

# Tweedsmuir Community Council

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## Minutes of the meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7pm, Tweedsmuir Village Hall & via ZOOM

### Present:

Present: Lesley Mason (LM, Chair), Frances Leckie (FL, Vice Chair) Mark Cullen (MC, Treasurer), Debbie Cullen (DC, Secretary), Viv Thomson (VT, Scottish Borders Council) and three members of the community.

Hannah Lacon and Naomie Sweeney, from Scottish Borders Council joined the meeting via Zoom to inform about the 5G project. Information can be found at - [https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F11%2FNov24\\_Tweedsmuir\\_CC\\_5GIR.pdf&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cbe604980b42645644ab508dd0337dbb6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638670260615981649%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMtMiIskFOljoitWFFpbCIsldUljovfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AlwFEt89jEg5cTnbijOY9Kx%2FJc42uA2iVv3n0CMYVKU%3D&reserved=0](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F11%2FNov24_Tweedsmuir_CC_5GIR.pdf&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cbe604980b42645644ab508dd0337dbb6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638670260615981649%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMtMiIskFOljoitWFFpbCIsldUljovfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AlwFEt89jEg5cTnbijOY9Kx%2FJc42uA2iVv3n0CMYVKU%3D&reserved=0)

### 01.11 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from Carolyn Hoy.

### 02.11 Minutes of the last meeting

Approved.

### 03.11 Matters arising not covered in the agenda

- **LM** has been in contact with SBC regarding support with developing a Place Plan for Tweedsmuir and a meeting is scheduled to take this forward.
- The grant application for The Community Log Project has been submitted. The outcome of the application will not be known until later in the year.

### 4.11 Planning Applications

#### Oliver Forest Wind Farm

**DC** reported having submitted a letter of objection to the Energy Consents Unit. This document can be viewed at <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/ECU00004669-Response-Tweedsmuir-CC-16.10.24-v2.pdf>

### 05.11 Treasurer's Report

The report can be viewed at <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/October-Report.pdf>

**MC** informed that Bank of Scotland, who currently provide banking services for TCC are changing their terms and conditions. Going forward a monthly charge will be applied to the account in addition to individual transaction charges.

**MC** suggested that when he steps down as Treasurer and new account signatories are required, an alternative provider be explored.

**Action:**

**MC** to send **LM** invoice for recharge for Zoom.

**06.11 Grant applications**

- An application received for £200 from SSE Youth Bursary for driving lessons. **Approved.**
- An application for £250 received from Tweedsmuir Community Company towards the cost of relocating the defibrillator from the Village Hall to Wee Crook. **Approved.**
- It was agreed that the residual amount of £65 associated with this relocation be paid by TCC from the Resilient Communities budget.
- **Pathways Maintenance Grant.** Following the clearance of the Old Path Road, by volunteers, it was agreed that the Pathways Grant monies would be used to fund new gates to secure the River end of the Crook Garden Field.
- **LM** to apply to SBC for the next tranche of funding.

**07.11 Police report**

Report not received. It was noted that the last report received was in June 2024.

**VT** reported on a meeting that had taken place between Chairs of the 9 Community Councils Tweeddale and Sgt Crawford Laing to discuss issues of importance to local communities. **LM** attended on behalf of TCC.

The intention is for these meetings to take place twice a year.

Key points arising –

- The Police Service rely on data, e.g. incidents, reports of incidents to inform service priorities. Therefore, any incidents or matters of concern should be logged with the Police non urgent reporting line - 101.
- Skirling is exploring options for collecting data regarding speed of traffic through the Village. It will not identify individual vehicles but provide information regarding speeds/speeding.

**LM** noted that the intention was for data about the speed a traffic travelling through Tweedsmuir to be collected as part of the 5G Hub project.

**08.11 SBC Councillor's report**

**VT** reported progress is being made regarding budget planning for the coming financial year.

## 9.11 Community Action Plan (CAP)

- **LM** recently gave an update of progress against the Plan at Tweedsmuir Community Company AGM.  
<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tweedsmuir.scot%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F11%2FTCC-AGM-presentation.pdf&data=05%7C02%7C%7C6f29d535360e4838fa7708dd0337e8d4%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638670260841845170%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8evJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOilwLjAuMDAwMCIslAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0eExBkhGLq73QTXC6UjpNHC%2BKFI4dIZUIKOVei9Fn4%3D&reserved=0>
- The newly developed Community Directory can be viewed on the Community Council website.

## 10.11 Destination Tweed (TD)

LM reported on a meeting recently attended with a range of stakeholders across South of Scotland looking at the potential development opportunities – business, tourism etc., associated with DT.

## 11.11 Community Heat Project

A Launch meeting for the project took place on 17th October at 7:30pm. Volunteers are needed to conduct surveys and generate the associated reports. So far, four volunteers have come forward from Tweedsmuir and three from Broughton. Skirling has also confirmed they wish to take part. More information to follow once the volunteers have completed their training.

Anyone interested in volunteering to carry out surveys please contact **AM** - [andrew@environ-it.co.uk](mailto:andrew@environ-it.co.uk)

## 12.11 Bus services across Upper Tweed

**VT** summarized the discussion and outcomes of a recent meeting to discuss the future of the bus services across Upper Tweed. The provision of the 91 and 93 services are currently under review. The intention is not to reduce services but to explore how they might be reconfigured to allow greater flexibility and coverage and increase use.

### Action:

**DC** to circulate survey re: local services which includes a section re: public transport. The deadline to feedback to SBC is quite tight so responses are required by **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November**. The survey can be accessed at - <https://forms.gle/jEepwBfVqhCiCstM8> .

## 13.11 Community Uplift of large items to Eishels

After a period of discussion, it has been agreed with SBC that volunteers can take a trailer of household items, collected from households within the Community to the Community Recycling Centre at Eishels free of charge.

Subject to clarifying a few outstanding issues it is hoped to inform residents about how they can volunteer to support the provision of this service and/or utilise this service in early 2025.

#### **14.11 Local recycling facilities**

There are now facilities to recycle several different materials at the Village Hall site including -

- clothes
- cheese wrappers
- coffee bags
- batteries
- toothpaste containers and toothbrushes

#### **15.11 Biggar Medical Practice Patient Group**

**LM** reported on the most recent meeting, notes from which can be viewed at – <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/PG-minutes-10-10-2024.doc>

#### **16.11 Community Christmas Afternoon Tea**

Enquires have been made of MJ Catering regarding the provision of a Community Afternoon Tea at the Wee Crook Café.

After discussion it was agreed that they would be asked by TCC to deliver an Afternoon Tea for 35 people, on 22<sup>nd</sup> December. To be funded through a combination of Microgrant application, TCC funds and contribution of £5 per head from attendees, free for under 5 years.

**LM** raised the issue of a Community Christmas card to be circulated with the next edition of UTCN.

#### **Action:**

- **DC** to produce promotional flier for circulation to community. **FL** to support with SumUp for payments.
- **LM** to explore options for Community Christmas Card.

#### **17.11 Smart Meter Connectivity**

A number of residents have raised issues about the lack of Smart Meter connectivity. This impacts on residents' ability to utilise cheaper tariffs and upload information about electricity generated through solar panels etc.

**MC** outlined how the existing situation had arisen and that it was unlikely to be resolved by the UK Govt. **VT** reported that a solution had been found in a few other rural areas across the Borders experiencing similar issues.

#### **Action:**

**VT** to put **TCC** in contact with other areas referred to above.

#### **18.11 Consultations**

- **Peebles Place Plan** As part of the process of finalising their Place Plan communities close to Peebles are being given the opportunities to comment. Deadline for comments is Wed 20<sup>th</sup> November. Information can be found at - <https://ccrbpeebles.co.uk/Place/>.

### 19.10 Items for information

Peebles High School Newsletter can be viewed at - <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2024/10/Peebles-HS-Newsletter-Oct-2024.pdf>

### 14.10 Forthcoming events

Info can be found at - <https://tweedsmuir.scot>.

### 15.10 A0B

- TCC had been contacted about the condition of Talla Road following the recent enabling works for Broadband provision. **MC** had contacted the contractors directly who had undertaken to send a manager to review. However, the ditches have not been reinstated and consequently water is flooding across the road.

**Action:**

**MC** to forward photos of the above to **VT** to raise with SBC.

- Whilst discussing the Pathway Grant a local resident raised concerns about the condition of the Disabled Parking area at the Wee Crook. The matting/stones combination is not suitable for disabled visitors. **FL** acknowledged that the Community Company were aware that the surface was not suitable but currently lack the funds needed to address this issue. **VT** indicated that monies may be available from SBC's small works workstream to undertake the work required.

**Action:**

**VT** to liaise with **FL**.

- During the meeting a local resident raised concerns about issues experienced in relation to their private water supply and electricity charges.

**VT** encouraged contact with the Citizens Advice Bureau who can help any resident with such issues and can with the person's permission, liaise with services on a resident's behalf. The Peebles Office can be contacted on 01721 721722 or via the email link on their website.

### 16.10 Date of next meeting - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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[www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk](http://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk) Contact: [Tweedsmuirsecretary@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:resilienttweedsmuir@gmail.com)