

Tweedsmuir Community Council

Minutes of the meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) Thursday 5th September 2024 at 7pm, Tweedsmuir Village Hall & via ZOOM

Present:

Lesley Mason (Chair), Frances Leckie (FL, Vice Chair), Debbie Cullen (DC, Secretary), Mark Cullen (MC, Treasurer), Carolyn Hoy (CH), Drummond Begg (DB, Scottish Borders Council) and 4 members of the public.

Visitors to the meeting -

- Representatives from AOC Archaeology Group joined the meeting to talk about their work including involvement in local projects. Information about this organisation and local projects including 'Uncovering the Tweed' can be found at www.aocarchaeology.com
- Representatives from Statkraft UK attended the meeting to share the results from the second consultation period held over February and March this year re: proposals for Oliver Forest Wind Farm and present their final plans. They informed that an application to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit had recently been submitted.

A copy of the presentation given at the meeting has been circulated to those on the TCC email circulation list. All relevant documents including details of the proposed biodiversity enhancement measures and the proposed footpath and heritage trail incorporated into the application following the earlier community consultations, can be viewed at [Scottish Government - Energy Consents Unit - Application Details](#)

The deadline for any comments members of the community wishes TCC to include in response to this planning application is **Thursday 3rd October 2024**.

The deadline for comments to be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit is **Friday 18th October 2024**.

01.09 Welcome and Apologies

None received.

02.09 Minutes of the last meeting

With respect to Agenda item 04.08 of the August meeting re: Application 24/00865/PPP should record that this application is for Planning-Permission-in-Principle, not a pre-Planning application.

03.09 Matters arising not covered in the agenda

None.

04.09 Treasurer's Report

The report can be viewed at –

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/August-Report.pdf>

MC reported that –

- the TCC's annual grant and reimbursement for hire of the Village Hall had been received from SBC.
- an invoice for Hall hire has been paid.

06.09 Grant applications

Following the last meeting, it was agreed that a revised application from the Event Planning Group to the Ventient Fund for £250 to support costs associated with hire of Village Hall for community events be submitted. This was **approved** in principle.

MC informed that the monies associated with this grant would be held as a identified ringfenced sum within the main TCC budget and expenditure reimbursed as incurred.

07.09 Police report

- Link to July's report – see agenda
- **LM** reported she would be attending the next 6 monthly meeting with Sgt Harrison, SCB Community Councillors, and the Chair of each Community Council to facilitate exchange of information and discuss concerns.

08.09 Scottish Borders Councillor's report

Nothing to be noted.

09.09 Community Action Plan

- The next meeting of the Steering Group, to discuss and agree priorities for the next 3-6 months is planned for Sept.
- Updating of the Community Directory is underway. This will be accessible on-line via the TCC website.
- The outcome of the grant application to SSE Wind farm Benefit Fund re: continuation of funding to support the Community Development Manager post is still awaited.

10.09 Destination Tweed (TD)

LM reported that agreements are being reached regarding the route of the path from Moffat to the Crossroads in Tweedsmuir. However, discussions are still ongoing regarding the route for the next stage through Tweedsmuir.

11.09 Community Christmas celebration

After discussion it was agreed that **LM** would contact Maureen Thornborrow at the Wee Crook regarding the potential cost associated with the provision of a community afternoon tea. A decision could then be made regarding the level of subsidy TCC could offer in support of this event.

12.09 Community Heat Project

TCC has submitted a grant application to SSE Windfarm Fund to support this project which if successful will be delivered with Upper Tweed Community Council across Upper Tweed.

13.09 Consultations

None received.

14.09 Items for information

- **SBC Local Development Plan** – details included with agenda.

DC reported having scanned what is a very lengthy and comprehensive document. The second section includes a list of settlements across the Borders with details of their development needs and areas identified for future development e.g. housing. Some ‘settlements’ are sizable e.g. Peebles, Galashiels etc. but others are of similar size to Tweedsmuir. Tweedsmuir is not, however, included in the document and no mention is made of it anywhere in either section.

There followed a discussion about mechanisms for raising the profile of small communities such as Tweedsmuir with SBC to ensure they are considered in longer term planning decisions.

Actions:

- **SBC Councillors** to enquire regarding the selection criteria for ‘settlements’ included in the document.
 - **DC** to re-establish contact with SBC regarding support for the development of a Place Plan for Tweedsmuir.
 - For those with a Mains water supply, SBC are encouraging everyone to sign up to receive text alerts from Scottish Water in relation to any service issues in their area. To sign up visit [Latest In Your Area - Scottish Water](#)
- **Biggar Medical Practice**
Changes to the appointment system – info circulated.

15.09 Forthcoming Events

- Info about forthcoming events can be found at - <https://www.tweedsmuir.scot/events/>

16.09 Any other business

- **LM** expressed concern regarding the condition of Carlouse Bridge with some of the coping stones on the top of the bridge being knocked off as the cement appears to be crumbling.

Action:

DC to notify SBC.

- **CH** reported on a meeting recently attended on behalf of TCC in Broughton regarding the development of plans to improve Broughton's Playing Field site. Discussions are at an early stage and a representative from Tweedsmuir is being sought.

Anyone interested in attending please contact **DC**.

- TCC has received notification that stalking season will now be starting in earnest. When stalkers are present, the posted sign red padlocks and red flags will be in use. Deer management is ongoing, but between September and February it is more frequent.
- A local resident reported on a recent conversation with a member of Openreach staff who indicated that work on installing Superfast Broadband under the R100 programme maybe starting in the locality. (The Scottish Govt website states work to start in 2025).

17.09 Date of next meeting

Thursday 3rd Oct 2024.

www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk Contact: Tweedsmuirsecretary@outlook.com

Chair: Lesley Mason, Vice, Chair: Frances Leckie, Treasurer: Mark Cullen,

Secretary: Debbie Cullen, Councillor:Carolynn Hoy

Resilient Communities Coordinator: Lesley Kirkwood - resilienttweedsmuir@gmail.com