

**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting  
Minutes of the Meeting held in Yetholm Youth Hall  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 at 7pm**

**Present: Paul Freeland-Cook (PFC), Susan Stewart (SS), Denise Allan (DA),  
Angela Walker (AW), Euan Gibson (EG).**

**Scottish Borders Councillors – Euan Robson (ER).**

**Apologies: Simon Mountford (SM), Fiona Thompson (FT), Kevin Lee (KL), Sarah Elliot (SE)**

**Members of the Public: 3 present.**

|   |   | <b>Action</b>  |
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| 1 | <b>Apologies for Absence: As Above</b>  |  |
| 2 | <b>Minutes of previous meeting, approval, and signature</b><br>The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved with no amendments and signed by the Chair. PFC took Chair in absence of FT.  |  |
| 3 | <p><b>Matters Arising from minutes/outstanding issues.</b></p> <p><b>Noticeboard in TY</b> – no progress to date.</p> <p><b>Ragbag and Bottle Banks</b> – PFC said he had measured the area and if Rag bag turned around and placed at end of area there would be room for another bottle bank on the site. ER agreed to look into this. ER also commented that a new contract was being negotiated re uplift of glass which continued to be difficult at times with collections being missed on a fairly regular basis.</p> <p><b>Path to Haugh</b> – Type 1 had been ordered, and local resident had agreed that it could be left on area that belonged to her until it was spread on path.</p> <p><b>Plinth for new picnic bench</b> – this was now to be done in near future and SS agreed to inform residents who were purchasing bench of this progress. AW noted that we had money in the bank which could be used to cover any associated costs for these items if required.</p> <p><b>Defib pads</b> – replacement costs discussed again and SS noted that she had asked Bistro/Community Lunch group if they would consider a donation to the cost of these. AW to follow up with SBC possibility of bulk purchase by SBC which could help offset VAT costs.</p> <p><b>Phone boxes</b> – these were now not working in either village. ER continues to look into this on our behalf.</p> <p><b>Pothole on Yetholm Mains Road</b> – now repaired.</p> <p><b>Cricket Items in Pavilion</b> – this was work in progress.</p> <p><b>Glass bottles on pallets</b> – noted that this was a police matter as on public highway and was to be reported to Community Police Officer.</p> <p><b>Christmas Lights</b> – FT had sent note to say there are four boxes of battery powered lights in Pavilion and did we want or require them. To be checked as to whether they work and then decision made.</p> <p>SS also commented that email had been received from previous Councillor re electricity usage and payment when tree lights were in use. AW agreed to look into this on our behalf.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AW</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PFC</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AW</b></p> |
| 4 | <p><b>Members of the Public – Issues and or Concerns</b></p> <p><b>Lane down to Allans Cottage</b> – MOP said that residents had this in hand</p> <p><b>KY Bus Shelter</b> – MOP had been in touch with Euan Calvert at SBC re this and he had said that this was something that Community Justice Team could undertake</p>   |  |

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|    | <p>to do. MOP said that she was looking for a group of volunteers to help with cleaning and possible repainting of shelter. SS commented that books would require to be moved for this to take place and that SM had sent an email on 23/2 to say that new Perspex had been ordered for windows.</p> <p><b>Benches around villages</b> – a number needed repaired and query raised whether the bench at Hillview in KY could be moved to bottom of Bowmont Terrace area as bench from there had been removed some time ago.</p>  | <b>PFC</b>       |
| 5  | <p><b>Festival Week 20206</b><br/> SS read out short report from FT – programme was now complete and all printed. Installation Night this year is on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 7pm in Hall.</p>   |                  |
| 6  | <p><b>Portfolio Discussions</b></p> <p><b>Housing and Planning – Vacant</b><br/> One application had been received and circulated to CC. Solar panels on 3 Mountview Town Yetholm. No comments or objections noted.<br/> Noted that there were two applications on SBC site re hedges and tree work, but these had not been received for circulation to CC.</p> <p><b>Finance –Angela Walker</b><br/> Income noted as £5034 and expenditure as £3704. Defib expenditure was being deferred over five years in accounts. Tea towel expenditure being treated in similar way.<br/> Monies had been received for Pavilion use and at this time there was £1104 in Pavilion account. The refund for water use at Pavilion was still to be received it was noted.<br/> Noted that we still held large residual amount of legacy money in hand which could be used for various projects including purchase of new notice board for TY Green.<br/> AW also intimated that there were three outstanding website invoices at this time.</p> |                  |
|    | <p><b>Village Maintenance and Utilities – Euan Gibson</b><br/> Nil to report</p>   |                  |
|    | <p><b>Education – Sarah Elliot</b><br/> No report available.<br/> SS said that pothole at the bottom of school drive still required to be repaired.<br/> Salt Bags in school yard – to be checked if still there.</p>  | <b>ER<br/>SS</b> |
|    | <p><b>Bowmont Valley – Paul Freeland – Cook</b><br/> Potholes continued to be an issue in the valley PFC reported.</p>   |                  |
|    | <p><b>Resilience – Kevin Lee</b><br/> Nil to report</p>  |                  |
|    | <p><b>Grants and Funding – Fiona Thompson</b><br/> SS read out comments received from FT- additional quotes would be obtained for double glazed windows, roof insulation and replacement toilets and wash basins.<br/> Outcome of National Lottery award awaited.</p>  |                  |
|    | <p><b>Pavilion/Tourism – Denise Allan</b><br/> New supply of tea towels had been purchased and comments made that they had sold very well in the last year.</p>  |                  |
|    | <p><b>Health and Social Services – Vacant</b><br/> Nil to report</p>   |                  |
| 11 | <p><b>Police Report</b><br/> No report received</p>  |                  |
| 12 | <p><b>Scottish Borders Councillor’s Update</b><br/> ER said that SBC now in “purdah” until Scottish Election on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Noted that</p>   |                  |

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|           | Royal Mail had been asked that postal votes were cleared and delivered sooner rather than later in the run up to the election. |  |
| <b>13</b> | <b>Additional Correspondence</b><br>SS had circulated all by email as received   |  |
| <b>14</b> | <b>Community Council/AOB</b><br>Nil at this time   |  |

**The meeting closed at 2015**

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7pm.**

**AGM will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May prior to CC meeting at 7pm.**