

# Tweedsmuir Community Council

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## Minutes of the meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 7pm, Tweedsmuir Village Hall & via ZOOM

### Present:

Lesley Mason (LM, Chair), Frances Leckie (FL, Treasurer & Vice Chair), Carolynn Hoy (CH), Caroline Mathias (CM), Viv Thomson (VT, Councillor, Scottish Borders Council) and 1 member of the public.

Stephen Garbett and Jenny Ross (Scottish Water) and Sam Guthrie (Bell Ingram) joined the meeting and outlined plans for the woodland creation Scheme at Talla.

### 01.08 Welcome and Apologies

**DC** reported that it had been agreed with Gary Baumont -Community Police Officer that if, at the time the agenda was circulated there were no issues relating to Policing he would not join the meeting. Gary was therefore not in attendance.

### 02.08 Minutes of the last meeting

Approved.

### 03.08 Matters arising not covered in the agenda

- Whitelaw Brae – information about the project schedule previously circulated. It was noted that there had been no response to an enquiry regarding the timetable for establishing the Community Benefit Fund. *An email has subsequently been received informing us that it is hoped to progress this in the next few weeks.*

### 04.08 Planning applications

Oliver Wind farm – A their recent planning meeting SBC did not support this application.

### 05.08 Treasurer's Report

- The reports for June and July can be viewed at –  
<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/June-Report.pdf>  
<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/July-Report.pdf>
- Contact details and signatories for the TCC Bank Account need to be updated. **MC** to be removed, **CM** to become a signatory and contact address to be changed from **MC** to **FL**.

**Action:** **FL** to liaise with **MC** and **CM** regarding the above changes.

### 06.08 Grants update

- Pathways Grant

- Nadara 'one off' £500 Cost of living grant was discussed. It was agreed that this would best be used to support a Community Christmas Event.
- **Pathways Grant – LM** reported on several volunteer activities that have taken place/are planned that would contribute towards TCC's qualification for this grant.
- **Feedback from the Nadara Windfarm Panel meeting – DC** reported that most of the funding allocation for the current year has now been committed. Should the panel agree to fund any further applications this will be necessitate draw down from the endowment.
- **Applications agreed – 2** for Stobo Village Hall to support the purchase of equipment to improve the audio/visual facilities in the Hall and 1 for Biggar Little Festival.

#### **07.08 Police report**

The link to reports from June and July can be found at:

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Tweeddale-East-and-West-June-2025.pdf>

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Tweeddale-East-and-West-July-2025.pdf>

#### **08.08 SBC Councillor's report**

**VT** reported that:

- a meeting involving local SBC Councillors and representatives from Transport Scotland and those involved in Timber Transport is planned to discuss issues raised by residents of communities across the upper Tweed regarding timber transport e.g. excessive speed, using unsuitable routes etc.
- the timescale for SBC's review of the non-financial support for Community Councils has been extended.
- financial support for Village Halls has been 'paused' as SBC reviews the eligibility criteria for receipt of such support.
- **LM** reported very positively on the gates installed at the Crook site as part of SBC's 'Small Schemes Programme. **VT** suggested that any funding requests for other potential projects should be submitted to SBC asap.

#### **09.08 Community Action Plan (CAP)**

**LM** reported that –

- The Upper Tweed Community News Photographic Completion has now closed. Winners will be announced in the next Edition. An event to Launch to Exhibition will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> September – details to follow.
- **CM** is working with other members of the Event Planning Group to put together a programme of autumn/winter indoor events. These will include structured sessions with guest speakers etc. and more informal sessions e.g. sharing crafting activities etc. Details to follow.
- A group is looking to establish a Film Club for Tweedsmuir.

#### **10.08 Destination Tweed (TD)**

A section of the Tweed Trail between the Crook and Patervan is now complete.

#### **11.08 Defibrillator provision**

**CM** circulated some shorter and longer term costings associated with the continued operation of the defibrillators – one at Dykehead and the other at the Wee Crook.

After discussion it was agreed that funding the maintenance/replacement of this equipment requires a strategic rather than ad hoc approach. It was also noted that other communities across Upper Tweed – Broughton and Skirling will be facing similar challenges and that there could be benefit in liaising with these communities regarding the potential for a shared/consistent approach to this issue.

It was noted that Stanhope funds all the costs associated with ‘their’ defibrillator and it is taken with them when visitors are out and about on the Estate.

**LM** to contact the other Upper Tweed CC’s regarding this issue.

#### **12.08 Scottish Water’s Plans re: Talla**

Covered at the start of the meeting.

#### **13.08 Place Planning**

As agreed previously it was noted that following discussion with SBC it was felt that TCC did not need to engage in this process at the current time but may wish to do so when the time came to review/update the current Community Action.

#### **14.08 Consultations**

None received.

#### **15.08 Items for information**

None received.

#### **16.08 Forthcoming Events**

Information can be found at <https://www.tweedsmuir.scot/events/>

#### **17.08 Any other information**

#### **18.08 Date of next meeting - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025.**

**DC** gave apologies.

If you have any agenda items – please contact the Secretary

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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: Carolyn Hoy, Treasurer: Frances Leckie

Secretary: Debbie Cullen

Other Councillors: Caroline Mathias

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