

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 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 W Roberts	Sec
Community Councillor M Wilson	

In attendance:

Councillor W McAteer	SBC
PC Allan Patterson	Police Scotland
Mr Richard Morris	Scottish Water
4 Members of the public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. CC T Lothian, Councillor A Cranston, Councillor S Marshall.	
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 covering the period 1 July to 21 September.	
4.	Scottish Water – Report on Denholm Works. Mr Richard Morris briefed the meeting on the works currently underway to restore the integrity of the SW installation by the Teviot and the access road to it. The work was essential prior to the onset of winter weather, and Mr Morris forecast completion by mid Oct, with clearance work finished by mid Nov.	
5.	Minutes of the Last Meeting (17 Aug 16). Minutes were proposed by CC Nicol, seconded by CC Passmore. Approved.	
6.	Matters Arising.	
a.	Resilient Community (Item 5a). Cllr McAteer reported zero progress regarding the provision of the equipment and sandbag storage units. It was agreed that the Service Director, Mr Rob Dickson, be invited to the next D&DCC meeting to explain the delay and lack of progress on the RC programme.	Sec
	<i>[After note: On 22 Sep, Cllr McAteer received an email from Kevin Sewell (in charge of the RC Programme) indicating that “the stores would be delivered the week beginning 3 Oct 16”.]</i>	
b.	School Buses – Obstruction (Item 5c). Cllr McAteer reported that the SBC officers concerned did not understand the problem. Chair agreed to provide photographs of the congestion caused by the school buses.	Chair

- c. **Denholm Village Sign (Item 5d).** SBC had reinstated the sign, but were asking whether any changes were required to the associated planter. It was agreed that no changes were necessary. Cllr McAteer to convey. **McAteer**
- d. **Planning Application 16/00413/FUL (Item 8a).** Chair had not received any response to her emails to the developer. It was agreed that it was extremely unlikely that any change to the planned location of the mast would be possible, in view of the planning permission granted. It was agreed therefore that it would be fruitless to pursue the matter further.
7. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer presented her report.
- a. At 21 Sep 16, the balance stood at £1607.55, of which £296.05 was ring-fenced for the Defibrillator Fund, leaving a working balance of £1338.50. The new Defibrillator sign had been paid for, and a donation of £100.00 made to the Denholm Horticultural Society.
- b. A bill for trimming verges was anticipated from Mr Jim Marshall, who had confirmed (post meeting) that he was able to do the work. This would be paid for from CC funds.
- c. There had been no payments from the Projects Fund.
8. **Correspondence.** Three items:
- a. **Leaflet from "The Bridge".**
- b. **Banks' Birneyknowe Survey.** Chair had written to Banks stating that D&DCC would not be making any further comment, beyond that already submitted to SBC Planning department. Chair was aware of one responder to the survey, and CC Passmore of one other.
- c. **Scottish Borders Digital Forum.** Notification of invitation from Calum Kerr MP and SBC to an inaugural meeting of the Forum on Monday 26 Sep 16 at 6.00 pm, at SBC HQ. Subject: the future of broadband and mobile signal provision in the Scottish Borders. **Sec**
9. **Planning Applications.**
- a. **16/01124/FUL.** Erection of 2 dwelling houses at Westcote Farm – application by Mr & Mrs Glendinning. No observations or comments. **Sec**
- b. **16/01152/FUL.** Kirkton Parish Church Hall – application by Ms S Chrystie for conversion to dwelling house. . **Sec**
- c. **16/01153/LBC.** Kirkton Parish Church – application by Ms S Chrystie for Listed Building Consent. **Sec**
- d. **16/01154/FUL.** Kirkton Parish Church – application by Ms S Chrystie for conversion to five-apartment dwelling house.
Comment: Mr N Cook requested that, in the event of planning permission being granted, a Section 75 Order be made to ensure that public access to the Kirkton Church graveyard is maintained. **Sec**
10. **Boundary Change Proposals.** Chair and all CCs expressed their pleasure at the news that SG had rejected the LGBC proposed changes to the Scottish

Borders ward boundaries and number of councillors. Cllr McAteer expressed his satisfaction and his gratitude for the support shown by D&DCC over the issue. Sec had received similar sentiments by email from Cllrs Cranston and Marshall. Chair would write letters of thanks to MSPs Paul Wheelhouse and John Lamont.

Sec, Chair

11. **Small Grant Scheme.**

a. **Pavement Opposite Jedward Terrace.** It was suggested that a continuation of the pavement could be made from the Croft Field housing entrance to join the existing path to the top of the Cemetery Road. Watson agreed to check SBC position re ownership of the existing verges.

McAteer

b. **Pavement Around The Green.** The CC questioned why the repairs to the pavement around the green had been limited to the side by the church. Cllr McAteer agreed to investigate.

McAteer

c. **Tree Felling.** A dead tree at bottom of Douglas Drive needed to be felled. Cllr McAteer agreed to pursue.

McAteer

12. **Wind Farms Update.**

a. **Foundation Scotland (FS).** Sec reported on developments of the Langhope Rig Community Fund arrangements. He and Chair had attended a second meeting of the 5 CCs due to benefit, at which changes to the Fund Agreement jointly agreed by them were put to Rachel Searle-Mbullu of FS. She had expressed doubt that EFS Anemoui would accept all the proposed changes, but she would pursue them on our behalf.

There followed some discussion on possible projects to be funded from the Denholm share of £8K pa, but nothing firm was agreed.

b. **Wind Farms.** There had been no recent significant developments.

13. **Borders National Park – Update.** CC Armstrong reported he had spoken again with Jane Bower of APRS, but there were no further developments. He gave notice of a Stakeholder Event at Jedburgh Town Hall on Thursday 17 Nov 16 at 7.00 pm, and encouraged members to attend.

All

14. **D&DCC Vacancies.** Sec said a notice seeking new co-opted members had been posted on noticeboard and on the Denholm Village website. No specific expressions of interest had been received.

15. **A.O.B**

a. **Hedge Trimming.** Chair reported that the hedge beside the A698 opposite the new Jedward Terrace development was still in need of trimming; this had to await the ending of seasonal restrictions.

b. **Offensive Odours.** Chair observed that the dumping of odorous waste on land below Minto near the Ancrum road was once again causing considerable offense. It was acknowledged that there was no health risk associated with the practice, but it had a significant impact on local amenity. Cllr McAteer agreed to investigate.

McAteer

c. **Permits for Trade Waste.** Having declared an interest in the matter, Chair expressed concern at the exorbitant charges for permits for tradesmen to deposit waste materials at the Council Recycling sites.

There was a very clear danger that these charges would result in a significant increase in the incidence of “fly-tipping”. It was agreed that the CC should write to the Chief Executive of SBC to protest at the level of these permit charges.

Sec

d. **Riverside Drive Sign.** CC Nicol reported that the road name sign had been damaged in the course of recent grass-cutting work, and asked that it be repaired/reinstated.

McAteer

e. **Playground Litter.** CC Armstrong reported a considerable amount of litter in and around the playpark on The Green; it was clear from photographs and the nature of the litter that the culprits were primarily the children using the playpark. CC Richards agreed to raise the matter with the school and the PTA.

Richards

f. **Dean Road Trees.** It was reported that trees along Dean Road were blocking out the street lights. Cllr McAteer agreed to report to SBC.

McAteer

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting would be on Wed **19 Oct 16** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm. (Chair would not be attending.)

**All
Richards**

Meeting closed at 8.20.

W A B Roberts
Sec D&DCC

25 Sep 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 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)
Hawick News
The Hawick Paper