**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held online by Zoom Call**

**Wednesday 1st July 2020 at 7.00 pm**

**Present:** Susan Stewart (SS) (in the chair), Shane Black (SB), Stuart Kelly (SK), Graeme Wallace (GW), Angela Walker (AW), Denise Allan (DA) Iain Dougal (ID), Sandi Keddie (SK), Zoe Keddie Dixon (SKD) Cllr S Mountford (SM), Cllr E Robson (ER).

**In attendance:** John Stobart (Secretary)

**Apologies:**

**Members of the Public**: 3

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| 1 | **Apologies for Absence:** as above |  |
| 2 | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** |  |
|  | The Chair drew the attention to the meeting to the minutes of the previous meeting and asked for any comments or corrections. There were none except as noted in the matters arising set out below and, subject thereto, the minutes were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair. |  |
| 3 | **Matters Arising/Outstanding** |  |
| 3.1 | It was agreed that all matters arising were to be dealt with within the agenda items to be discussed at the meeting. |  |
| 4 | **Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns** |  |
| 4.1 | A member of the public raised the issue of the lack of maintenance of the paths and various areas around the village. It was agreed to invite those willing to join a small working party to carry out appropriate mainatnce tasks with the village equipment or that owned by individuals. |  |
| 4.2 | A member of the public raised the issue of the waste bin that had been repositioned on the green in KY. It was agreed to reposition it close to the bus stop in KY. **Think this should be agreed to reposition down at Youth Hostel** |  |
| 4.3 | A member of the public raised the issue of the condition of the benches around the village as a result of the wood decaying. It was agreed that the matter will be raised with the Floral Gateway who are believed to have a full list of the benches in the village with a view to clarifying the precise needs and arranging the purchase of required materials. | SS |
| 4.4 | A member of the public raised the issue of the issue of the toilets in TY. SM informed the meeting that there was a paper to be discussed at SBC about all toilets in the vicinity and the hygiene needs post-Covid-19. It was noted that considerable work was needed to refurbish the toilets in TY. |  |
| 5 | **Police Report** |  |
|  | It was noted that the monthly report had been circulated. SS reported that the Community Police Officer was on annual leave and unable to attend. There were no particular issues relating to the village noted in it. |  |
| 6 | **Festival Committee Update:** |  |
|  | It was noted that ZKD had resigned as the chair. SS reported that the festival had not taken place because of Covid-19 but a group had put together some events which had been well received in the village. Income was slightly over £1,500 and expenditure just over £1,000 leaving a profit of £507. The appointment of a new festival chair will be put in hand at the appropriate time. |  |
| 7 | **Portfolio Presentations:** |  |
| 7.1 | **Housing and Planning - Shane Black (Vice Chair)** |  |
|  | SB said there was an application in KY which had been refused and another for replacement windows which was straightforward. |  |
|  | SB reported that the container had not been positioned but arrangements were under consideration and a retrospective application would be made. |  |
| 7.2 | **Finance - Angela Walker** |  |
|  | AW reported that the accounts had been submitted to SBC. A small loss of £934 at the yearend had been realised and, with reserves brought forward, reserves of £5,524 were being carried forward. Money would be earmarked for charging points and signage. Approval requires the community councillors to affirm the SBC code of conduct and this process will be carried out and minuted when the new council is appointed following the elections which had been delayed through Covid-19.  In the YTD £1,000 Covid support income had been received from SBC and income from web adverts. Expenses were £208. £675 of the Covid support had been spent. The Zoom subscription had been paid and provisions were required for gloves and sanitisers in preparation for a second strike. ER informed the meeting that further Covid monies could be available on application. There were no questions. |  |
| 7.3 | **Yetholm Resilient Group – Stuart Kelly** |  |
|  | SK thanked everyone for their sensible conduct during the lockdown and continue that there were gloves and sanitiser available at the Kirk if required. As regards the Wauchope Hall because of the requirements of social distancing it could hold far fewer people than might have been expected.  SS asked that there be minuted with thanks the work that the Resilience Group had done including Kay Greenhorn, Lizzie Grindell and others. A huge amount of work had been done with medication and shopping but including hearing aids and plumbing problems. SS said that it had worked well and been a good example of community spirit. SK asked that there be minuted thanks to the village shop and people working there who had been exemplary. **Please also mention garage and butchers in this piece** |  |
| 7.4 | **Village Maintenance & Utilities – Vacant** |  |
|  | No Update. |  |
| 7.5 | **Education - Zoe Keddie** |  |
|  | There was nothing to report as the school was closed. |  |
| 7.6 | **Grants- Denise Allan** |  |
|  | DA offered thanks to AW. DA had been busy with work related matters and AW had dealt with grants as reported above. SS confirmed the matter and said an award of £10,000 for the pavilion had been made and the Wauchope Hall and the Youth hall had also been awarded £10,000. |  |
| 7.7 | **Health & Social Services – Sandi Keddie** |  |
|  | SK confirmed that all was fine. |  |
| 7.8 | **Tourism – Graeme Wallace** |  |
|  | GW confirmed that because of the Covid lockdown tourism was effectively a “non-starter”. There was no progress on the map during the lockdown but arrangements could now be made to collect the map for copying. | SB / GW |
| 7.9 | **Projects, Events & Pavilion – Iain Dougal** |  |
|  | ID thanked AW for securing the grant mentioned above and confirmed that it would be appreciated as there was no other revenue. There were no other matters to report. |  |
| 7.10 | **Chair, Website Liaison & Public Events – Susan Stewart** |  |
|  | SS reported that there had been no public events because of the lockdown. The website analysis had been improved and there had been an increased number of hits about accommodation which indicated a pick-up in interest |  |
| 8 | **Scottish Borders Councillors Update** |  |
| 8.1 | SM reported that the pandemic had brought the community hubs into focus with cooperation between interested parties increased and a consultation was about to begin on area partnerships. A report will be circulated for further comment and comments should be given if considered appropriate. |  |
| 9 | **Additional Correspondence** |  |
|  | SS reported that a letter had bene received notifying that community council the elections will be on the backburner. ER said that the advice was to continue in office *pro tem*. There will be further correspondence in due course later in the year in or about October. All enquiries should be referred to the SBC councillors. |  |
| 10 | **AOB** |  |
| 10.1 | SS reported that conifers had been cut at **[\_Dairy\_\_\_\_]** Wood. A resident at Braeside Road was concerned about a tree covered in ivy. Two large trees need attention at some point. |  |
| 10.2 | SS said that decanting of the shop if it is bought for temporary trading while renovation works are carried out. One possibility is the pavilion and will require consideration at a later date. The position was noted. GW said it might be for about two months required. There are other possible sites. |  |
| 10.3 | SB asked about the bend at Catch-A-Penny and ER confirmed it was in the queue for works but as it had a safety element because of the lack of a barrier it would require a site inspection and need early attention. | ER |
| 10.4 | AW said a member of the public had raised the issue of the state of the footpaths. The meeting noted that this issue had been discussed earlier in the meeting.  AW said that billing for the website adverts would normally be done at this time but as the lockdown had curtailed tourism it was not appropriate to charge for the full year. It was agreed to reduce the charge to half of the full charge for the equivalent of 6 months. |  |
| 10.5 | GW and SK raised issues of a potholes in a number of locations. |  |

The meeting closed at 19:50 hrs

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th July at 7.00 pm by Zoom call.**