**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held in Yetholm Youth Hall**

**Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 7:00PM**

**Present:** Susan Stewart (in the chair), Natasha Gray, Shane Black, Stuart Kelly (SK), Graeme Wallace, Angela Walker, Iain Dougal, Sandi Keddie (SAK), Denise Allan, Zoe Keddie, Cllr Mountford

**Apologies:** Cllr Robson

**Members of the Public: 3**

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| 1 | **Apologies for Absence:** as above |  |
| 2 | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** |  |
|  | Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed by the Chair. |  |
| 3 | **Matters Arising/Outstanding** |  |
| 3.1 | Mobile Coverage – **Ongoing but no immediate actions.** |  |
| 3.2 | Concerns re Flooding – Matter is now being taken forward by SBHA. **No Further Action.** |  |
| 3.3 | Notice Board – The seals on the notice board are still to so but drainage holes have now been added. Map still to do. **Ongoing.** | GW |
| 3.4 | School Signs – SBC have established that the cost to connect to the nearest Scottish Power connection would be out of budget. The CC confirmed that the lights are acceptable in their current position. **No Further Action.** |  |
| 3.5 | Public Toilets – ER advised by email that SBC is only currently spending on ‘care and repair’ for now pending the outcome of the review – this is due soon, potentially at the December council meeting. **Ongoing.** |  |
| 3.6 | Speeding/Safety Concerns/30mph Signs – ER advised by email that SBC would not provide ‘repeater signs’ in the area however clarification was given at the meeting as to the actual area of concern which is from the Youth Hostel towards the village. Police were in attendance at the meeting and will highlight the issue. |  |
| 4 | **Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns** |  |
|  | No issues raised. |  |
| 5 | **Police Report - Community Beat Officer (PC Rachael Stark)** |  |
|  | PC Stark noted that the main incidents in the month’s report were vandalism at two properties in the village, one of which will shortly be vacated. It was noted that bamboo screening is being used to cover up the graffiti as the wall needs to be re-rendered. There was also an incident of vandalism in the public toilets. Some incidents of anti-social behaviour involving an individual targeting resident’s dogs have occurred – this is being dealt with by police. As noted previously in January 2018, “The Head of the ASB Unit has advised that if any individual feels “fear or alarm” due to the behaviour of another person, they should call the Police on the non-emergency number (101) or contact the ASB Unit at the Council Offices.” |  |
| 6 | **Festival Committee Update:** |  |
|  | The next planning meeting will take place in January. Both principals have now been elected. |  |
|  | Secretary Post – it was noted that Mr John Stobart will be taking over the role of secretary from NG as of January. NG will provide John will all handover information required. SS and those present offered their thanks to NG for her work over the last few years. |  |
| 7 | **Portfolio Presentations:** |  |
| 7.1 | **Housing and Planning - Shane Black (Vice Chair)** |  |
|  | No new plans received this month. |  |
| 7.2 | **Finance - Angela Walker** |  |
|  | Income YTD £2527, Expenditure YTD £964; we currently have a carry forward balance of around £8000. There are still some web invoices to be collected and invoices to be received for the notice board and new aprons. |  |
| 7.3 | **Yetholm Resilient Group – Stuart Kelly** |  |
|  | SK noted that the recent issue of ‘SB Connect’ contains an article on preparation. He raised concerns over a number of vacant properties in the village coming in to the winter months and advised those present to keep an eye on them if passing. We still need an updated list of volunteers – ZK may have some details to pass on. A resilience meeting is to be arranged. DA will look into potential grant funding for a storage container to be placed on the back lane site as discussed previously. SS advised that the Rotary Club will be running some Dementia awareness classes in Kelso. | DA |
| 7.4 | **Village Maintenance & Utilities – Vacant** |  |
|  | No Update. |  |
| 7.5 | **Education - Zoe Keddie** |  |
|  | Mr Lindsay will be leaving YPS to take up a position at Broomlands School. SS noted that the dates of the Christmas play have been changed due to the general election. |  |
| 7.6 | **Grants- Denise Allan** |  |
|  | DA advised that we still have scope of £180 within the annual pathways grant – it was suggested that we look in to putting a gate in on the walk route which has had issues with access recently. SB will speak to Douglas Gibson about this. | SB |
| 7.7 | **Health & Social Services – Sandi Keddie** |  |
|  | Further first aid training will potentially be arranged for early in the new year. |  |
| 7.8 | **Tourism – Graeme Wallace** |  |
|  | No Update. |  |
| 7.9 | **Projects, Events & Pavilion – Iain Dougal** |  |
|  | The Pavilion group will be making an application for monies from the Windfall fund. |  |
| 7.10 | **Chair, Website Liaison & Public Events – Susan Stewart** |  |
|  | SS noted that the website is still receiving a good number of new hits. |  |
| 8 | **Scottish Borders Councillors Update** |  |
|  | SM noted that the issues with the road surface on the main street have been reported to SBC and will be dealt with. He also reiterated that there is still funding available in the community grant scheme. |  |
| 9 | **Additional Correspondence** |  |
|  | SS advised of a letter she had received a copy of relating to ground adjacent to Back Lane, the issue referred to is moving towards a resolution between SBC and the individual concerned. |  |
| 10 | **AOB** |  |
| 10.1 | The issue raised previously regarding the Xmas tree light connection was note resolved, it was suggested that as an alternative this year we should purchase and use battery operated lights. Costings for trees were obtained and agreed by those present. |  |
| 10.2 | SB advised that there is an electricity pylon which is now sitting within the river due to recent flooding, this has been reported to Scottish Power. The river is also now washing away the land towards the road and will start to become a serious flooding issue. |  |
| 10.3 | GW noted some maintenance issues; the area of pavement where a member of the public had recently fallen has now been attended to. There are some large potholes at the Yetholm Mains junction and water running down the road from Venchen towards the Cherrytrees junction. |  |
| 10.4 | SM confirmed that, following on from previous discussion, a demolition order was granted for the building at Proctor’s Smiddy. |  |
| 10.5 | SK advised that the Church are required to completed a census of sheep and goats of church land for the Scottish government. |  |

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th January in Yetholm Youth Hall at 7.00pm.**