

**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting held in Yetholm Youth Hall
Tuesday 2nd December 2025**

Present: Fiona Thompson (FT), Susan Stewart (SS), Paul Freeland Cook (PFC), Euan Gibson (EG), Kevin Lee (KL) and Sarah Elliot (SE)

Scottish Borders Councillors – Euan Robson (ER).

Apologies: Simon Mountford (SM), Angela Walker (AW) and Denise Allan (DA)

Members of the Public: 4 present

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 Haugh Steps – ER still awaiting response from criminal justice team re support with this work. Labour would be no charge, but materials would have to be paid for. Cemetery Access – FT intimated that a plan had been received re new gateway. Kind of gate required i.e. wooden or metal to be confirmed. ER said that there could be up to £900 available for this project. This would be the maximum amount available. Manhole covers on Dowbrae – remained work in progress Bottle bank – ER to send correspondence he had received to SS.	 ER ER
4	Christmas Trees and Lights Trees were now in situ in both villages and lights would be switched on from 5/12 – 5/1 inc. Thanks expressed to those who had helped this year. Discussion took place re ways of funding trees in the future. This to be investigated further over the coming year.	
5	Members of the Public- Issues and or Concerns MOP noted that the road between Kirk Yetholm and Yetholm Mains was extremely wet and flooded in many places. ER to report. Two MOP attended meeting to express their concerns re amendment to planning application at Maple House Town Yetholm. The removal of clause 4 would appear to be a direct infringement of what was originally agreed in the initial planning application of 2017. Lengthy discussion took place and ER agreed he would speak to Euan Calvert at SBC re the residents and Community Council's concerns. CC would submit a response to the planning application before closing date of 25/12/25.	 ER ER

6	<p>Portfolio Discussions Housing and Planning – Vacant Two applications had been received. Retrospective application for erection of a log cabin Town Yetholm. No comments made by CC. Maple House Town Yetholm – discussed above.</p>	
	<p>Finance – Angela Walker No report available due to AW absence. However, noted that grant application was in hand for the coming year. EG asked if he could spend up to £250 on materials to make the steps down to the Haugh safe (this would mean above discussion re Criminal Justice Team carrying out work would not now be required. However, they could be asked to carry out work on KY side of bridge instead) ER to continue to follow this up All agreed that EG could spend the above sum obtaining materials to make TY steps safe. SS intimated that noticeboard in TY was now beyond repair, and all agreed that a new board be sourced and priced. SS had spoken with Heritage Society, and they were also looking at a new noticeboard at Heritage Centre so a three-sided board on TY green was no longer required.</p>	<p>ER SS</p>
	<p>Village Maintenance – Euan Gibson EG reported that there were a number of large bags of salt lying in school playground – ER to investigate.</p>	ER
	<p>Education – Sarah Elliot SR gave a very positive report re school and nursery numbers. The hope was that in the coming year the school would go back to two classes. Nursery enrolment was now in full swing and to date there were 10(3- 4-year-olds) and 5 (2-year-olds). School Concert was due to place in Hall on 8/12 and there were to be an afternoon and evening performance.</p>	
	<p>Bowmont Valley – Paul Freeland Cook PFC reported that there had been a big effort in the valley by SBC to repair potholes and this was much appreciated. He reported a burst water main at entrance to the valley and ER said he would look into this.</p>	ER
	<p>Resilience – Kevin Lee KL intimated that drains toward the cemetery needing cleared out as road was flooded in parts. The hedgerow had been well cut back on Pavilion roadside and thanks were expressed to Trevor Griffiths for his help with this.</p>	
	<p>Grants and Funding – Fiona Thompson FT said she was looking into possible funding from community grants to upgrade toilets and double glazing at the Pavilion.</p>	FT
	<p>Pavilion/Tourism – Denise Allan FT updated all on Pavilion. Scottish Water had been to do site survey and identified that as Pavilion has no drain access, we should not be paying any waste charges. The Pavilion is now deregistered, and we should be able to claim payments made in the past.</p>	

	Spine Race had booked Pavilion in January and June 26 and noted that was in addition to other facilities they use in the villages. January payment would be £350 and June £300 and this would cover the insurance costs on the Pavilion. Regular updates re Soine Race were now being received from organisers and FT said she would pull out the key points for them to be displayed on noticeboards and Facebook page.	FT
	Health and Social Services – Vacant Nil to report	
7	Police Report No report received	
8	Scottish Borders Council Update ER noted that overgrown bushes were to be cut down in Deanfield Bank by Eildon Housing in the coming week. Notices had been seen in both phone boxes saying that they were to be removed but both notices were undated so unclear as to how long they had actually been in situ. Noted that these boxes were essential in the villages due to walkers and they should not be removed. ER to try and ascertain any further update. Live Borders report had now been published and although Abbey Row was safe at the moment this was not to be seen as a certainty for the future. SBC working on budget for next financial year, but it was largely dependant on Scottish Government but was emphasised that considerable savings would have to be made.	ER
9	Additional Correspondence All had been sent out by email	
10	Community Council/A.O. B Noted that Christmas Tree lights had been PAT tested and recorded as such for the next two years which should help with form completion next year it was to be hoped.	

The meeting closed at 2020

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 7pm in The Youth Hall