

Tweedsmuir Community Council

Minutes of the meeting of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) Thursday 6th August 2026 at 7pm, Tweedsmuir Village Hall & via ZOOM

Present:

Lesley Mason (LM, Chair) Frances Leckie (FL, Treasurer), Caroline Mathias (CM), Kahden Rubeki (KR), Steve Sutherland (SS), Viv Thomson (VT, SBC Councillor) and 2 members of the public.

01.08 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from Debbie Cullen (DC, Secretary).

Minutes taken by CH.

02.08 Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted as correct.

03.08 Matters arising not covered in the agenda

- **Bottle Bank provision** – No decision to be taken by SBC until tender process for new provider has been completed.
- **M74 Communities group** – Local resident Gavin Parker to attend on behalf of TCC.

04.08 Planning applications

See Agenda item 05.08

05.08 Oliver Forest Wind farm

Update provided re: the forthcoming Oliver Forest Windfarm Inquiry -

- The Hearing Statement has been prepared and submitted
- TCC were reviewing the information provided regarding the potential infrastructure proposals for the connection of the wind farm to the grid. (Information previously circulated). Any response to be made by 21st August.
- A response is being considered following receipt of additional material provided by the Applicant regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment received 24hrs before the initial response deadline. Deadline to respond 14th August.

Actions:

- **CM** to provide relevant materials to residents speaking as ‘witnesses’ at the hearing.
- **All** to prepare for inquiry hearing – content and delivery of witness statements, familiarization with Hearing Statements from other contributors etc.

06.08 Finance report

The reports for June and July can be viewed at -

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/June-26-report.pdf>

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/July-26-report.pdf>

07.08 Grants update**Microgrant applications**

Microgrant applications were approved for –

- £250 from the Nadara Fund to support the running of the monthly open mic ‘Crooked Sessions’ at the Wee Crook.
- £250 from SSE Fund to UTCN, an interim contribution to the cost of hosting the Ecomuseum.

To raise awareness about and encourage young people in Tweedsmuir to apply for youth bursaries, these awards will be highlighted to the families with young children and reminders sent to other eligible young people within the community.

Other grants

LM reported that a grant had been secured from SPEN to enable –

- Tweedsmuir Community Company to conduct consultations around the future development of the Crook site and big building
- the Village Hall to purchase additional cleaning equipment

Details about the SPEN community fund to be added to the TCC website.

08.08 Police Report

The report for June and July can be viewed at –

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Tweeddale-East-West-June-2026.pdf>

09.08 SBC Councillor’s report

- **VT** reported that ‘Small scheme’ grants may be available.
- **LM** raised concerns about the quality of verge cutting and that ‘Pop up Bob’ had been so significantly damaged during the recent cutting that a replacement is now required.

- **LM** raised concerns regarding the recent road closure information and activities affecting the A701 through Tweedsmuir –
 - signage was incorrect and inappropriately placed
 - the Community and local hospitality business were not informed about the change of date for the work
 - information regarding ‘local access’ was either incorrect or inconsistently applied
 - residents had to take an excessive detour via Moffat to access medical appointments in Biggar, when the road was marked as closed and was in fact open and when the road was actually closed
 - attempts to contact SBC were unsuccessful – calls were not returned

Actions:

- **VT** to follow up with BSC regarding verge cutting and damage to ‘Pop up Bob’.

10.08 Community Action Plan (CAP)

Nothing to update.

11.08 Destination Tweed (TD)

Action:

LM to invite a representative from Destination Tweed to attend the October/November Community Council meeting to provide an update.

12.08 Consultations

Circulated with agenda.

13.08 Items for information

Thanks were expressed to **FL** who has been working to improve the useability of the Community Council website. In addition to providing information about the Community Council the new format includes access to a much more user-friendly ‘What’s on’ in Tweedsmuir page and a link to the Village Hall booking system.

Action:

Council members with a private email address to confirm they are happy for their address to be made public. (**CH** subsequently confirmed her email address can be used).

14.08 Forthcoming Events

Please visit – www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk

15.08 Any other business

- A meeting between Duncan Dunlop, LibDem SMP and members of TCC has been scheduled for 20.08.26 to discuss the community’s concerns regarding wind farm development.
- Concerns were raised about the condition of a derelict building, believed to be owned by Scottish Water on the approach to Talla. As well as being unattractive concern was expressed about the potentially hazardous asbestos roof.

Action:

Scottish Water to be contacted.

- LM reported that the 'Rag Bag' bin at the Village Hall had recently been emptied, raising £40 for the Village Hall.

18.08 Date of next meeting – Thursday 3rd September 2026.

If you have any agenda items – please contact the Secretary.

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

Chair: Lesley Mason, Vice Chair: Carolynn Hoy, Treasurer: Frances Leckie,

Secretary: Debbie Cullen, Councillors: Caroline Mathias, Kahden Rubeki

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