

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DENHOLM FEUARS & HOUSEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION

IN DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL – WEDNESDAY 26th AUGUST 2024

Present: Lynn Ferguson (LF), Dougie Crew (DC), Will Roberts (WR), Jane Currie (JC), Ducan Rollo (DR) Lisa Telford (LT), Kenny Johnstone (KJ)

Apologies: Jim Wilson

6 members of the DF&HA – Gwen Crew – Chair DDCC, Shirley Passmore – Treasurer DDCC, Mr & Mrs Imrie, Chris Ryde, Tom Sellar

ADDRESS FROM THE CHAIR & ITEM 1.

Lynn Ferguson welcomed everyone and reminded everyone of the need for appropriate behaviour such as raising hands in order to speak and disclosing any conflict of interests.

AGENDA

1. Welcome

2. Minutes of previous meeting

3. Matters arising

4. Treasurers Report

5. Denholm Dean Update

6. SCIO Update

7. AOB

8. Date of Next Meeting- Wednesday 25th September In Main Hall 7.00pm

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

A point of order was raised by John Miller at a previous meeting regarding the constitution stating that all attendees should be noted in the minutes. Not all in attendance agreed, therefore further consideration is required.

3. Matters Arising

LF noted that the car boot had been successful in raising two hundred and sixty-eight pounds with positive vendor feedback including the meet being well run and the toilets

being open in the village hall for one and all to use. A potential car boot was suggested for the 14th September depending on whether Hawick has one on the same day.

EV charging points are all on hold until Scottish Power legal department have appointed a specialist to draw up the contracts between Denholm Feuars & Householders Council and SP and SBC and SP. It is not economically viable for SP to install just one site and then have to come back to complete.

LF is having a face to face Teams meeting tomorrow with representatives from Morton, Fraser, MacRoberts with regards to having new legal representation and to have an indication of fees for future legal work.

Family Day – LF said it was a very enjoyable day. The fun dog show attracted a surprising eighteen dogs. Thanks must be given to Kym McKenzie for her endurance in face painting the children until after five o'clock and Graham Wilson's stall of creepy crawlies was an amazing hit with the children all afternoon and thanks to for Andy Sutton's management of the five a side football tournament.

4. Treasurer's Report

WR reported that the charity's balance stands at six thousand, three hundred and seventy nine pounds and thirty-six pence. Recent income were two hundred and sixty-eight pounds from the car boot and eighty-two pounds from the fun day. Rent has also been received from plot 5 and 6.

5. Denholm Dean Update

Tom Sellar reported that the Sitka harvesting had produced 353 tonnes with 43% being useable lumber. There has been a delay in having the brash removed as the forwarder driver has fallen ill. The forwarder is required to move the brash to roadside to enable the chipper to work at roadside. Planning permission for the signage has been approved and a local joiner is being sought to save money on signage construction. Not all A2 signs will be completed by the end of September. Susan Gray SBC Core Path Ranger is willing to supply the cost of materials for the two sets of stairs that were destroyed during the felling. Raising funds will go ahead for the Dean for 1400 oak saplings and villagers and friends will be invited to sponsor these trees at a cost of ten pounds per sapling. Details of this will be published in the next newsletter.

6. SCIO Update

LF stated that a final draft will be made available to the committee as final decisions on certain sections will be required. Fiona Benton from Community Action has still to

provide information for the newsletter. The forthcoming AGM will need to be amalgamated with a public meeting to discuss the Pros and Cons of a conversion to a SCIO. A Q & A session will be included at the public meeting. Fiona has requested copies of the questions before the meeting and to facilitate this, a box will be placed in the post office for comments and questions. Shirley Passmore will check with Foundation Scotland if there is enough funds left to pay for the legal fees for land transfer. Following the public meeting, there will be a recommendation to hold an SGM. This meeting can be called by either 50% of the committee members or at the request 30 households. The timescale for conversion is not yet known, and it may be that following the discussion and Q & A session it may not be to our advantage to change to a SCIO but to just amend the current constitution to make it a better document.

7.AOB

Tom Lothian is now renting plot 1 for storage for six months.

Chis mentioned an organisation called abundant borders that are involved with re-wilding and gardening.

LF received an email from Francis Stewart regarding heavy equipment being used in the Wynd. KJ to speak to the alleged perpetrator.

At the community Council meeting the previous week, it was intimated that sixty thousand pounds has been included in the 2025/26 SBC budget for new play equipment in the small playpark at the bottom of the Loaning.

A sausage sizzle and sparkler night will be held on Bonfire night. This will be advertised in the newsletter and further planning will be required.

The meeting was closed.

