

## UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held at Broughton Village Hall on 26 June 2017

**Present:** Mr Michael Lukas (Chairman), Mr David Campbell, Mr Simon Edwards, Mrs Sue Hope, Mr Christopher Lewin, Mrs Sarah Tyson, Mr Andrew Weston and one member of the public (Mr Tony Butcher).

**Apologies:** Mr David Halsall, Mrs Sally Walker, Mrs Penny Wedderburn-Scott.

#### **01.06.17 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved.

#### **02.06.17 Matters arising from these minutes**

Mr Lewin reported that he has been in contact with Ruth Evans, Development Officer-South East with Local Energy Scotland, about the CARES scheme and will be meeting her shortly for a preliminary discussion before she meets the Community Council.

#### **03.06.17 First Responders Group and Resilient Communities Initiative**

Mr Butcher reported that a first responders group has been formed, covering both Broughton and Tweedsmuir. When an emergency such as a heart attack or stroke arises, the group will be contacted by the Scottish Ambulance Service and will attend the patient with a defibrillator until an ambulance arrives. The first responders group will not attend casualties arising from an accident. They currently have 6 volunteers, half living in Tweedsmuir and half in Broughton, and it is anticipated that more volunteers will be recruited shortly. Mr Butcher said that the group will be applying for a microgrant to assist with hiring a hall for training, and he was asked to contact Mr David Halsall about this. The meeting congratulated Mr Butcher and his fellow volunteers on this valuable initiative.

Mr Edwards said he would like to explore how the first responders group might be linked in some way with the Resilient Communities Initiative. It was agreed to invite the Emergency Planning Officer of SBC to the UTCC's meeting on 18 September to discuss that Initiative further. (Note post meeting: Brian MacFarlane, EPO at SBC has confirmed attendance for 18<sup>th</sup> September).

#### **04.06.17 Planning**

It was agreed to raise no objection to the recent planning application for alterations to the garage at the Green Farm Steading.

#### **05.06.17 Co-option of new members**

Mr Simon Edwards and Mr Andrew Weston were co-opted as voting members to fill the two vacancies on the Council. They will be eligible to vote after attending three meetings or after six months, whichever is the shorter. Mrs Sally Walker was co-opted as a non-voting member of the Council.

#### **06.06.17 Bursary Grant**

An application for a bursary grant under the Clyde Borders scheme was considered and approved. The purpose of the grant was to facilitate sporting activities by the persons concerned.

**07.06.17 Police Report**

No report had been received.

**08.06.17 Scottish Borders Council report**

No report was available.

**09.06.17 UTCC Website**

A discussion took place about the future of the UTCC's website. It was agreed that it would be useful to expand it so that it not only covered agendas, minutes and contact details, but also included profiles of Council members, details of activities and events, bus trips, location of defibrillators, links to information about local services, etc. It was also agreed that a contractor should be employed to develop the website, provided that the necessary finance could be obtained from one of the wind farm community funds. Mrs Sue Hope recommended the appointment of Redhouse Design as a suitable contractor – she had experience of working with them and was confident that they would do a good job, for a cost marginally under £500. This was tentatively agreed, though it was noted that the community fund from which a grant was sought might also require us to consider alternative tenders. Mrs Hope was asked to prepare and submit an application to the next available wind farm community fund, for a grant which would take account, not only of the cost of employing a contractor for the initial rebuilding of the web-site, but also of the cost of any additional work likely to be needed for further development and maintenance of the web-site in the next two years and the cost of printing attractive flyers and posters for publicising the site.

**10.06.17 Drove Road to Skirling**

Mr Lewin reported on a point raised with him by a member of the public about the fencing of the drove road from Broughton Old Kirk to Skirling. The meeting also noted that gates across this road had in recent times been padlocked, though it was unknown whether this was still the case. As a first step Mr Campbell volunteered to walk the route and report back.

**11.06.17 Infinis Glenkerie Community Fund**

Mr Lewin reported that he would need to stand down as the UTCC's representative on the Infinis Glenkerie Community Fund panel after the March 2018 meeting, and it would be necessary, nearer that time, for the UTCC to appoint someone else as its representative.

**12.06.17 Next meeting**

It was noted that there would, as usual, be no meeting in July unless urgent matters crop up, and hence the next meeting would be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August in Drumelzier Village Hall.