

# Tweedsmuir Community Council

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## **Minutes of the meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7pm, Tweedsmuir Village Hall & via ZOOM**

### **Present:**

Lesley Mason (LM, Chair), Frances Leckie (FL, Treasurer), Eric Small (ES, Councillor, Scottish Borders Council) and 1 member of the public.

### **01.09 Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies received from Debbie Cullen (DC, Secretary), Carolyn Hoy (CH) and Caroline Mathias (CM).

### **02.09 Minutes of the last meeting**

Approved.

### **03.09 Matters arising not covered in the agenda**

- **FL** reported bank changeover to new treasurer and new signatory are in progress
- **LM** advised defibrillator provision will remain at one for now, pending planned grant application for future funding

### **04.09 Planning applications**

None received.

### **05.09 Treasurer's Report**

- The report for August can be viewed at -  
<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2025/09/August-report.pdf>

### **06.09 Grants update**

- Applications received –
  - an application for £200 from SSE Youth Bursary for driving lessons.
  - an application for £200 from SSE Youth Bursary for Rugby training.Both applications were approved by TCC members outside the meeting.  
It was noted that the maximum award for a Youth Bursary is £200 not £250.
- **FL** confirmed that Colin McMillan of SSE has approved request to transfer existing Micro grant funds into Youth bursary fund to cover these applications.

### **07.09 Police Report**

- The report for August can be viewed at -  
<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Tweeddale-East-and-West-August-2025.pdf>

- Further information has been provided regarding the recent incidents in Tweedsmuir. A break-in was carried out on one property - a house that has been vacant for 18 months. As there was no CCTV coverage the exact time and date of the incident is not known. The other incident involved the dumping of old cannabis plants - no further details available.
- See item 11.09 regarding Questionnaire re: Policing

#### **08.09 SBC Councillor's report**

**ES** reported that -

- the Live Borders consultation at the Drill Hall in Peebles was well attended, and the facility is well used, but needs money spent on maintenance. No date has yet been set for a decision on its future.
- there is uncertainty about when Eastgate Theatre will receive future funds.
- St Ronan's Wells in Innerleithen will likely close, but maybe not the Memorial Hall.
- Councillors recently visited the newly fitted out Peebles High School, which will be open before the end of the year.

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

**LM** reported that –

- Skirling has now appointed a CDO (Community Development Officer); **LM** supported the recruitment process and anticipates opportunities to collaborate and share ideas.
- the photo exhibition launch is on 13th of September, one of the outcomes of which it is hoped will be to promote walking routes around Tweedsmuir.
- Go Tweed Valley has extended it's reach to Tweedsmuir. Tweedsmuir is now included in their literary trail and list of good places to walk.
- an application has been made to SSE windfarm to secure funding for the production of UTCN.
- events for children have been held in the Crook Community Gardens, organised by Caroline Mathias.
- 'Tweedsmuir Together' - a series of Friday night social activities will be taking place in the village hall through the autumn and winter, details to follow.
- Movie Nights in Tweedsmuir will be starting on the first Saturday of the month from October, at the Village Hall.

#### **10.09 Destination Tweed (TD)**

**LM** advised that the section of path along the disused railway track is becoming well-used.

#### **11.09 Consultations**

- Gary Beaumont, Community Police Officer is seeking the view of residents about how they would like Gary and his newly appointed colleague to interact with their communities. This will help the Community Policing Officers direct their time most effectively. Anonymous feedback can be given by following the QR code below.



#### **12.09 Items for information**

- The Floods and Droughts Research Infrastructure (FDRI) monitoring programme will be working at various sites across the community, including at Kingledores study gathering and analysing a range of data including flooding, water security and bio security.
- Felling at Talla. The planned felling will commence shortly and is anticipated to take about 1 month. Follow link to view map -  
[https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/glencotho\\_talla\\_sphn\\_felling\\_map\\_250714.pdf](https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/glencotho_talla_sphn_felling_map_250714.pdf)  
Members of the community planning to walk around this area, are advised to avoid entering within 100m of the work zone while the work is underway.
- A progress update re: Whitelaw Brae can be viewed at –  
<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/WLB-community-update-25-09.pdf>

#### **13.09 Forthcoming Events**

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

#### **14.09 Any other business**

- It was agreed that TCC will post information about the scheduled test of emergency phone alerts on Facebook.
- The issue of the bottle banks not being emptied at Broughton and Skirling was raised. **ES** to contact the person responsible at SBC to request the siting of a Bottle Bank in Tweedsmuir.
- The issue of lack of public transport was discussed. **LM** reported that when SBC reviewed the Peebles to Biggar bus service it was hoped that a more 'on demand' service would include Tweedsmuir. However, there is currently no funding for such a service although this could be reviewed at a future date. Destination Tweed also supports the need for public transport and bag-drop facilities along the route of the path.
- Opportunities for e-bike hire - **LM** is meeting with representatives from Ettrick to explore collaboration on a hire network.
- The issue of excessive speed of traffic on the A701 was raised. There is a requirement to evidence both the speed and associated danger of the traffic passing through Tweedsmuir. It is hoped that the recently installed 5G system will gather data on traffic speed and volume which could then be used to support the argument for speed reduction measures.

- Concern has been expressed that Destination Tweed (DT) has not been in touch with every landowner affected by the new path about mitigations. **LM** to provide DT contact details so the landowner concerned can make direct contact.

**15.09 Date of next meeting** - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025.

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

Resilient Communities Coordinator: Lesley Kirkwood - [resilienttweedsmuir@gmail.com](mailto:resilienttweedsmuir@gmail.com)