

UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at Broughton Village Hall on 15th April 2019

Present: SBC Councillor Kris Chapman, **Mr Simon Edwards** (in the Chair), Miss Kirsty Hughes, Mrs Stephanie Jackman, **Mr Chris Lewin**, Mrs Emma Reid, **Mrs Penny Wedderburn-Scott** (for part of the meeting), SBC Councillor Eric Small, **Mr Andrew Weston**, plus two members of the public

Apologies: SBC Councillor Heather Anderson, Mr Andrew Beveridge, **Mr Dave Campbell**, Mr Christopher Lambton, **Mr Michael Lukas**, Mrs Sally Walker

Note: The voting members of the Council are shown in **bold**.

Mr Lewin volunteered to take the minutes if this meeting.

01.04.19 Co-option of new non-voting member

Mr Edwards proposed and Mr Weston seconded the appointment of Miss Kirsty Hughes as a new non-voting member. This was agreed.

02.04.19 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th March 2019 were approved.

03.04.19 Matters arising

Further to Minute 09.03.19, Mr Edwards said that enquiries had been made by Mrs Jackman and Mrs Walker about the proposed new footpath at Glencotho. He had followed the matter up and understood that it would be four or five years before the work was done: any detailed concerns should be discussed with Mr Braithwaite, Forest Manager of Tilhill.

04.04.19 Follow-up to Community Plan

Mr Edwards reported that he had now received log-in details for the UTCC's existing web-site, and that it had been confirmed that the structure of the web-site would be sufficiently robust to enable it to be expanded in due course to include the much wider range of information which would be needed if it was decided that this site should fulfil the role of a comprehensive web-site for the village as envisaged in the Community Plan. He confirmed that he would be continuing to explore the matter.

Action: Mr Edwards

There was further discussion about a possible "Bite and Blether" scheme. It was reported that the similar scheme in Eddleston provides tea and coffee, and cakes baked by a volunteer, with a donations box available; they meet on Wednesdays between 11am and 1.30pm. Further details could be obtained from Kirsty Peebles, secretary of the Community Council there, and Mr Chapman said he would send Mr Lewin a link.

Action: Mr Kris Chapman

05.04.19 Planning

There were no comments on the current planning applications – a porch extension at Calzeat Cottage and alterations at Easter Calzeat House.

06.04.19 Financial position

Mr Weston reported that, after taking account of outstanding bills, the Council has £1827 in the bank. This figure does not include sums earmarked for microgrants and bursaries.

Further to Minute no. 06.01.19, Mrs Jackman reported that she has now been inducted as a panel member of the SSE Clyde Windfarm Community Fund, and she wondered whether there might be some funding applications coming forward from Broughton. In the subsequent discussion it was suggested that refurbishment or even replacement of the ex-scouts-hut adjacent to the school might be a suitable candidate, but the first steps would be to find out who owns it, seek the owner's permission and confirm how it would be used after refurbishment. Mrs Jackman agreed to initiate exploration of these aspects. It was noted that the closing dates for applications later this year were 4th August and 27th October.

Action: Mrs Jackman

07.04.19 Shop report

Mr Edwards reported that missives for the purchase of the previous shop premises had been exchanged and access would be obtained very shortly. It was still hoped that the shop could be open by the time of the Summer Fayre on 1st June, though there was a great deal of work to be done before this could be achieved.

A discussion took place about whether the shop might be a suitable venue for the comprehensive notice board centre envisaged in the Community Plan. Mr Lewin thought that the minimum requirement would be two notice boards, each the size of the current Village Hall noticeboard. Mr Edwards said that he was not sure whether this could be accommodated within the premises, but he would investigate the suggestion.

Action: Mr Edwards

In response to a question, Mr Edwards said that it was not proposed to install full post office facilities in the shop, due to the requirements of the Post Office authorities.

08.04.19 Police Report

No police report had been received. Mr Weston volunteered to write to the police authorities, stating how much we value the written reports we sometimes receive and would like to receive them regularly. Also we would appreciate an occasional visit.

Action: Mr Weston

In the subsequent discussion it was reported by Mrs Wedderburn-Scott that she had experienced some aggressive driving by a vehicle in the Stobo straight. Others reported that they had heard of vehicles being broken into at West Linton and Biggar. There was some interest from other Community Councils in sharing equipment for a Speedwatch scheme.

09.04.19 SBC's proposed transport summit

Further to Minute 13.03.19, Mr Lewin reported that he had written to Tracey Logan requesting a review of rural transport policy. Thanks were due to Lady Stewartby for her valuable help in drafting the letter. Copies of the letter had been sent to the SBC's Passenger Transport Manager, Mr Stephenson, and to our M.P., Mr David Mundell. A response had been received from Mr Stephenson, stating that the SBC propose to hold a "transport summit". (Post-meeting note: This is due to take place on Friday 28th June 2019 at Council HQ in Melrose).

In the ensuing discussion, Mr Chapman said that there were doubts about how long the SBC's funding for the evening taxi services from Edinburgh to West Linton would last. He understood that the West Linton Community Council might wish to put in a Localities Bid Fund application for further funding – there were now some more relaxed eligibility criteria.

The question was raised of whether it would be possible to use minibuses already in Broughton to a greater extent to meet our transport needs and Mr Edwards volunteered to ascertain details of the companies which run those minibuses. Mr Lewin agreed to obtain quotations from those companies for the cost of pilot schemes, so that consideration could be given to funding questions. (Post-meeting note: Mr Stephenson, in a conversation with Mr Lewin, has offered to broker the obtaining of quotations for pilot schemes from bus companies, though SBC would not be able to fund such schemes.)

Action: Mr Edwards, Mr Lewin

10.04.19 SBC Councillors' Report

There were no additional items to report.

11.04.19 Election and AGM arrangements.

Mr Edwards said he would try to change the booking of the next meeting, when the AGM was due to take place, to the Small Hall. It was noted that Nomination Forms were now available in the Village Hall for anyone on the voting roll who wished to become a voting member of the Council for the next 2 years. Mr Lewin said he would contact Mr Birchall, the Returning Officer, about a query on the arrangements for returning completed nomination forms.

Action: Mr Edwards, Mr Lewin

12.04.19 Any Other Business

August meeting

It was noted that the August meeting was due to take place in Drumelzier Village Hall, and Mr Edwards confirmed that the Hall had been booked.

Dreva Road

It was noted that the blocked culvert had now been cleared by SBC. Mr Weston expressed concern about the potholes in the Dreva Road near Ratchill Farm. Mr Chapman said that a useful additional way of making reports about potholes and other street defects is through the Fix My street web-site. It was noted that the 30 mph speed signs at the Village end of the Dreva Road are now fading.

Tennis Club

It was reported that the Tennis Club wish to erect a temporary banner in the Village and possible sites were suggested.

Broughton Knowe Wood

Further to Minute 02.02.19, Mr Edwards reported that more information was now available and he would circulate details,

Action: Mr Edwards

Pavement alongside A701

Mr Edwards said that concern had been expressed that the pavement alongside the A701 to the south of the village had become too narrow for push chairs etc, due to the growth of vegetation. Mr Edwards said he would report the matter through the SBC's web-site and Mr Chapman said he would then take it up with the appropriate SBC official.

Action: Mr Edwards, Mr Chapman

30 mph signs

Mr Edwards said he proposed to order a supply of 30 mph stick-on signs, and this was agreed. The idea was that householders could affix the signs to their garbage bins and even though bins were only out once a week, this could still be effective.

Litter pick

Mr Dave Campbell was thanked for organising the Litter Pick on 30th March.

13.04.19 Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Council, immediately preceding the AGM, would be held in Broughton Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 20th May 2019.