**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting**

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

**Tuesday 28th 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), Cllr S Mountford (SM), Cllr E Robson (ER).

**Apologies:** Denise Allan (DA) Iain Dougal (ID), Sandi Keddie (SK).

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

**Members of the Public**: none

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| 1 | **Apologies for Absence:** as above. It was noted that the Community Police Officer was on annual leave and would not be attending. |  |
| 2 | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** |  |
| 2.1 | 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 | With regard to minute 4.1 the Chair reported that Kevin Lees and Euan Gibson had strimmed the path from the Youth hostel to the Haugh. |  |
| 3.2 | With regard to minute 4.2 the Chair reported that the waste bin had been moved to the position near the Youth Hostel to deal with an increase in dog fouling along the path leading to that point. A member of the public had contacted SBC and the Police about the nuisance. Notice advising the public to report further incidences of the matter had been placed on social media. |  |
| 3.3 | With regard to minute 4.3 the Chair reported that the list of locations of all benches had been emailed to KL. |  |
| 3.4 | With regard to minute 4.4 SM reported that there had been discussions with SBC about the reopening of the toilets in TY. Because of Covid-19 toilets were required to be cleaned three times each day and there was currently insufficient manpower for all toilets in the Borders at this stage. In TY the disabled toilet is being serviced but a key is needed for access. SBC had been made aware of the need for the repairs. |  |
| 3.5 | SM referred to the matter of potholes that had been raised in the last meeting. They were on the list but had not been done. |  |
| 3.6 | ER reported he had visited the locale and spoken with the residents. The site was something of a mess and some trees were covered in ivy and encroaching into the road. The SBC tree officer was now aware having been given photographs. It was intended to raise the matter with the Church of Scotland as certain trees were on the site owned by the Church of Scotland. The matter is in hand. A decision was needed by the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh about their intentions for the site. |  |
| 4 | **Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns** |  |
| 4.1 | There were no members of the public in attendance. |  |
| 5 | **Police Report** |  |
|  | It was noted that no report was available. GW raised the matter of the incident that had taken place outside the Border Hotel in KY. It was noted that the matter had been referred to the Police. |  |
| 6 | **Festival Committee Update:** |  |
|  | SS confirmed that there was nothing further to report. There would be a discussion in the coming-months about appointing a new Chair to the Festival Committee. It was note that the constitution required the Festival Committee Chair to be a member of the Community Council but was not required to be the Chair of the Community Council. SS asked those present to give the matter some thought. |  |
| 7 | **Portfolio Presentations:** |  |
| 7.1 | **Housing and Planning - Shane Black (Vice Chair)** |  |
| a) | SB said there was an appeal letter in respect of the house in KY for which an application for planning permission has been refused. There were no other new applications to report. |  |
| b) | SS reported that on the site adjacent to the Church an archaeologist had visited while the site was dug over and had confirmed that no bones had migrated from the churchyard which was uphill from the site. |  |
| 7.2 | **Finance - Angela Walker** |  |
|  | AW reported that £500 had been received from the Fallago Fund and AW would go ahead and purchase the benches to be positioned on the village Green. Although the benches could be stored in the Pavilion it would be beneficial to have them sited as the Pavilion was proposed to be used for the shop temporarily.  Around £900 had been spent on Resilience supplies but that was winding down. The cost of the Zoom subscription would be paid from it.  Income to date was £1,569 and expenditure was around £900 leaving a surplus of £600 because there was little current activity.  SB asked if it was worthwhile to place the container at the Pavilion to facilitate storage to accommodate the shop but it was unclear when the shop project would be advanced as the funding application was still being considered SB will discuss it with the contractor.  The project plan for the renovations at the Pavilion were being finalised. AW asked if additional grant monies were available. The discussion on that subject was deferred. |  |
| 7.3 | **Yetholm Resilient Group – Stuart Kelly** |  |
|  | SK thanked everyone for their responsible conduct during the lockdown. He commended them for having done so. The resilience group is winding down as from 1st August but will stand ready if there is a second spike. SS confirmed that mobile phones would be kept on for another month and a decision made thereafter on continuing them further. It was reported that some elderly people were reticent about using public transport and about resuming driving having not driven for some months. Mask can be bought in the shop. |  |
| 7.4 | **Village Maintenance & Utilities – Vacant** |  |
|  | No Update. |  |
| 7.5 | **Education - Zoe Keddie** |  |
|  | ZKD was not present. SS confirmed that the plan was for the school to reopen in 2 weeks’ time. SM noted that it was dependent on announcements to be made in the Scottish Parliament. |  |
| 7.6 | **Grants- Denise Allan** |  |
|  | DA was not present and had sent apologies. |  |
| 7.7 | **Health & Social Services – Sandi Keddie** |  |
|  | SK was not present and had sent apologies. |  |
| 7.8 | **Tourism – Graeme Wallace** |  |
|  | GW confirmed that the notice board in KY had been upgraded as previously reported. GW and SB will re-examine the map. A small number of tea towels have been sold. | SB / GW |
| 7.9 | **Projects, Events & Pavilion – Iain Dougal** |  |
|  | SS reported that ID had informed her that there was nothing to report on the Pavilion. |  |
| 7.10 | **Chair, Website Liaison & Public Events – Susan Stewart** |  |
| a) | SS reported that there had been two new enquiries about keeping adverts on the website. The Youth Hall is using its allocation of grant funding to refit the kitchen it will be open in September. The Wauchope Hall is looking to open in August to accommodate the ballet classes. There is a meeting coming to discuss this. The church has reopened on a restricted basis. SK added that it is the only church in the Presbytery that is open as all the necessary work has been done. |  |
| b) | SB reported that two camper vans and a tent wanted to use the playing field for a weekend for a small group of disabled children. The matter was discussed and approved on the basis the group were self-sufficient and did not require toilet or other facilities. |  |
| 8 | **Scottish Borders Councillors Update** |  |
| 8.1 | SM reported that there was a meeting coming up on Thursday that week at SBC with the sole item of business being to end the emergency power delegation. |  |
| 8.2 | ER reported that the bend at Catch-A-Penny would be the subject of an improvement scheme and would go into the queue of works although signs would be erected as soon as possible because it was a dangerous bend. The bend sign at TY was now visible. |  |
| 9 | **Additional Correspondence** |  |
|  | JS confirmed he had circulated incoming letters to the relevant persons as they had arrived. |  |
| 10 | **AOB** |  |
| 10.1 | SS reported the bottle bank waste collection company had been asked whether they could to make it clear that bottles could be placed in any of the receptables regardless of glass colour as they were all emptied into the same waste collection vehicle but had responded that SBC did not want that done. ER responded that enquiries would be made. |  |
| 10.2 | SS asked for it to be minuted that meetings by Zoom were taking place and were accepted by SBC as being unobjectionable. |  |
| 10.3 | SS and GW said a response was awaited from the Scottish Land Fund on the village shop application. |  |
| 10.4 | AW reported a member of public had a quantity of gravel available that could be used on the footpath leading to the allotments. SB said that DG would be refencing his land. SB will look into the matter. |  |
| 10.5 | SK mentioned that an application had been made to change the application of the parking regulations at Romany House. |  |
| 10.6 | GW echoed the earlier comments on the dog fouling and lamppost no 9 is hidden. ER confirmed there were a number of lighting issues and this was on that list. GW said that the gutter drains on the main street in TY were becoming overgrown with grass. GW asked if works were proposed. SM responded that the remainder of the High Street was on the list to be resurfaced and kerbing will be done at that time but enquiries will be made about clearing the grass from the gutter. |  |
| 10.7 | SB raised the tyres that had been dumped. |  |
| 10.8 | JS confirmed the problem of dog fouling was getting worse and the status and validity of the CC meetings being held by Zoom. |  |

The meeting closed at 19:50 hrs

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th August at 7.00 pm by Zoom call.**