

Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting held in Yetholm Youth Hall
Tuesday 26th November 2024

Present: Fiona Thompson (Chair), Susan Stewart (SS), Euan Gibson (EG), Kevin Lee (KL), Paul Freeland Cook (PFC), Angela Walker (AW), Simon Mountford (SM), Euan Robson (ER).

Apologies: Heather Freeland Cook (HFC)

Members of the Public: 3 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	Matters Arising from minutes/outstanding issues. KY Bus Shelter- reply had been received from SM via Council saying bus shelter would be cleaned and material put in place to stop birds nesting in shelter. War Memorial in Town Yetholm – Member of the public thanked the Community Council and in particular the Freeland Cooks for their help in clearing the site and removing the excess soil. A verbal response had been received re the letter sent to Border Cottage and was noted that they had agreed to do their best to improve the wall and access to the path over the coming months. FT noted that she spoken to the Pavilion Committee re items in container and they had agreed to discuss at their next meeting.	
4	Christmas Trees and Lights Intimated that the Christmas trees were due to be erected on the village greens this coming Thursday. Lengthy discussion and debate then followed re the lights and issues around the connecting of them to boxes which are in situ on the greens. ER said that the advantages in SBC undertaking work that was required were that work was done to their standards and requirements, and they could not, in years to come, say that connections were wrong if they had carried out the work. The cost for the work that needed to be carried out was £1176- this was the cost for work on both sites. CC asked if we agreed to this cost, and all agreed, and KL stated that SBC should carry out all the work required and ensure relevant PAT testing was in place. Discussion also took place around work and costs incurred in 2018 and agreed that if we identified that this work had been carried out by SBC then we would ask for some recompense to be made to CC. ER agreed to write to SBC re this and ask for work to be carried out to enable lights to go on trees this year.	ER
5	Website SS informed meeting that she had received email from supplier who had been asked some months ago to supply a quote for new CC website asking if we still wished to go ahead with this. After discussion all agreed that Yetholm Online site worked well and there was no need or requirement to replace at this time.	
6	Members of the Public Issues and or Concerns CC asked by MOP if 20mph was being enforced in villages. Meeting informed that this is a police matter, and the police were not in a position to enforce this. However, it was reported that overall, in the Borders this 20mph rule had reduced overall speeds in built up areas.	

7	<p>Portfolio Discussions Housing and Planning – Vacant No applications had been received. Question asked re how long from approval to work commencing and answer was given that it is three years to begin work but once work was begun there is no date on completion.</p>	
	<p>Finance – Angela Walker AW reported that there had been minimal income and outgoings this month from CC account. Cheque was to be given to school for £51.75 as their share of Rag Bag Monies.</p>	
	<p>Village Maintenance and Utilities – Euan Gibson EG intimated that to date no work had been carried out on back lane or at Dairy Wood. Suggested that a map be drawn up of areas that need cut by new mower as a guide in the New Year.</p>	
	<p>Education – Heather Freeland Cook HFC had sent the following report to the meeting - Christmas concert is planned for Thursday 12th December- friends from the community are welcome to the afternoon performance at 2pm. Our church service is also open to the community on Monday 16th in the Kirk at 9:15am. We are planning to invest some of the money that was left to us from Miss Deans to purchasing some exciting new playground equipment which the kids have been helping us to pick and parent consultation will happen over the next couple of days at parents evening. ER also updated on the repairs that should have taken place to windows in school which had first been mentioned in 2022. Surveys had all been undertaken and the work, which involved more than just repairing the windows, was to be put into programme of works with the hope being that they started in next financial year.</p>	
	<p>Bowmont Valley – Paul Freeland Cook PFC repeated his request for pedestrian signs being installed in the valley as per discussion at last meeting.</p>	
	<p>Resilience – Kevin Lee KL said that a very constructive meeting had taken place on the Halterburn Road, and plans were now in place for the work that was required to be carried out in the very near future</p>	
	<p>Grants and Funding – Fiona Thompson Nothing to report</p>	
	<p>Tourism – Vacant SS intimated that she had placed an order for 100 new tea towels and this order would be fulfilled in the New Year.</p>	
	<p>Health and Social Services – Vacant Nothing to report</p>	
8	<p>Police Report Had been circulated when received to all Councillors. No report received as yet for the present month.</p>	
9	<p>Scottish Borders Councillor’s Update ER gave an update on the new bus timetable the second version was now in place. Noted that amendments had been considered and would be reviewed along with passenger numbers in the coming months</p>	
10	<p>Additional Correspondence Letter received from resident of KY re state of pavements and various other issues which related to those who used mobility scooters in the village. SM agreed to deal with this and discuss with the person involved.</p>	SM

<p>11</p>	<p>Community Council/AOB</p> <p>Discussion around the river and its continued change of direction on the Haugh and how it was impacting on walkers of St Cuthberts Way. Agreed to have a further discussion with Susan Gray re this and potential alternative routes which could be used.</p> <p>EG queried why £5 charge being asked for at Seniors Supper. FT explained rationale and said that this was a nominal charge and was something that those who had attended last year had requested. We had also held a number of fundraisers and some donations to this event had also been received, the hope was that the event could be self-funding in the future as the Warm Hub monies would be exhausted after this year.</p> <p>AW intimated that the bank was going to start a monthly charge for community accounts from the New Year. Estimated that this could incur an annual charge of £100 and after discussion agreed to continue with Bank of Scotland and review again at the end of 2025.</p>	
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The meeting closed at 2020

Date of next meeting Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 7pm in Youth Hall.