

**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting held in Yetholm Youth Hall
Tuesday 24th February 2026 at 7pm**

Present: Fiona Thompson (Chair) (FT), Susan Stewart (SS), Paul Freeland Cook (PFC), (Kevin Lee (KL), Angela Walker (AW)

Scottish Borders Councillors – Simon Mountford (SM), Euan Robson (ER)

Apologies: Euan Gibson (EG), Denise Allan (DA), Sarah Elliot (SE).

Members of the Public: 4 present

		Action
1	Apologies for Absence: As Above	
2	Minutes of previous meeting, approval, and signature The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved with no amendments and signed by the Chair	
3	<p>Matters Arising from minutes/outstanding issues.</p> <p>Salt Bags – no update available.</p> <p>Notice Board – this was work in progress and all agreed that required to be aluminium not wooden.</p> <p>Cemetery Gate – estimate for a new gate had been received for £420 from Neil Tait (noted that he is not on SBC procurement list, but this is being looked into). Path to run alongside existing path and the gate would be lined up for pedestrian access only. The plan for digger work has been sent to Daniel Freeland – Cook.</p> <p>Allans Cottage – noted that SBC cannot authorise spend on privately owned land. This was queried again by MOP but no definite proof of ownership available.</p> <p>Manhole had been identified as a trip hazard – see comments in MOP section</p> <p>Rag Bag Container – no progress on this item</p> <p>Yetholm to Morebattle Road – potholes discussed again and noted that they had been repaired but due to large amount of rainfall in recent weeks the work carried out has most likely been washed away. To be reported again.</p> <p>Heritage Society to Haugh – Small schemes could fund Type 1 for this path and Criminal Justice Team will carry out the work.</p> <p>Defib Pads – had now been ordered at cost of £727 (have five-year expiry date). Two avenues to be explored re help with funding of these items. Charity Begins at Home and Community Lunches to be approached. Thanks, expressed to Max Lee in his work regularly checking these devices for us.</p> <p>Phone Boxes – appear to have been disconnected. ER to check on our behalf.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SS/KL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ER</p>
4	<p>Members of the Public – Issues and or Concerns</p> <p>Concern raised re potholes on Yetholm Mains Road – ER to report and follow up.</p> <p>KY Bus Shelter – MOP intimated that was in poor repair inside and generally was a poor colour. Window Perspex also needed replacing. SS commented that shelter had been power washed in December 2024. SM to check re replacing Perspex.</p> <p>Lane down to Allans Cottage – As discussed in Matters Arising. Owned by a farmer but unsure who this was. Reported that neighbours in area were going to get lane levelled and a solar light had been installed by a resident.</p> <p>Raised Manhole – Scottish Water had attended and an urgent repair job had been put in place.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SM</p>

	Discussion re potholes behind and in front of Balcherry The Crescent. These had been assessed and were on a list to be considered for resurfacing and the pavement behind house would be sorted.	
5	Festival Week 20206 FT reported planning well in hand. Next meeting on Monday March 2 nd . This year's programme was nearly complete, and the adverts received would cover the cost of the programme. Thanks, noted to SM for his work with this. SBC grant towards Festival of £775 had also been received.	
6	Portfolio Discussions	
	Housing and Planning – Vacant Nil to report	
	Finance –Angela Walker Small amount of income received this month of £278 mainly from Web invoices, Rag Bag Monies and interest from Savings account. A fuller picture of accounts would be available at meeting in March. Query re rebate due from water monies paid at Pavilion – still awaited. Spine Race monies still outstanding to Pavilion.	
	Village Maintenance and Utilities – Euan Gibson No report available	
	Education – Sarah Elliot No report available	
	Bowmont Valley – Paul Freeland – Cook PFC commented he had no complaints. Very large pothole had been patched at Woodside.	
	Resilience – Kevin Lee Nil to report	
	Grants and Funding – Fiona Thompson Application had been submitted to National Lottery for various works at Pavilion - £9.5K asked for. SS and FT had spoken with Lottery earlier today and there were two outstanding issues that needed to be followed up – approval from landowner and updated constitution. FT to follow up with landowner and SS to send constitution. All present agreed to amend constitution to state that Pavilion now subcommittee of the Community Council.	
	Pavilion/Tourism – Denise Allan SS said that new stock of tea towels had been ordered. Query from village resident re cricket items that had been given on loan to Yetholm. FT to look into this and small team to identify what was in Pavilion and what to do with it going forward. AW and KL agreed to help with this. A recent pub quiz had made £111 for Pavilion.	FT
	Health and Social Services – Vacant Nil to report	
11	Police Report Had been received and circulated on 23 rd Feb.	
12	Scottish Borders Councillor's Update Noted that new Council budget had been approved last week. Council Tax on empty homes to increase to 300% and if we were aware of any empty properties SM asked to be informed. Small schemes budget had been frozen and village hall grants were reinstated. Overall SBC council tax remained below the Scottish average at 8.5%	

13	Additional Correspondence SS had circulated all by email as received	
14	Community Council/AOB PFC commented on broken gate at playing field – suggested that Heras fencing could be used to “plug” the gap. AW noted that no invoice for use of Hall had been received in the last two years. To be looked into. Cheque to be raised to give school their share of rag bag monies. Comment made re pallets of glass bottles in back lane. FT to follow this up.	FT

The meeting closed at 2015

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 31st March 2026 at 7pm.