

Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting held at Yetholm Kirk
Tuesday July 26 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present: Shane Black (SAB) (in the Chair), Norman Burr (NB) (Treasurer), Cllr E Robson (ER).
Karon Phillips (KP), Sumati Bala (SB), John Palfrey (JP), Susan Rands (SUR)
Heather Freeland-Cook (HFC), Paul Freeland Cook (PFC), David Green (DG), Cllr
Simon Mountford (SM), Susan Stewart (SS)

Apologies: None.

In attendance: Fiona Thompson (Yetholm Festival Committee Treasurer); Denise Allan, (Pavilion
Committee Treasurer);

Members of the Public: 0

	Minute	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: as above.	
2.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
2.1.	The Chair drew the attention of the meeting to the minutes of the previous meeting held on June 28, 2022 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 as a correct record.	
3.	Matters Arising/Outstanding	
3.6	JP reported that the planning application to SBC for planting Christmas trees had hit a wall as the message from SBC said that there would be no Planning Department in operation until September. He circulated a paper prior to the meeting of options open, to be discussed below.(8.3)	JP
6.4	SAB has been offered the loan of 4 CCTV cameras to be installed at the school as deterrent against any further vandalism, pending purchase of YCC cameras. ER confirmed that SBC will repair the school windows but cautioned that the materials supply chain is several weeks in arrears, so an early resolution is unlikely. ER was unable to give any date yet but confirmed that SBC will remove the graffiti asap.	SAB ER
10.1	Defibrillators: SS has investigated costs and equipment will be purchased this month at a total cost of around £6,000 for the three. She is also looking into electricity supply to the Bowmont Valley phone box.	SS
4.	Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns	
	None reported.	

5.	Festival Committee Report (FT)	
	<p>The Yetholm Festival financial year starts 1st April and to date we have recorded income of £5,832.11 with Expenditure of £5,555.41.</p> <p>Outstanding invoices include those for the hire of horses and from the jewelers for engraving cups etc.</p> <p>Additional fundraising events are planned to take place between now and March 31st, 2023, which it is anticipated will cover all 2022 expenses and mean we do not rely on our reserves to support the festival.</p> <p>Additional potential income will come from advert fees, enlisting more Patrons, and showcasing what Yetholm Festival does, when we take a table at the Yetholm Shepherd Show.</p> <p>The next Festival meeting is 5th September when the "picking" team will be chosen. Following a successful outcome of having next year's Principals lined up, the next meeting would be January 2023 when the process of Festival 2023 planning starts.</p> <p>Platinum Jubilee Grant: 2 invoices awaited--one for the 2 trees and one for catering. It is anticipated that we will be returning approx. £550 to SBC as unused Grant funding.</p>	
6.	Community Council Constitution (KP)	
	<p>KP has volunteered to scrutinise our Constitution to ensure that we are compliant in all matters. NB is concerned that the Festival Committee and the Pavilion Committee are currently operating as separate entities, each with its own Treasurer and conducting its own individual audit and wonders if this is constitutional or if they should all be under the aegis of the YCC. NB suggested a working party to discuss this and other possible areas of contention. Of particular concern is the issue of insurance. Working party to consist of KP, NB, SAB, Fiona Thompson (Festival Committee Treasurer) and Denise Allen (Pavilion Committee Treasurer), to report back to the YCC meeting on August 30.</p>	
7.	Legacy Proposals (KP)	
	<p>Several proposals were put forward by council members including a) establishment of an educational trust fund b) Website update and maintenance c) donations to various village groups. Method of communication to villagers discussed and agreed to put notice on website and on village noticeboards. Proposals to be sent to YCC Secretary who will forward them to a Subgroup consisting of SAB, HFC, PFC, JP. The group will bring suggestions to August 30 meeting.</p>	
8.	Portfolio Presentations:	
8.1.	Housing and Planning; Shane Black	
	No current issues.	
8.2.	Finance: Norman Burr	
a	NB proposed moving YCC bank accounts from TSB to Co-operative Bank: all agreed. He is also in the process of establishing internet banking a/c.	NB
b	KP proposed amendment to current practice to mandate 2 out of 3 signatories to cheques. All agreed.	NB, KP
8.3.	Village Maintenance & Utilities: Norman Burr	
	Christmas trees and lighting for 2022: JP has exhaustively researched possibilities, circulating paper in advance of meeting. He will report on developments at next meeting.	NB, JP
8.4.	Education: Heather Freeland-Cook	
	School is closed for summer holidays, so no current activity apart from that noted in 6.4 above.	

8.5.	Bowmont Valley – Paul Freeland Cook 7 miles of potholes have been repaired on the Bowmont Valley Road, PFC reports. It was noted by ER that the timber companies involved make considerable contributions to SBC towards cost of repair to road for damage caused by heavy lorries.	
8.6.	Grants and Funding: Karon Phillips	
	Pathways grant application has been submitted; KP reported that if more than £500 is applied for, then YCC must contribute 10% towards final costs. If there is any monies remaining from current annual pathways grant, it could perhaps be used towards cost of strimming, grass cutting.	KP
8.7.	Tourism – John Palfrey	
a)	JP to take this over from Graeme Wallace. SAB will deliver merchandise to JP.	SAB, JP
b)	Website: detailed brief to be sent to 4 respondents to advert. Proposals to be submitted by April 2023. Presentations will then take place and sub-group will make decision based on how close to objectives they are: The main aim of the exercise is to boost occupation of local B&Bs and hotels and raise profile of villages. All will be tested before going live.	SS, JP, NB
8.8.	Health & Social Services – Sumati Bala	
a)	Sumati Bala will take this over from John Stobart. She will work with SS on defibrillators.	SB, SS
b)	SB will check status of resilience group.	SB
8.9.	Projects, Events & Pavilion – Shane Black	
a)	Pavilion: no firm bookings yet, but SAB has been approached by a motorcycle club with the potential of an annual booking. tbc	
b)	Sept 18: booking by local music group.	
c)	Plough Hotel has asked if it may borrow the Pavilion tea urn in return for a donation to funds.	
d)	Sheds were sold via Facebook ad for £60 each, funds to be donated to Resilience group.	
9.	Police Report	
9.1.	No report received for July. SUR has contacted police, who have apologised and promised to make sure that this is rectified. ER has also been in contact to chase up.	ER, SUR
10.	Scottish Borders Councillors Update	
10.1.	ER reported that SBC Chief Executive has recently resigned, and search is under way for a replacement.	
10.2.	ER drew attention to the SBC Health and Social Care Community Feedback 2022 consultation. Survey ends on August 21.	ALL
10.3.	Lochside: there is urgent need for the vegetation to be cut back on the corner. SAB asked how this could be achieved apart from another request to the owner which has, so far, proved unfruitful. ER said that the dangerous Catchpenny and Cherry Trees situations are being addressed by the SBC, though no specific update was available.	ER, SAB
11.	Additional Correspondence	
	None. All correspondence is forwarded to councillors as it is received.	SUR
12.	Community Council AOB	
	YCC AGM will take place at 18.45pm on Tuesday August 30, 2022 and will be followed by monthly meeting	

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday August 30 2022 at 19.00 hrs in the Upper Room of Yetholm Kirk.

To be preceded by the AGM at 18.45pm