

## UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting at Broughton Village Hall on 16th January at 7.30pm

**Present:** Mr Neil Morrison (Vice Chairman), Mr David Halsall (Treasurer), Mrs Penny Wedderburn-Scott, Mr Chris Lewin, Mrs Rosalind Hume, Mrs Sue Hope, Cllr Keith Cockburn (SBC), Mrs Sally Walker (Minute Taker).

**Apologies:** Mr Michael Lukas (Chairman), Mr Dave Campbell, Mr Andy McGregor

**01.01.17 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved.

**02.01.17 Matters arising from these minutes**

Gravestones

Jason Headley had arranged a meeting at the Graveyard with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to discuss both the Reverend Hamilton Paul's gravestone and any other stones in the graveyard which require attention. It was decided that the Reverend Hamilton Paul's gravestone was not in a dangerous condition but it will be monitored; however several other stones were fallen or in dangerous condition and these will be fixed, made upright and secured.

A bequest left to the community for planting in the new graveyard was utilised; however there are some drainage issues and Jason Headley is reviewing this and will try to replace dead saplings

Planning officer Dorothy Aymes has retired, matters are being handled by Craig Miller in the interim.

The First Response group in the process of becoming constituted and are very organised and enthusiastic. Thanks must be given to both John Burnham and Ian Revell for all their hard work and bringing both Mountain rescue and Ambulance service experience to the group.

the Defibrillator budget still has some remaining funds, Ros Hume is to ask the Windfarm committee if she can reapply funds from this budget to the First Responders group.

**03.01.17 Microgrants**

Two applications have been received, first from the First Responders group for set up costs £250 and the second from Drumelzier Yoga group for £200 to keep the group running and costs down for members. Both of these applications were supported by the Community Council.

Brighten up Broughton (as it used to be) raised money for bulbs and plants for floral displays within the village. Ros Hume with others are very kindly continuing this work and had applied to the Infinis fund for a micro grant to support this, currently the Infinis micro grant fund is empty but the Community Council are appreciative of the work and have decided to fund this application themselves. It was discussed that fundraising will need to

be undertaken to support the floral displays that are so valuable during spring and summer.

**04.01.17**

**Ministers Walk**

Discussions are underway with the current owners to formalise this path as a right of way.

**05.01.17**

**Community Woodlands**

Discussions are underway with Erica Niven of SBC regarding widening of gates into Helmend Wood, with the owner's agreement, to enable access for riders.

**06.01,17**

**Police Report**

PC Nicola Craig sent in a police report; there was a minor RTA with damage to property no injuries on 12/01 at A701/B712 junction.

**07.01.17**

**SBC Councillors Report**

Cllr Cockburn produced the final SBC report as neither he nor Cllr Archibald and Cllr Bhatia will be returning to Upper Tweed Community Council meetings. All three of our Councillors are standing down and Tweeddale West will elect new representation. We would like to thank our Councillors for all their hard work, commitment and humour over the years. It has been wonderful working with you and we wish you all the very best in your future endeavours.

Tweeddale projected works include: patching in Tweedsmuir during April; Broughton bowling bridge parapet repairs; short overlays at Boggsbank, Cross Cryne, Bamflatt, Quarter and South Mains.

Issue with the Sluice at B712 junction were discussed. Partial works have been undertaken however if they are not to be in vain it was asked that SBC undertake an inspection to ensure that the specified works have been completed by all parties to ensure that the road remains clear of flooding and that works are not repeated unnecessarily. It was also suggested that Markers are located by the drains that become overwhelmed to make clearing easier in flood times when drains will be obscured by water. There was a discussion that perhaps the drain grids are too fine as they often become overwhelmed by detritus. The Community Council were also alerted to some flooding occurring on the Dreva Road by Springwell brae and there was a suggestion that the culvert under the road was blocked.

**08.01.17**

**Any Other Business**

**The Laurel Bank Tea Room**

The Community Council are saddened by the departure of the leaseholders at the Laurel Bank Tea Room due to a situation beyond their control and wish Karen and Alan Dunnet well. We are very hopeful that new leaseholders will be found and wish Christopher Lambton well with the proposed refurbishment.

**Speed Signs**

Flashing 30 signs at both ends and by the Bridge over Biggar Water are intermittent and not working clearly. These signs need replacing, the Community Council **strongly wishes** for these to be replaced with speed measuring signs at these locations similar to those found in Mountain Cross. Residents of Mountain Cross have reported decrease in speeding with the Red/Green speed indicators. Vegetation also partially obscures these

signs both at Southern and Northern entry points to the village.

**Public Toilets at playing fields**

These toilets are very well used and have been reported to have been found in a rather unpleasant state. As the only public toilet between Moffat and Edinburgh they attract much passing 'trade' and are also used by the primary and secondary school children both before and after school and during sports on the Village Playing fields. It would be very good to have some indication of the Cleaning Regime and confirmation that they are being looked after.

**Post Office**

There was much discussion about possible locations for a post office and a business willing to take on the responsibility of running it. UPDATE: we are happy to report that a MOBILE POST OFFICE will visit the village on Friday 17th for 30mins from 1.45pm - 2.15pm and weekly thereafter. Many thanks to Chris Lewin for achieving this.

**Rachan Broadband Issues**

Broadband is virtually nonexistent at Rachan and the residents have had little joy from discussions with BT. Sally Walker will contact Gordon Hughes of Stobo who has successfully set up a broadband system. We will ask him to present to a meeting of the Community Council that is convenient to him. Information about such a presentation will be published on the Upper Tweed Community Council Facebook page and notified in Agenda.

**Traffic Lights**

it was reported that LUX set up traffic lights on the B712 / Rachan Junction and they were not reported to the council as per proper channels, were not working correctly and left approximately 75 sandbags as rubbish when the traffic lights were removed. Sally Walker will contact Jason Headley regarding this.

**Tweeddale Community Council Network**

Two reps are required from each Community Council, Penny kindly volunteered and Chris Lewin was asked to speak to Andy regarding attending.

**09.01.17**

Date of next meeting: 20th February at 7.30pm in Broughton Village Hall