar Youth Project: To fund a part-time youth worker for Biggar Bytes project for 1 year, £4,317
  - Biggar Science Festival, £1382
  - Tweedsmuir CC, Contribution to superfast broadband project, £69,000
- Tweedsmuir Community Hall** The Hall AGM took place prior to this meeting. Several projects are currently being developed in relation to the Hall including improvements to parking and landscaping and connection to the mains water supply. Volunteers are urgently needed to participate in the Hall Committee and suggestions of ways to increase the use of this valuable community resource would be very welcome. Anyone interested in joining the Committee and/or having suggestions regarding use of the Hall please contact **LM**.
- Litter pick** Thanks were extended to all those who had contributed to the collection. **LK** expressed concerns about the rubbish still remaining at the

Crossroads. **ES** confirmed this was scheduled for collection and also undertook to follow up funding for the signage regarding littering as previously discussed.

## **Annual General Meeting**

**Chairman's Report:** Copy attached. **Treasurer's Report:** Copy attached.

### **Election of Officers**

**1. Welcome and introductions by the Returing Officer ES** opened the

meeting by commending the Committee for their hard work and achievements over the past 12 months.

**2. Apologies** None.

2

**3. Order of Business**

**4. Declaration of Interests** None declared.

**5. Membership of Community Council** Community Councillors confirmed as GP, PG, BB, LM, RB and MC

**6. Appointment of Chairman** - GP elected, nominated by PG, seconded by BB

**7. Appointment of Vice Chair** - BB elected, nominated by PG, seconded by GP

**8. Appointment of Secretary** - PG elected, nominated by BB, seconded by GP

**9. Appointment of Treasurer** – BB elected, nominated by PG, seconded by GP

**10.Code of Conduct** All Councillors agreed to abide by the SBC Code of Conduct.

**11.Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent** Thanks were extended to **LK** for her contribution as a Community Councillor over the past 4 years.

It was confirmed that Debbie Cullen, local resident, would continue in the role of Minute taker.

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (CC) at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Paul Greaves (PG, Secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Ralph Glatt (RG), Mark Cullen (MC), Heather Anderson (HA, Scottish Borders Council), Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor) and 7 members of the public.

The minutes of the last council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were approved.

### **01.06 APOLOGIES**

Police representative Nicola Craig.

### **02.06 MATTERS ARISING**

**PG** confirmed that Donald Scott, Scottish Borders Council (SBC) has submitted an application to the Scottish Timber Fund for monies for the essential road resurfacing work needed on sections of the A701.

### **03.06 BROADBAND**

**MC** reported on a recent phone call with the representative from BT Openreach (BTO<sup>r</sup>). BTO<sup>r</sup> have yet to provide a confirmed contract price. They have recently completed a resurvey of the route and hope to be able to provide a final price in the next 10 days. BTO<sup>r</sup> indicated that under the current Gigabit scheme members of the community may have to re-apply as the current vouchers, issued more than 12 months ago, may have 'expired'. However, the Government is about to launch a new Gigabit scheme for rural communities. The value of the new scheme would be £3,000 for businesses and £1,500 for residential households.

BRO<sup>r</sup> have requested a meeting with the 3 landowners affected by the self dig element of the project, all of whom have now granted access for the work.

After discussion, it was agreed that **MC** would notify BTO<sup>r</sup> that residents - businesses and individual households will apply for grants under the new Gigabit scheme. This has the potential to bring in an additional £40,000 of funding for the project.

A query was raised about the potential impact any additional funding on the funding already secured. It was agreed that no decisions regarding this could be taken until the full and final cost of the project have been established.

### **04.06 WHITELAW BRAE WINDFARM**

**PG** reported that an application has been made by Bay Wa r.e., the company now responsible for the windfarm, for a connection to the Grid. The CC has sought a copy of the application to verify that this planning application is consistent with the original approved plans.

### **05.06 POLICE SCOTLAND COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SCHEME**

**HA** reported that several local communities are participating or interested in participating in this scheme. It was agreed that although speeding through the community on the A701 and the absence of any speed related signage was a concern, it would not be appropriate for the community to participate in this scheme.

### **06.06 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

No residential applications have been received. There has been an application for a new forestry track, accessed from the Fruid road to enable timber to be extracted.

**LM** mentioned the condition of a 'route' used by residents that runs in the area of the proposed access track. **RG** agreed that the condition of this 'route' could be

improved once the timber had been extracted. **Kirsty Stevens**, local resident raised the issue of gravel spilling onto the road from the existing forest track on the Fruid Road. **RG** informed that plans are in hand to address this.

#### **07.06 TREASURERS REPORT**

**BB** provided an update on the CC financial position. The CC has made applications for grants from SBC and SSE (Youth Bursary and Micro-grant funding). Although the application to SBC was submitted in a timely manner, a new additional governance issue was then raised (An Equality declaration). This matter was quickly resolved but resulted in a delay in the payment being processed. Payment is now anticipated by the end of June. Payment from SSE for the Youth Bursary and Micro-grant is also anticipated within the next month. **BB** reported that these delays in receiving funding has resulted in a potential cash flow problem which it is anticipated will be resolved in the next few weeks. However, it was agreed that payments of any approved micro-grants approved at this meeting should, if possible, be deferred until payments from SSE have been received.

**Christine Parker**, local resident, reported that she had been made aware that from April 2020 the funding received from SBC for Village Halls will change. Community Councils will no longer receive a set allocation for Village Halls but will have to 'bid' for funding from a central 'Community Fund'. A number of Community Councillors expressed concerns about the lack of consultation regarding these proposals and any potential reduction in funding for Village Halls particularly those in rural areas, where they perform a vital function.

**HA** reported that SBC is reviewing the amount and way in which funds are distributed to communities from 2020. It is proposed to consolidate all current funding streams into a single fund. A meeting is scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the proposals and subsequent consultation process. **HA** reported that a second meeting was also scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> June to discuss new governance arrangements for the Tweeddale Community Councils. **HA** to ensure that **GP** receives an invitation to these meetings.

#### **08.06 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

**Football kit (for team at playing at West Linton)** - Application to SSE Youth Bursary for £250 from **Helen Wood**. After discussion it was agreed that a pro- rata grant based on the proportion of players from Tweedsmuir would be appropriate. – **Approved.**

**Book club trip to the Edinburgh Book Festival in August** – Application to SSE Micro-grant – **Approved.**

In light of the discussion under agenda item 07.06 it was agreed that the payment of these grants be deferred until receipt of outstanding monies from SSE.

#### **09.06 POLICE REPORT**

No report has been received. **GP** to contact to obtain report.

#### **10.06 LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

**BB** raised the issue of a document 'Local Governance Review' available on the gov.scot website regarding the future of local community decision-making. **BB** suggested that the Community Council may wish to comment. **HA** provided some background to this review and suggested that it maybe helpful to consider the contents of the document prior to the forthcoming meeting regarding governance scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> June. **BB** undertook to provide a synopsis for **GP** prior to the meeting. **GP** to contact the meeting convener and discuss whether it would be helpful for the Community Council to respond to the document.

### **11.06 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**HA** reported that on-line voting for Locality Funding Bids closes tomorrow, with postal voting closing next week. HA provided a brief summary of the competing projects. A transport summit has been arranged for 28<sup>th</sup> June (am) to look at new models of transport provision e.g. the current taxi service linking the bus service terminating at Penicuik to West Linton. **LM** gave examples of the school transport service, which could provide more flexible transport options, having actually become less flexible. **HA** to ensure **GP** receives an invitation.

**ES** reported that debate is ongoing regarding the future of CCTV across the Borders.

**GP** reported that SBC had undertaken to carry out surface dressing and subsequent re-painting of white lines following the road repairs. This has not yet taken place. **HA** to follow up with Donald Scott.

**MC** reported having spoken to SBC and the contractors regarding the road closures scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June. They had confirmed that access would be open for local residents and deliveries, although there may be a delay while the road is plated. **PG** confirmed having circulated this information to local residents.

### **12.06 CROOK INN**

**Duncan Davidson** provided an update.

- Grant applications have been submitted to South of Scotland Economic Partnership (SOSEP) and for a Heritage Development Grant. Outcomes expected in the next month.
- A presentation was recently made to SSE panel to inform them about current and future development plans.
- Awaiting outcome of planning application from SBC.

### **13.06 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**LM** suggested that it would be helpful if volunteers under the auspices of Resilient Communities could undertake re-clearing of the drains at Talla Lins. **LM** to liaise with **Lesley Kirkwood**.

**LM** also suggested that an annual clean of the Source of the Tweed monument would be timely.

**MC** raised a query regarding a trench that has recently been dug by SBC on the Fruid Road which has resulted in flooding across the road directly opposite the access to 3 properties. **MC** to email details to **HA**.

**Christine Parker** reported that sadly, after 49 years, Bananas Pre-school Provision in Broughton will be closing on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Falling numbers of children mean that the provision will no longer be financially viable. **CP** described having struggled, over recent months, to engage with SBC regarding the future of the current provision. **CP** also reported that SBC has yet to give any indication about how they will meet their ongoing obligations to pre-school children in locality. **HA** to pursue with SBC.

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**





## **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 Hearthstanes 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

#### Income since 1/4/2019

SBC grant  
SBC hall hire  
Ventient (Glenkerie) micro-grant **Total**

#### Expenditure since 1/4/2019

Printer toner (SBC)  
Web-site hosting (SBC)  
S.S.E Snow blower shed and training S.S.E micro-grant for football kit S.S.E micro-grant for book club S.S.E Youth bursary - Mason  
S.S.E. Youth bursary – Mason  
**Total**

#### Balance

#### Transactions since 31/7/2019

Income from S.S.E. Youth bursary grant Expenditure S.S.E. Youth bursary - White

#### Revised balance

## 08.08 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS

None received.

£ 1,046.62

540.00

280.00 1,820.00 **2,866.62**

42.69

17.99 400.00 250.00 250.00 250.00 250.00

**1,460.68 1,405.94**

2,500.00 245.00

**3,660.94**

#### **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.

2

**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**

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Ralph Glatt (RG), Mark Cullen (MC), Lesley Mason(LM), Heather Anderson (Scottish Borders Council) and 10 members of the public.

Minutes of the last council meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019. Item 10.08 should read - The Community Council (not GP) to send a formal letter of thanks to Scottish Borders Council (SBC).

### **01.09 APOLOGIES**

Paul Graves (Secretary), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman).

### **02.09 MATTERS ARISING**

**VE Day Celebrations** – Early stage planning is underway for an event on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 in Broughton and on 9<sup>th</sup> May at Newlands.

**Police reports –GP** raised the TCC concerns about the ongoing lack of any police reports at the recent Area Forum. Assurances were given that this issue would be investigated.

### **03.08 BROADBAND**

**MC** reported that despite numerous attempts to engage with OpenReach (OR) no progress has been made in obtaining a contract price or timeline for finalising a contract from OR. There is reportedly a 3 month backlog for processing the Gigabit voucher applications. Consequently, there has still been no confirmation that the vouchers submitted have been received.

The Broadband Committee proposed to write to the Head of BT Group regarding the current lack of progress with OR. This was supported.

It was also agreed to raise this issue at the forthcoming meetings with Christine Grahame (SMP) and David Mundell (MP). Visit by David Mundell - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 10.45 am, Tweedsmuir Hall. **MC** to keep **HA** updated of correspondence.

### **05.09 CHRISTINE GRAHAME VISIT**

A joint Community Councils meeting with Christine Grahame has been scheduled for Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm at the Scottish Parliament. Anyone interested in attending, please contact **GP**.

### **06.09 POST OF SECRETARY**

**GP** informed the meeting that **PG** had tendered his resignation as Community Council Secretary. As one of the founder members of the Community Council many thanks were expressed to Paul for all his hard work both in his role as TCC Secretary and though his involvement with the Broadband Committee. Anyone interested in taking on the role of Secretary should contact **GP**. It was confirmed that Debbie Cullen, (local resident) would continue in the role of meeting minutes secretary.

### **07.09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

No new applications have been received.

### **08.09 TREASURERS REPORT**

Nothing to report since the last meeting.

## **09.09 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

**Riding lessons** - Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Aiden Mason  
- **Approved Driving lessons** - Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Harry Stevens – **Approved Weightlifting equipment** - Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Adrian Kotze – **Not approved** This application was not felt to satisfy Clause 'd' of the eligibility criteria. **LM** to feedback to applicant.

**LM** proposed the purchase of display materials (3 notice boards, 3 document holders and some adhesives) to be put up in the Hall to celebrate and publicise activities that have been funded through microgrants and to encourage further applications. Estimated cost £100. This was felt to be a good idea. **LM** to action and liaise with **BB** re: funding.

It was also agreed that an amendment be made (by **BB**) to the grant application forms. In future, successful applicants will be expected to provide feedback regarding the activity/equipment funded

1

through the grant e.g. a photograph or short summary. It is hoped that this will encourage other members of the community to make applications.

## **10.09 POLICE REPORT**

No report had been received.

## **11.09 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**HA** reported that SBC have underestimated the maintenance costs associated with the Destination Playparks initiative and the project is being scaled back. Clarity is being sought about the financial implications.

**HA** reported that, subject to the approval of the Care Inspectorate, a Primary 1/Preschool provision is planned for Broughton Primary School. Christine Parker, local resident, reported that despite ongoing attempts to engage with SBC she had yet to receive any concrete information regarding future provision for pre-school children when the current provision at Bananas closes in October. There is also no clarity about how the physical resources associated with Bananas (equipment etc.) will be retained within the community. It was agreed that next week **HA** would issue a press release regarding the closure of Bananas and provision in Broughton.

Given the issues regarding pre-school provision across the area **HA** reported having requested a review of the current pre-school provision, associated risks to these provisions and the steps being taken/needed to mitigate these risks. **HA** requested that any evidence of issues that have emerged associated with Primary1/Preschool provisions be forwarded to her.

Rural transport is an ongoing issue of concern and an increasing focus of attention. The focus is upon increasing access to networks at a local level as exemplified by the taxi service linking West Linton to the Lothian Bus service.

**HA** reported on the establishment of a Sustainable Energy Committee to bring together information about sustainable energy issues and initiatives across SBC.

**LM** raised the issue that SBC has switched suppliers for elements of school meals away from local producers to other suppliers with implications for sustainability. **HA** to follow up, possibly through the Sustainable Energy Committee.

**HA** reported that the grant application to support the development of the 'Destination Tweedsmuir' project was agreed at the recent Partnership Board.

## **12.09 CROOK INN**

Duncan Davidson local resident, was very pleased to report that the grant application to the SBC Community Fund has been successful although formal confirmation has yet to be received.

This is a significant award with the potential to put Tweedsmuir 'on the map'. The outcome of an application to SOSEP focused upon the development of the Infrastructure at the Crook is awaited shortly

### **13.09 ANY OTHER BUSINESS Events:**

- Borders lord lieutenants and Scottish Borders Council in partnership with Borders Third Sector Interface are holding an event at Springwood park in Kelso on Wed 25<sup>th</sup> September – doors open to the public from 2pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> September, 6-8pm - Change Works, Peebles is running an event on ways to make older homes more efficient. See Change Works/CC website for info.
- 20<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm at Drumelzier Hall. Fundraising event in support of Cancer Support Cars - 'Northern India and The Regal and The Remote'.
- 4<sup>th</sup> October. Newcomers Party, invites to be sent to residents who have joined the community over the past 18 months.
- 15<sup>th</sup> November in Tweedsmuir Hall – Fundraising event for RHET, 'The Great Big Quiz'
- 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Tweedsmuir Hall - A fundraising event for Tweedsmuir Community Company. Eastgate Theatre, Peebles to provide the performer – The Jellyman's Daughter, publicity, tickets etc. Tickets at £10 will include a light supper and a drink.
- **Hillhall Access** A local resident raised concerns about the loss of pedestrian access alongside Hillhall. **GP** reported having contacted the Access Officer at SBC about this issue and was informed that they were aware of the concerns and were in the process of gathering information in order to form a view. It was agreed that the Community Council would write to the Access Officer requesting a speedy response. Correspondence to be copied to **HA**.

2

- **Volunteer required** Hazel Mason, has been regularly updating the Community Council website. As she is leaving for university a volunteer is needed to take over this task. It requires a commitment of about 15-30 mins/month and Hazel is happy to demonstrate what is required. Anyone interested please contact **GP**.
- **Local signage** - No monies yet received from SBC. **HA** to chase.
- **Daer windfarm** FYI ownership has transferred from E.on to RWE
- **Refreshments for TCC meetings** It was agreed that the costs should be reimbursed at £5 per meeting.
- **Community News** For the past 12 months Community News has been provided and delivered to all households in Tweedsmuir, free of charge, funded through a micro-grant. It was agreed that this service was appreciated by the community and an application would be made to support this provision for a further 3 years. **LM** to action.
- **Future road closure** 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September - A701 Lamancha to Leadburn

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Ralph Glatt (RG), Lesley Mason (LM), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman) Eric Small (EC, Scottish Borders Council) and 2 members of the public.

Minutes of the last council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were approved

### **01.10 APOLOGIES**

Mark Cullen (MC), Debbie Cullen (DC), Heather Anderson (Scottish Borders Council)

### **02.10 MATTERS ARISING**

**Letter to Erika Niven** – This letter had been sent on behalf of the community council, but no

response had been received. Jane Humphries, local resident, informed the meeting that a formal complaint had been made against Erika, so no progress could be made until this matter was resolved by the council.

**Letter of Complaint :** GP informed the meeting that he had received a letter from a member of the community who felt that the Community Councillors had broken the code of conduct by sharing private information relating to the access issues with the Purdies. GP would like to clarify this situation with all parties involved before reporting back to the Community Council at the next meeting.

### **03.10 BROADBAND**

MC provided a report on progress.

MC had intended to write to the head of BT group regarding the lack of progress, however progress is being made, so has held off sending the letter.

2 Weeks ago, OpenReach surveyors met MC, and went over the project, routes and works. The alternatives to the self-dig element were discussed, self-dig (as before), poles and wire, and armored cable. OpenReach will provide a revised price for all 3. OpenReach have set a date of 7<sup>th</sup> October for the contract.

### **0.10 CHRISTINE GRAHAME VISIT**

A joint Community Councils meeting with Christine Grahame has been scheduled for Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm at the Scottish Parliament. Anyone interested in attending, please contact GP.

### **05.10 POST OF SECRETARY**

GP thanked Debbie Cullen for taking the minutes at our last meetings. It was agreed to co-opt Debbie Cullen to the role of Secretary of Tweedsmuir Community Council. Proposed GP, Seconded LM.

Databases of community addresses would be transferred to DC.

### **06.10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

No new applications have been received.

### **07.10 TREASURERS REPORT**

Two youth bursaries had been awarded, and the bank balance was £3160

### **08.10 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

**Transport for Poker group to a concert** - Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Andrew Mason - **Approved**

**Driving lessons** - Application to SSE Youth Bursary Scheme for £250 from Hannah Roper – **Approved**

**Adrian Kotze** – LM had fed back why the Grant was not successful at the last meeting, but GP had been asked to give more details.

BB noted that the terms and conditions for the microgrants needed updated.

**Ventient** has most money, so applications should be directed to this fund. LM has created a new notice board to be displayed in the hall to promote this fund.

LM circulated a draft grant application for the main SSE fund to allow each household in Tweedsmuir to continue to receive a free community news, 4 times per year for the next 3 years. This was approved, and will be completed and submitted. BB re finances

**Clyde Wind farms Event** : 29<sup>th</sup> October, 11.0 to 2.30 New Lanark, GP will attend, plus one other **9.10 POLICE REPORT**



No report had been received.

#### **10.10 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**ES** A meeting will be held in Rosetta Road Offices, Peebles to see how the Planning is working in the council. **Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct, 10 to 1pm**

**ES** Area Forum – Clovenfords Primary School **Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 7 to 9pm**

#### **11.10 CROOK INN**

Duncan Davidson, local resident, informed the meeting that the permission letter to start developing the Heritage aspects of the project is expected imminently

#### **12.10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- ☐ Website: Local resident Francis Leckie has agreed to take over updated the Community Council page
- ☐ Bananas Playgroup will cease to run on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October, but provision for the nursery pupils has been provided within the school.
- ☐ Tweedsmuir Village Hall has been successful in receiving 2 windfarm grants to connect to mains water, and to extend the car park. Thanks to SSE and Ventient Glenkerie.

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 7th November 2019 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (CC) at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Debbie Cullen (DC, Secretary), Mark Cullen (MC), Heather Anderson (HA, Scottish Borders Councillor), Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor) and 6 members of the public.

Amendments to the minutes of the last council meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019. Item 08.10. Transport for Poker group to a concert – Application to SSE for Micro-grant, not to SSE Youth Bursary.

### **01.11 APOLOGIES**

Ralph Glatt, (Community Councillor), Nicola Craig (Police representative).

### **02.11 MATTERS ARISING**

- Access at Hill House. **GP** reiterated that the Community Council were not able to comment until a determination had been made by Scottish Borders Council.
- Letter of complaint regarding potential Breach of Conduct by Community

Councillors. **GP** reported having spoken with those concerned and reviewed the Code of Conduct. There was no evidence of any breach and the matter is therefore closed.

### **03.11 BROADBAND**

**MC** reported that the progress anticipated following the previous meeting had not materialised. Consequently, **MC** wrote to the Head of BT Group outlining the situation and requesting his support to move things forward. **MC** received a response by return, informing that a member of Open Reach (OR) Executive Committee would make contact. A representative, Julie Baxendale, member of OR Executive Council for Infrastructure, subsequently made contact and apologised for the current situation and informed that she will now be managing the project. Ms Baxendale reported that the project had been resurveyed and is now with the contracts team. They are working on issuing a contract asap and **MC** expects another update from on 18<sup>th</sup> November.

In response to a request for an update from one of the wind farms **MC** produced an update briefing. This was circulated. It was agreed this update would be sent to both wind farms, attached to the meeting minutes (Appendix 1) and posted on the TCC website.

**GP** reported that local MP David Mundell had written to OR expressing concern at the ongoing difficulties being experienced with the Broadband Project. OR had declined to respond maintaining that **GP** referred to in Mr Mundell's letter, was not 'recognised' by OR as someone involved with the project.

### **04.11 CHRISTINE GRAHAME VISIT**

Duncan Davidson (DD, local resident) reported that following the success of the Tweedsmuir Development Project Bid, Christine Grahame had expressed an interest in meeting to discuss the work of the Tweedsmuir Community Company

and other local issues e.g. The Crook. A meeting has been arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Scottish Parliament.

### **05.11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

One application had been received. The replacement of a barn with a multi-purpose building.

Ref: 19/01505/FUL | Erection of agricultural building | Hearthstane Farm  
Tweedsmuir Scottish Borders

1

**GP** reported having received notification of plans for the removal of timber at Cor Water. Link to details requested.

### **06.11 TREASURERS REPORT**

**BB** updated, report attached. (Appendix 2)

### **07.11 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

- **Support for local fitness classes.** Application to Ventient Microgrant for **£250** from **Yvonne Waugh. Approved.**
- **Support for Physics tuition.** Application to SSE Youth Bursary for **£250.**  
From **Dirk Adrian Kotze. Approved.**
- **Support to maintain the defibrillation equipment.** Application to Ventient for **£142.59** from **Lesley Kirkwood. Approved.**

Thanks were expressed to Lesley Kirkwood for checking and maintaining the defibrillation equipment. There are 2 defibrillators, one located at the Community Hall and the other at the crossroads. In the case of an emergency, the ambulance service should be contacted on 999. They will then provide the code to access the equipment.

**BB** reported having received feedback from 2 recent grant recipients, Fergus Mason and Aiden Mason.

**GP** feedback regarding a recent meeting hosted by SSE to promote their new Borders Fund. **GP** took the opportunity to put in an application for funding for notice boards to promote SSE Grants, similar to those already in place to promote Ventient Grants.

**GP** tabled information from Ventient regarding local Grant Awards.

- Tweedsmuir Hall - £9,966.00 to fund connection of the Hall to mains water supply.
- Skirling Village Hall - £3,414.00, contribution to the modernisation of the hall.

### **08.11 POLICE REPORT**

A report had been received. There were no reports of rural theft and the police and Safety Camera Partnership continue to give attention to the A701.

Rod Sibbald (RS, local resident) asked, given the recent recruitment of additional police officers as part of the Community Action Team, if periodic speed monitoring could take place along the Tweedsmuir section of the A701. **ES** suggested a request from the TCC to Councillor Turnbull, might be the best way forward. **HA** suggested that a request for a report about the time already spent by the team in this area might also be helpful. **GP** to action.

### **09.11 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

- **HA** reported that there will be a consultation regarding the introduction of a bylaw regarding the consumption of alcohol in public places. Introduction of a bylaw will be piloted in several areas across the SBC area.
- There has been further discussion re: playpark provision. Decisions about any future closures have been returned to the Council for further consideration.
- **HA** highlighted the work of Peebleshire Charitable Trust – a Trust to support ill and elderly people in Peebleshire. Copy of information attached. (Appendix 3)
- Due to the election, budget setting for the UK, including the settlement for Scotland is likely to be delayed, impacting on financial planning/decision making for 2020/21.
- Funding has been secured from SBC to enable the Citizens Advice Bureau to

2

be more proactive in supporting those eligible to apply for 'Settled Status'. • **ES** reported the planning application for 11 dwellings in Broughton will be

considered shortly.

### **10.11 CROOK INN**

**DD** reported that the process of recruiting a new development officer should be concluded shortly.

### **11.08 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- **GP** reported back on the recent Area Partnership Board (information can be

found on the TCC website). The next meeting is scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020, 6.30 for 7pm start. If anyone would like to attend with **GP** please let him know.

- Road closures on A701 for resurfacing, funded in part by the Timber Transport Scheme. Information previously circulated.
- A letter from David Mundell had been received confirming an ongoing commitment to maintain local health services at the Kello and Ladyholm Hospitals.
- **HA** to follow up regarding the lack of progress regarding local signage.
- People were once again encouraged to report any potholes online.
- SBC and Events Scotland are holding a free half day (1pm start) industry

workshop on 21<sup>st</sup> November at Tweed Horizons, Newton St Boswells.

Information can be obtained from Jane Warcup [jwarcup@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:jwarcup@scotborders.gov.uk)

- SBC have launched an interactive tool to enable residents to express their views regarding future spending priorities in their area.  
<https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/customer-communities/scottish-borders-budget-challenge/>
- **RS** requested an update regarding progress for the development of the Crossroads, as detailed in the Tweedsmuir Community Plan. **GP** confirmed that this project had been put on hold whilst funding was sought for the Broadband Project. Whilst happy to take the project forward, **GP** reported needing input and support from members of the community. There was discussion about the possibility of this development falling within the remit of the new development officer. However, regardless of how this project is taken forward community involvement will be crucial. Anyone interested in getting involved please contact **GP**.
- The Big Quiz 15<sup>th</sup> November in Tweedsmuir Village Hall – A funding event for RHET.
- **BB** to source and update email distribution membership form so it is available to new members of community

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

## **Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (CC) at Tweedsmuir Village Hall, on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (7.30pm)**

**Present:** Gavin Parker (GP, Chairman), Brian Bushell (BB, Treasurer and Vice Chairman), Debbie Cullen (DC, Secretary), Mark Cullen (MC), Lesley Mason (LM), Ralph Glatt (RG) Eric Small (ES, Scottish Borders Councillor) and 4 members of the public.

The minutes of the last meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were approved.

### **01.12 APOLOGIES**

None received.

### **02.12 MATTERS ARISING**

None.

### **03.12 BROADBAND**

**MC** reported that the Open Reach (OR) had contacted to inform that the survey had been completed and the results were now with the contract team for pricing. **MC** to follow up with OR week commencing 16.12.19 if no contact received.

### **04.12 CHRISTINE GRAHAME VISIT**

No report available.

### **05.12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None received.

### **06.12 TREASURERS REPORT BB** updated, report attached.

### **07.12 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS**

- **Catering for the Eastgate Theatre Event** - Application to Ventient

Microgrant for **£250. Approved.**

- **Support for Tweedsmuir Christmas Party** - Application to Ventient

Microgrant for **£200. Approved.**

**BB** reported having received feedback from Yvonne Waugh and Lesley Kirkwood regarding recent successful Microgrant Applications.

### **08.12 POLICE REPORT**

No report received.

### **09.12 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Concern was expressed to ES regarding the arrangements being put in place for local children following the recent fire at Peebles High School, particularly the

time taken (up to 4 hrs a day) for children to be transported to alternative provision at Galashields. It was agreed that **LM** would liaise with local parents regarding local concerns and forward to contact at SBC.

#### **10.12 CROOK INN**

**Christine Parker (CC)**, local resident) reported that a Heritage Officer had been appointed. He will need to work with local residents to develop the various workstreams associated with the Development Project e.g. Signage., Digital Heritage etc. **CC** also reported that the recent 'Soup kitchen' funded by Scottish Power to compensate for interruptions to supply during the recent upgrades, run by volunteers, raised funds for the Crook Inn site.

1

#### **11.12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Road resurfacing. Ongoing concerns have been expressed about the absence of white lines on the A701, particularly in the recent poor weather conditions. **BB** to contact SBC regarding confirmation of the timetable for the completion of the current roadworks and planned timescale for repainting of the white lines.
- **CP** reported that the recent 'Soup kitchen' lunch had been very positively received by the community and it had been suggested that a similar event might be repeated at a future date.
- Data Governance. A discussion took place regarding the current Community email circulation list and issues relating to data governance. It was agreed that -
  - the cost of a stand alone laptop to be used solely for TCC business be investigated with a view to making an application for funding from one of the windfarms
  - In early 2020 the current list will be reviewed re: use, consents and a mechanism for adding new residents (subject to consent) confirmed
- Future diary date – **Sat 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 7pm** at Tweedsmuir Village Hall – 'The Jellyman's Daughter'. A musical event in conjunction with Eastgate Theatre. Tickets £10, £6 under 15, £25 family of four. Tickets from Eastgate Theatre [www.eastgatearts.com](http://www.eastgatearts.com) or Christine Parker on 01899 880370. (Ticket price includes welcome drink and light supper.)

**Next meeting of the Tweedsmuir Community Council will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February at the Village Hall at 7.30**