

Tweedsmuir Community Council

Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) on Thursday 4th August 2022 (7.00pm), Tweedsmuir Village Hall and via Zoom

Present: Gavin Parker (GP, Chair), Brian Bushell (Treasurer), Debbie Cullen (Secretary), Lesley Mason (LM), Mark Cullen (MC), Viv Thomson (Scottish Borders Councillor), and 13 members of the public.

01.08 WELCOME and APOLOGIES

None received.

02.08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Accepted as correct.

03.08 MATTERS ARISING

- **RG** reported that there is to be an increase in the height of the Radio Mast on the Fruid Road of 1 metre.
- **GP** reported having received a number of messages of thanks and appreciation received following the Rhubarb Festival in June and thanked all those involved.

04.08 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **LM** expressed frustration at repeated attempts to contact anyone at SBC planning department for pre-planning application advice in relation to citing of the Pods on the Crook site. The only option appears to be to submit the application, even though there are issues which are unclear, and if the application is unsuccessful to reapply regardless of the costs involved.
VT requested that LM liaise with her regarding this matter, and she would try to facilitate access to the necessary advice from colleagues at SBC.
- An application has been made for further enabling works relating to Whitelaw Brae Windfarm.
<https://eplanning.scotborders.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RFSDP7NT0BQ00&activeTab=summary>

Action:

- **LM** to forward information to **VT**

05.08 TREASURER'S REPORT

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Treasurers-Report-June-2022.pdf>

BB reported on the Community Council's recent approval of expenditure relating to new pads for the defibrillator and the defibrillator charging costs.

06.08 MICROGRANT APPLICATIONS

- **Support for free e-bike trial** – Application to SSE Microgrant for £250 from Debbie Cullen **Approved**

- A note of thanks had been received from local resident Frances Leckie for microgrants grants received in relation to funding elements of the Rhubarb Festival.

07. 08 POLICE REPORT

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Tweeddale-East-and-West-July-2022.pdf>

08.08 SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

VT reported -

- SBC councillors have been involved in discussions regarding the future of the A702 bus route. In the short term the route is to remain operational and there will be cross party working and consultation with all relevant Stakeholders regarding the development of longer term sustainable arrangements.
- Colleagues are aware of concerns being raised regarding educational provision in the locality and work is taking place to explore the issues and potential solutions.

09.08 CROOK INN

LM reported that -

- a music event is planned for the coming weekend.
- a plan is being developed to open the The Wee Crook for community events on various dates over the next few months.
- The community garden continues to develop, and the vegetable patch is now particularly impressive. Work on the garden is continuing on Wednesday evenings 7-8.30pm – All welcome.

10.08 COMMUNITY UPDATE

LM reported that -

- a grant for 7,500 had been secured from SBC Communities Fund to further develop the Community Garden at the Crook.
- there has been a good level of response to the Community Views Survey. A 'drop in' afternoon tea event is planned for the afternoon of Sunday 28th August 2-5pm to provide feedback regarding the results of the survey and give residents the opportunity to 'vote' on their priorities. Information about other community events and activities will also be available.
- **MC** and **LM** had a virtual meeting with representatives from Foundation Scotland to explore the possibility of developing a grant application to fund work around establishing and potentially reducing Tweedsmuir's Environmental Footprint. **MC** and **LM** to pull together an outline project plan.
- **MC** reported that a grant application had been made to Ventient Energy Glenkerie Windfarm to secure funding for the provision of integrated alarm systems to enable households in the community to comply with legislation introduced earlier in the year. This application had not been approved. The reasons for this were discussed and consideration is being given to resubmission. **VT** suggested that the community may wish to link into the SBC work on 'Placemaking', which may be relevant to these initiatives.

- Local resident Rob Orr (**RO**) queried the status of plans for the provision of Superfast Broadband in Tweedsmuir. **MC** reported that Tweedsmuir was covered by the R100 Project but roll out was not scheduled to be completed across Tweedsmuir until 2024.

Actions:

- MC & LM** to develop a project plan re: a grant application relating to Tweedsmuir's environmental footprint.
- VT** to forward to **GP** information re: SBC initiative - 'Placemaking'

11.08 CONSULTATIONS

- https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/download/1489/local_housing_strategy_-_housing_issues_papers
- <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SOSE-Engagement-Tour.docx>

12.08 TALLA – HARTFELL WILD LAND AREA CHARTER

LM explained the background to this document.

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/WLA-Charter-draft-for-feedback.docx>

Actions:

- Any comments please forward to **LM**

13.08 BIGGAR MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT GROUP MINUTES

GP reported that following correspondence with the practice earlier in the year regarding the concerns of residents about difficulties accessing GP services, the Practice had invited a member a representative from Tweedsmuir to attend their Practice Patient Group. **DC** reported that after some initial difficulties, contact with the Chair of this group had now been established.

Action:

- LM** to contact the Chair of the group regarding attendance as Tweedsmuir's representative.

14.08 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 19th – Sunday 21st August** – Free e-bike trial. Email tweedsmuirsecretary@outlook.com to book a session. <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ebike.pdf>
- Saturday 28th August 2022 Feedback on the Community Plan** – Afternoon drop in' event 2 – 5pm in the Village Hall. <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/CAP-feedback-flyer.pdf>
- September 4th Tour 'O the Borders.** This is a closed road event and therefore access to and from Tweedsmuir during the event will be limited. All households should receive a leaflet detailing the road closures shortly. **GP** reported that following feedback from communities affected, including Tweedsmuir, SBC were trialing different strategies to investigate if levels of road closures might safely be reduced in the future.

- **Saturday 17th September 2022. Harvest Festival Event at the Crook.**
Details to follow.

15.08 A.O.B.

None

**The next meeting will take place on Thursday 1st September 2022
at 7pm in Tweedsmuir Village Hall & via zoom**

**Agenda items for inclusion should be forwarded to
the Secretary – 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