

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 21 March 2018

Present:

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

In attendance:

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
PC A Patterson	Police Scotland
Three Members of the Public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. CC T Lothian, Councillors C Ramage, N Richards	
2.	Declaration of Interest. Chair called for any declaration of interest, either in general or when related to a specific item under discussion.	All
3.	Police Report. PC Patterson presented his report for Feb/Mar (attached).	
4.	Minutes of the Last Meeting (21 Feb 17). The Minutes were proposed by CC Armstrong, seconded by CC Clew. Approved.	
5.	Matters Arising.	
a.	Road Signage (Items 5b). Cllr Richards had agreed to pursue – asked to report to next meeting.	Richards
b.	Fire Services (Item 5c). Sec had written to the local Chief of Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, expressing the CC's concern at the new policy of NOT responding to 999 call when an ambulance was not available. A reassuring response had been received, indicating it was hoped to return to the <i>status quo ante</i> through negotiations with the Fire Brigades Union.	
c.	Bottle Bank (Item 15d). Cllr Marshall reported that the area of the bottle bank at the Fisherman's Carpark had been cleared of refuse.	
d.	Village Hall Car Park Flooding (Item 5e). Mr George Pilch reported that SBC had addressed the problem, which had now been sorted.	
e.	Flooding at Eastgate (Item 5f). Mr Pilch reported that SBC had surveyed the problem. He had been advised by letter that his property was at a "one-in-five risk of flooding" and he was extremely concerned; other properties on Eastgate were also considered to be at risk. He had written to SBC seeking action but none had been scheduled to date. It	

- was agreed that D&DCC should now pursue the matter on his behalf, and Cllr Marshall offered to do this with SBC. **Marshall**
- f. **Village Spring Clean (Item 8b).** Chair reported that, due to the bad weather, this had been delayed until end of April.
- g. **Repairs to the Kissing Gate (Item 10a).** CC Armstrong reported that this had now been fully repaired (awaiting painting), and extended his thanks to Mr Kevin Watson for his work.
- h. **Minto Village Pump (Item 10c).** Cllr Marshall and CCs Armstrong and Roberts had inspected the site with SBC officials, who were now costing the project. It is hoped that this would be funded under the Small Grants Scheme.
- i. **Community Storage Facility (Item 12).** Chair was to write to SBC seeking clarification on the right of usage of the facility and on responsibility for maintenance.
- j. **Street Lighting (Item 14c).** On-going.
- k. **Auld Cross Keys Hotel Rates (Item 14d).** On-going.
- l. **Teviotdale Locality Plan – IT Training Group Proposal (Item 14f).** Chair had received only one expression of interest. She would pursue. **Chair**
- m. **KEEP CLEAR Markings (Item 14h).** Cllr Ramage had indicated this work would be done as soon as the bad weather had cleared.
- n. **The Loaning – Subsidence (Item 14i).** It was agreed that action should await completion of the new mast project. CC Robinson to monitor. **Robinson**
- o. **Fly Tipping (on Minto Rd) (Item 14 j).** Cllr Marshall reported that a sign would be erected to deter tippers.
- p. **Footpath Sinking (Jedward Terrace) (Item 14l).** Mr Pilch reported that a site visit had been done and the situation was being monitored.
- q. **Fisherman’s Carpark (Item 14m).** Cllr Marshall reported that SBC had agreed to dump plantings on an opportunity basis, for use by the Feuars.
6. **Treasurer’s Report.** Treasurer presented her report (attached). She has received an email from FS indicating a “Returns Report” was now required. Treasurer to action. **Treasurer**
7. **May Fair 2018.** Chair introduced the May Fair event, similar to that in 2017. It would be held on The Green on Saturday 26 May starting at 1.00pm, preceded by a car-boot sale in the morning (8.00am start). Chair thanked CCs Clew and Nicol for mounting the burger stall, and encouraged all to participate as helpers and/or in mounting stalls. **All**
- Chair requested a float of £100 to cover running costs: **Agreed.** **Treasurer**

8. **Defibrillator Costs.** Following discussion, it was agreed that future costs incurred in maintenance of the Defibrillator should be met from within the annual SBC grant to D&DCC, ie the Current Account.

Chair confirmed that responsibility for maintenance lay with Avril Trust and not with HART. Chair had attached a label with her own phone number, indicating that she should be contacted in the event of problems. The unit had continued to “flash” intermittently during the recent bad weather, but this was probably due to poor design of the cover and had to be accepted.

9. **Correspondence.** Two items only:

- a. **Borders Walking Festival.** Hawick CC had agreed to mount the 2018 Walking Festival, scheduled for 2 – 8 Sep. Details were available at: www.borderswalking.com
- b. **Teviotdale & Liddesdale Area Partnership.** All CCs were invited to participate; opportunities for public to “join” various official bodies. “Participation Request Forms” were available from Chair. A meeting was scheduled for 14 Apr 18, venue to be detailed.

There was considerable discussion regarding the “Partnership” initiative, including disturbing reports from the SBCC Network representatives regarding the reaction of SBC officials to a request for participation and for voting rights, which had been refused.

10. **Planning Applications.** None received.

11. **Small Grant Scheme.** No new proposals.

12. **Foundation Scotland (FS).**

- a. Grant for School Staging. Treasurer reported that a grant of £2000 had been made.

13. **Wind Farms Update.** Chair reported the following:

- a. **Birneyknowe Windfarm Public Inquiry.** Chair had attended a number of the PI sessions. The matter was now in the hands of the Reporter who had conducted a most comprehensive inquiry. There was now an urgent requirement to submit final input to the QC, Mr Campbell. It was agreed this should include our on-going concerns regarding the environment, impact on tourism and transport.

It was also concerning that, in view of the expected 5 year construction phase envisaged, it was quite likely that the current rules predicting a 25 year life of such wind farms would be extended to “in perpetuity”.

Chair would submit the D&DCC input to Mr Campbell.

Chair

Mr Pilch proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair for her considerable efforts in following the PI, and in ensuring the CCs’ concerns were properly represented. **All agreed.**

- b. **Pines Burn.** The appeal was now being handled as written evidence only and not as a PI. It was noted that the Reporter concerned had now accepted a significant input from the falconry business at Hawthornside.

c. **Others.** No further news.

A.O.B.

a. **Denholm Church Clock.** Chair expressed her thanks to SBC for repairing the clock, which was her personal time-keeper.

b. **SBCC Network.** CC Passmore stated that the subject to be addressed by the nominated speaker at the AGM was “Loans and Grants”.

c. **Grit Bins.** CC Nicol expressed the thanks of the CCs to SBC for ensuring the grit bins in the village had been refilled before the recent wintry weather.

d. **Street Lights.** CC Nicol reported that some of the new street lights were still on late in the mornings. Cllr Marshall agreed to discuss with SBC.

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting would be on Wed **18 Apr 18** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

All

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Will Roberts
Sec D&DCC

26 Mar 18

Attachments:

1. Police Report
2. Treasurer's Report

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)