

**DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL**  
**WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2016**

**Present:**

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor R Armstrong	
Community Councillor C Nicol	
Community Councillor S Passmore	Treasurer
Community Councillor N Richards	
Community Councillor S Robinson	
Community Councillor M Wilson	

**In attendance:**

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor A Cranston	SBC
Councillor W McAteer	SBC
PC Allan Patterson	Police Scotland
2 Members of the public	

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject/Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> CC W Roberts.	
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 (to follow).	
4.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting (17 Aug 16).</b> Minutes were proposed by CC Robinson, seconded by CC Richards. <b>Approved.</b>	
5.	<b>Matters Arising.</b>	
a.	<b>School Buses – Obstruction (Item 5a).</b> CC Wilson commented that parking of buses at the church was only supposed to be ‘temporary’. Chair was monitoring the situation, and it would appear the buses were now coming at slighter staggered times.	
b.	<b>Scottish Borders Digital Forum (Item 5b).</b> CC Richards attended a recent meeting and reported on schemes that were under consideration in Stobo and Heriot. Another scheme was being promoted with householders in Lancashire that could be a possibility in our own area. A further meeting would be advertised for the New Year.	
c.	<b>Tree Felling (Item 5c).</b> The tree had now been felled, and the Feuars had agreed to meet the cost.	
d.	<b>Offensive Odours (Item 5d).</b> No further reports of odour at the moment. It was suggested CC might consider writing to the farmer concerned to ask if the waste could be relocated to a better place next year, when deliveries had a significant impact on the neighbourhood. To be agreed at next meeting.	<b>Sec</b>

- e. **Permits for Trade Waste (Item 5e).** There had been no further response from SBC, other than an article in the local press indicating the Council was content with its current policy and restating the severity of punishment for fly-tipping offenders.
- f. **Dean Road Trees (Item 5g).** No action to date.
- g. **Resilience Group Stores (Item 10).** The resilience equipment stores had yet to be moved to their final position.

A draft 'emergency plan' was being circulated to the members of the group. Chair would contact the RG Co-ordinator to seek progress on tailor the plan specifically for the Denholm area.

**Chair**

- h. **War Memorial (Item 11).** Denholm War Memorial had been cleaned prior to Remembrance Day; however it was still not clear whether a grant could be made for further renovation. Sec to contact Frank Scott at SBC again.

**Sec**

- i. **Dog Fouling (Item 12).** Situation was being monitored.

6. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer presented her report.

- a. At 16 Nov 16, the balance stood at £1491.86, of which £296.05 was ring-fenced for the Defibrillator Fund, leaving a working balance of £1195.81.
- b. A payment of £100 had been made from the projects Fund to the Old Cross Keys as a donation towards the firework display.
- c. There were no outstanding invoices, but Treasurer requested authority to make small donations from the Projects Fund to the Rainbows, Brownies, Boy's Brigade, Children's Party fund and the Guild for the Senior Citizens Christmas lunch. **Agreed.**

**Treasurer**

7. **Correspondence.** Four items:

- a. Poster advertising a Stakeholders' meeting for 'Proposal of a Borders National Park', at Jedburgh Town Hall on 17 Nov 16.
- b. **Scottish Ambulance Service.** Announcement of a new data base to be circulated within the Scottish Ambulance Service showing all local defibs, and requesting details of our local units to be included. Chair to reply.
- c. **Rugby Medals.** Letter of appreciation from Denholm Rugby Players for funding the medals at the recent 'Denholm Cup'.
- d. **Hawick Christmas Tree Festival.** Letter from Rev D. Nicol asking D&DCC to promote and participate in the Hawick Christmas Tree Festival from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December. Chair hoped someone with some artistic flair would suggest something as our contribution.

**Chair**

**All**

8. **Planning Applications.**

- a. **16/01200/FUL.** Alterations and extension to existing shed to form garage, and alterations to existing garage to form additional residential accommodation.

It was reported that the original planning application had not followed correct procedures, so therefore it would be re-advertised with the likelihood that it go to Planning next month.

- b. **16/01327/FUL.** Replacement windows, Mr & Mrs Lockey, West Side Denholm. No comments, other than that it was unfortunate that plastic windows were now being replaced with further plastic windows. However the designs chosen were probably more in keeping with the original style of the house.

**Sec**

9. **Small Grant Scheme.**

- a. **Community Storage Facility.** See Item 8a above. A further discussion followed regarding the possibilities of a replacement Community facility in the school car park. Consideration would be given for some monies to assist in this project, if it could meet the criteria required for planning, SBC parking arrangements and neighbour agreement. CC Marshall would arrange a site visit with Fraser Dunlop.

**Marshall**

- b. **Dean Pathways.** CC Armstrong was awaiting further communication from the landowners.

**Armstrong**

10. **Wind Farms Update.**

- a. **Foundation Scotland (FS).** Chair updated the meeting. Some progress had been made on finalising the draft agreement for Fund B, for Langhope Rig community funds. However some queries had yet to be resolved and were awaiting final clearance from EFS Anemoi.
- b. **Pine Burn.** Chair and CC Nicol had attended the public exhibition by EnergieKontor at Bonchester Bridge. Some changes to scheme were now proposed, including:

A reduction in the number of turbines from 15 to 12;

Tip height reduced on 5 turbines from 158.5m to 130m;

Distance from some residential properties increased;

Minor relocation of some turbines to create a simpler design.

Planning application hopefully submitted by Christmas.

Information regarding shared ownership was also now available. [A hard copy of the 'Heads of Terms for Shared ownership was received after the meeting and was now advertised on the Denholm Facebook page as being available.]

- c. **Birneyknowe.** Replies for comments regarding the new FEI statement need to be submitted by end of Nov. There were a number discrepancies in their paperwork and some of these had been made public. Their plans were now available in Post Office.

[After the meeting, Banks proposed a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November for all CC's involved to be held at the Laidlaw Hall, Bonchester Bridge from 6.00-7.30.]

**Chair, Sec**

- d. **Windy Edge.** No news.

- e. **Highlee Hill.** Objections continuing regarding size and location of this development.

11. **Suggestion Box.** It was agreed that a suggestion box be placed in the village to try and get ideas where the expected wind farm monies could be best utilised. Details to be finalised (next meeting). **Sec**
12. **Christmas Tree, Carol Concert.** Date of the proposed carol concert had not yet been decided by Denholm Primary School, however Rev Nicol would confirm. Arrangement of delivery of the Xmas tree would also be confirmed. Lighting arrangements and safety checks to be done via Scott Tait.
13. **D&DCC Vacancies.** One vacancy remained; all members urged to seek a volunteer. **All**
14. **SESPlan Proposals.** The exhibition had been visited by 3 CC members, and Chair had attended evening discussion. Copies of the plan were available. It was very disappointing that the SESPlan lacked proposals for improvements and investment in the Denholm & District area. Chair would respond with our views. **Chair**
15. **A.O.B**
- a. **Traffic Speeds.** Concerns were expressed over traffic speed on Jedward Terrace. Cllr Marshall taking action. **Marshall**
- b. **Minto Grit Bin.** Minto residents thanks to SBC for supplying grit bin.
- c. **School Garden.** Justice team intend to create steps at school garden.
- d. **School Amphitheatre.** Concerns had been expressed over the design of steps at the school amphitheatre. CC Richards reported some safety measures were now in place.
- e. **Denholm Bridge.** Cllrs Marshall and McAteer had met SBC regarding concerns about the bridge following last year's floods. Further maintenance may be required, but the budget was limited, and this would only reflect flood relief, not prevention. Discussions followed with SEPA to learn how registration processes and work projects are managed.
- f. **Miscellaneous.** Cllrs had also resolved various residents' problems including the lowering of a kerb in Murray Place. Cllr Marshall reported that silver birch trees in the Douglas Court/Drive area required felling, and the car park needed white lines to mark the parking bays. Cllr Cranston reported that a new machine was being marketed which could possibly assist in laying new paths in inaccessible areas.
- g. **Scottish Water.** Work at the sewerage plant was expected to be completed by now, but was still ongoing.
- h. **Excess Foliage.** It was suggested that excess foliage at the riverside be cut. However responsibility lay with the Feuars Committee. Gordie Campbell offered to cut the foliage and shrubbery at the Quoiting Haugh to aid water flow.
- i. **Road Signage.** CC Robinson commented that the signage at the junction of The Loaning and Ruberslaw Road was misleading. Cllr Marshall offered to check. **Marshall**

- j. **Fly-Tipping.** CC Armstrong reported fly tipping on Minto Road. Cllr **Marshall** Marshall would progress with SBC.

**Date of Next Meeting.** There would be no meeting in December. The next meeting would be on Wed **18 Jan 17** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm. **All**

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

W A B Roberts  
Sec D&DCC

22 Nov 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 (Vice Chair)  
Mr W Roberts (Secretary)  
Mrs S Robinson  
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)  
Hawick News  
The Hawick Paper