

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2016

Present:

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor R Armstrong	
Community Councillor T Lothian	
Community Councillor C Nicol	
Community Councillor S Passmore	Secretary
Community Councillor N Richards	
Community Councillor M Wilson	

In attendance:

Councillor A Cranston	SBC
Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor W McAteer	SBC
Mr Duncan Morrison +3	Flood Management Team
13 members of the public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. CC W Roberts, PC Patterson.	
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 was unavailable.	
4.	Hawick Flood Protection Scheme Presentation. Flood Manager Duncan Morrison, Ewan Foyle, Stephen Bint and David Monk in attendance. The scheme had been 6 years in development with many areas requiring extra consideration. Possibility of 2-3 metre high walls to retain water in some areas in Hawick; some bridges requiring attention so that they would not hinder the flow of water and debris. Any changes would not necessarily have a detrimental effect downstream. Fields would still act as a flood plain. Mr & Mrs N Cook from Denholm Mill had commissioned their own survey and they hoped this would be considered in conjunction with the other findings. Questions were asked by some residents as to the purpose of the extra raising of field bunts to protect fields. Councillors took this on board and would voice residents' concerns. Public meetings would be held for comments when the final plans were available.	
5.	Minutes of the Last Meeting (20 Apr 16). a. AGM Minutes were proposed by CC Richards, seconded by CC Nicol. Approved. b. Meeting Minutes were proposed by CC Passmore, seconded by CC Armstrong. Approved.	

6. **Matters Arising.**

- a. **Resilient Community (Item 5a).** Mrs Nicol and the head teacher had identified a suitable site at the school for the storage unit; however photographic evidence was now requested at SBC level. Chair to contact with comments. 40 names now on list of resilient volunteers.
- b. **HM Queen's Birthday Medal (Item 5c).** School had to re submit order as there had been a problem.
- c. **Public Toilets (Item 5e).** No further correspondence had been received regarding the toilets.
- d. **Dog Fouling (Item 5g).** After considerable information had been reported locally, it was announced that 2 dog wardens for the Scottish Borders had been approved. They would spread their time throughout the local area. The public are urged to contact the police if owners and their dogs do not comply with the basic requirement to clean up after their pet. An extra bin was now in place up the Dene Road as requested.
- e. **Road Potholes (Item 5h).** Potholes were being repaired as quickly as possible. The complaints regarding the roads at Minto and from Whitriggs to the main Hawick road had been dealt with.
- f. **Street Lights (Item 5j).** Repairs were ongoing and street lights were again working intermittently. Cllr Marshall reported that new lighting columns would be erected sometime in the future.

7. **Treasurer's Report.** No change from last month

8. **Correspondence.** Five items:

- a. Book award of £100 was sent to the organising committee.
- b. Awaiting dates to visit new Eildon development at Jedward Terrace.
- c. Details of 'Force' a new publication showing details of local organisations and help lines in the brochure.
- d. An appeal from Mr & Mrs Ewart regarding their planning application at Manse Field Denholm.
- e. Sight of a letter regarding the opportunity to apply for the community purchase of a turbine.

9. **Planning Applications.** Chair took applications in reverse order to agenda.

- a. **16/00509/FUL.** Extension at 14 Denholm Mill. No comment or observations.
- b. **16/00413/FUL.** Erection of Mobile Phone Mast. Chair gave a short explanation to members of the public how the CC were notified of planning applications. Notice of CC meetings were advertised, agenda showing items to be discussed were posted on Denholm Village website and notice

board, and minutes were posted afterwards. Reports were also given in local papers.

It was noted that residents' objections had now been posted on the SBC planning portal, and gave many reasons for their objections. Cllrs Marshall & McAteer had met residents to see where the mast was proposed and had listened to their concerns. A second meeting, including Mr Evans from Planning, was also suggested after the time limit was closed for further comments. It was also agreed that CC would send comments regarding residents' concerns.

10. **Boundary Change Proposals.** No update regarding Boundary Changes, as the new Government Minister had yet to be announced. An introductory letter from CC when the appointment was made public was suggested.

Chair

11. **Small Grant Scheme.**

- a. Steps were being repaired behind school and Denholm Mill. Work possibly started quicker than expected.
- b. Damage had been caused to recent replacement picnic table; however it would be repaired by Tom Lothian and Dougie Crew.
- c. Trees at Minto Church would be trimmed by SBC at a cost of £435.
- d. Remedial footway works for Denholm Main Street and Kirkside, and drainage work at Cavers were highlighted within the SBC Capital Works Programme.

12. **Wind Farms Update.**

- a. **Foundation Scotland.** A short resume was reported of the meeting between Foundation Scotland, Chair and Secretary, and 2 representatives from Hawick CC, Questions posed to FS would hopefully be addressed. No agreement was made regarding the inclusion of Denholm CC within the new Langhope Rig Community Benefit Fund.
- b. **Birneyknowe.** No further updates.
- c. **Pines Burn.** Scoping report imminent, planning application dates given. Further public exhibitions being arranged by developer.
- d. **Wauchope/Newcastleton.** Still in planning stages to see if application remained as 1 or separate developments.
- e. **Highlee Hill.** Preparations now for planning.

13. **Public Toilets – Update.** No update regarding toilet closure.

14. **Borders National Park – Declaration of Support.** CC Rob Armstrong reported an update from Jane Bowers. Overall most CC's supported a local National Park especially as it would coincide with the English one that stopped at the Border. Cllr Cranston reported that more discussion was necessary, and he was requested to take the issue to full Council to see what support there was there.

Cranston

After a show of hands, (9 votes) it was agreed to support in principal the forming of a new Borders National Park. A member of the public questioned if this was

just to deter wind farms; a short explanation of the aims of the park proposal was given.

15. **Denholm Picnic – Celebrating HM Queen’s Birthday.** Arrangements for a BBQ/ Picnic were in hand although more helpers were needed to make this a memorable day. BBQ, football, children’s games, and competition were being organised, and music provided by Hawick Pipe Band and Riddell Fiddles. A grant application had been submitted to SBC for additional funding.

All

16. **Any Other Business.**

- a. **Resignation.** CC Stuart Beck had tendered his resignation from D&DCC. Chair and all members thanked him for his services over the years.
- b. **Bus Services.** No more news was available concerning the bus timetables or route changes, but members were concerned that there appeared to be little discussion or information forthcoming.
- c. **School Buses – Obstruction.** CC M Wilson reported concerns regarding the High School buses causing obstructions outside the Church, especially in the mornings. Children were also seen standing on both sides of the road and crossing when the bus arrived which could be a safety issue. Chair would take forward to SBC, and speak to Philippa Gilhooly.
- d. **Election Notices.** Political party notices were still in place at the roadside near Ashybank. Councillor Marshall would look into it and report.

Chair

Marshall

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting would be on Wed **15 Jun 16** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

All

Meeting closed at 9pm, with a vote of thanks to members of the public for attending.

S Passmore
Acting Secretary

26 May 16

Membership of D&DCC:

Mrs G Crew (Chair)
Mr R Armstrong
Mr T Lothian
Mrs C Nicol
Mrs S Passmore (Treasurer)
Mr N Richards
Mr J Steel
Mr W Roberts (Secretary)
Mrs M Wilson

Information:

Mr A Cranston (Councillor, SBC)
Mr S Marshall (Councillor, SBC)
Mr W McAteer (Councillor, SBC)

Democratic Services Team, SBC
PC A Patterson (Community PC)
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)
Ms S Williamson, Hawick News