

## DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

**Present:**

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor R Armstrong	
Community Councillor C Nicol	
Community Councillor S Passmore	Treasurer
Community Councillor W Roberts	Secretary
Community Councillor S Robinson	

**In attendance:**

Councillor N Richards	SBC
PC A Patterson	Police Scotland
Two Members of Denholm Feuars	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> CC S Clew, Cllr S Marshall, Cllr C Ramage.	
2.	<b>Declaration of Interest.</b> Chair called for any declaration of interest, either in general or when related to a specific item under discussion.	<b>All</b>
3.	<b>Police Report.</b> PC Patterson presented his report for October/November (attached). He highlighted the persistent problem of “lamping” and asked for any relevant information to be passed to the police.  Chair asked that the gratitude of the CC be passed to the police staff who were present at the village bonfire and facilitated the clearing of traffic after the event. Their efforts were greatly appreciated.	
4.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting (18 Oct 17).</b> The Minutes were proposed by CC Nicol, seconded by CC Armstrong. <b>Approved.</b>	
5.	<b>Matters Arising.</b>  a. <b>Road Texturing (Item 9a).</b> Cllr Marshall had indicated that, contrary to earlier information, agreement was still being sought for the colour/texturing of road surfaces requested.	
6.	<b>Treasurer’s Report.</b> Treasurer presented her report (attached):  a. Current balance stood at £1240.04.  The Projects Account balance stood at £1168.80 of which £175.50 is ring fenced for the Defibrillator Fund.  The Langhope Rig Community Fund had made grants totalling £5008.81. A further grant of £2000 (with restrictions) was awaiting approval.  Treasurer expressed her frustration at the failure to date of RBS to process the requested change of signatories, which would then allow the opening of a separate account to hold the monies from the Community Fund. Efforts continued.	<b>Treasurer</b>

- b. **Additional Grants:**
- (1) **School Staging.** The School Parents' Council had applied to the Community Fund for a contribution of £2000 towards the cost of replacement staging for the school hall. FS had advised that the project did meet the necessary criteria, but suggested that a grant be conditional on the balance required be guaranteed from other sources. **Approved (subject to a time limit, tbd in Jan 18).** **Treasurer  
Sec**
- (2) **Christmas Mini-Grants.** Chair proposed a grant of £50 from the General Balance for each of the following bodies:
- Brownies
  - Rainbows
  - Boys' Brigade
  - Bairns' Party
  - Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch
  - Mothers & Toddlers Group (conditional on start-up)
- All approved.** **Treasurer**
- (3) **Resilience Group.** CC Nicol requested a grant of £100 for the RG to meet the cost of an "A Frame" and stationery various. **Approved.** **Treasurer**
7. **Correspondence.** One item only:
- a. **Letter of Thanks.** William Brodie had written his thanks for £50 towards cost of equipment for the national mountain bike championships.
8. **Planning Applications.**
- a. **Craigard Canongate.** Chair and Sec had attended the SBC Planning Committee meeting on 6 Nov 17 considering the application, and Sec had presented the objections of the CC and various residents. Unfortunately, the planning committee approved the application notwithstanding the objections raised.
- b. **17/01421/FUL.** Erection of a dwelling house on land west of former railway line at Hassendean. **There were no comments or objections.** **Sec**
9. **Small Grant Scheme.** No updates.
10. **Foundation Scotland (FS).** There was no further news following the sale of the company, and the advice that the Community Fund would remain unaffected. Treasurer to seek an update. **Treasurer**
11. **Community Storage Facility.** No updates.
12. **Wind Farms Update.** Chair reported the following:
- a. **Birneyknowe Windfarm.** Chair, Sec and CCs Clew and Nicol had attended the PEM on 25 Oct 17 at Hawick Rugby Club. The meeting was to finalise the provision of information to the SG Reporter, in order for him to consider properly the case for the windfarm. Dates had been set for informal discussions and for legal hearings, where appropriate. Sec had

challenged the validity of information regarding the traffic plan, and an informal discussion had been agreed to clarify the facts.

- b. **Pines Burn.** Chair and Sec had attended the SBC Planning Committee on 6 Nov 17, where the application by EnergieKontor was refused for a variety of reasons. It was likely this would now go to appeal.
- c. **Barrel Law 2.** A response from D&DCC was required by 20 Nov 17. Sec and Chair to action.

**Chair  
Secretary**

13. **A.O.B.**

a. **Resilience Group.**

- (1) Mrs Lynn Fergusson (RG Chair) had asked for a survey of grit bins and drains throughout the village, and responses had been received, although these had yet to be collated. Cllr Richards agreed to pursue the results with SBC.
- (2) CC Nicol reported that 3 sandbag stores had been made and were awaiting collection – CC Armstrong agreed to collect.
- (3) CC Nicol also indicated that a test would be carried out in the next few days to check the RG Call-out List – all participants were asked to respond accordingly.

**Richards**

**Armstrong**

**Nicol**

b. **Road Signage.**

- (1) Cllr Ramage had reported her discussions with SBC Roads Dept, who had offered to update the Ancrum Road end sign post to indicate “Denholm” as requested.
- (2) CC Nicol reported the lack of a signpost to indicate the location of the Denholm Cemetery, and this was confusing. Also an empty sign pole at the Minto Road/Canongate junction should be removed.

**Richards**

- c. **Pavement.** Cllr Marshall had agreed pursue the formation of a pavement on the main road from the Denholm Meet to Denholm Mill, and an update was awaited.

**(Marshall)**

- d. **Core Path Lighting.** A request for street lighting on the core path from Denholm Mill to The Wynd was under consideration at SBC.

**(Ramage)**

- e. **Drop Kerb.** The lack of a drop-kerb at the Post Office would be considered for inclusion in the next FY programme.

**(Ramage)**

- f. **Road Lining.** A white line at the roadside was required at the entrance to The Green.

**(Ramage)**

- g. **Manhole Cover (The Green).** A manhole cover had been left in a hazardous state following resurfacing of the pavement on the north side of The Green, and corrective work was urgently required. Cllr Richards agreed to take forward.

**Richards**

- h. **Locality Committee Meeting.** Chair had attended the meeting on 14 Nov.

- (1) **Funding.** Considerable uncertainty remained around the distribution of funds. The first tranche of funding was due to close on 1 Dec 17, but no bids had been received to date.

- (2) **Fire Services.** It had been announced that henceforth, when an ambulance was unavailable to respond to a “999” call, the Fire

- Service would no longer respond in its place, as had been the case since 2015. It was agreed that D&DCC should write to object to this change, details to be discussed at next meeting. **Sec**
- j. **Drain Collapse.** CC Passmore reported a drain grate in The Loaning had collapsed. Cllr Richards to pursue. **Richards**
- k. **CC Membership.** CC Armstrong indicated he had been approached by two members of the public interested in joining the CC. Chair would welcome their contact details to discuss Co-opted Membership. **Armstrong**
- l. **Feuars Matters.**
- (1) Mr Campbell said the Feuars were requesting funding from the Locality fund for lighting of the Leyden's Monument, and to provide a lighting power source on The Green. The CC agreed to submit this application; Mr Campbell was to provide Sec with details. Mr Tate indicated that on-going costs for such a facility would be met by the Feuars. **Campbell**
- (2) Mr Campbell reported that an SBC "Borders Festival Fund" annually granted funds to a number of localities to support various festive events. However, Denholm was not on the list of participating localities, but may be eligible regarding the Ride-Out or similar event. Cllr Richards agreed to investigate. **Richards**
- (3) Mr Campbell reported that the Village Green Christmas Tree lighting would take place on Sunday 10 Dec 17 at 6.00pm, Rev Nicol officiating. **All**
14. **Date of Next Meeting.** The next meeting would be on Wed **17 Jan 18** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm. **All**
- Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Will Roberts  
Sec D&DCC

17 Nov 17

**Membership of D&DCC:**

Mrs G Crew (Chair)  
Mr R Armstrong (Vice Chair)  
Mr S Clew  
Mr T Lothian  
Mrs C Nicol  
Mrs S Passmore (Treasurer)  
Mr W Roberts (Secretary)  
Mrs S Robinson

**Information:**

Mr S Marshall (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr C Ramage (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr N Richards (Councillor, SBC)  
  
Democratic Services Team, SBC  
PC A Patterson (Community PC)  
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)  
Ms K Wylie (Hawick News)  
Mr J Marshall (The Hawick Paper)