**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held in Yetholm Youth Hall**

**Tuesday 25th June 2019 at 7:30PM**

**Present:** Susan Stewart (in the chair), Natasha Gray, Graeme Wallace, Paul Robson, Shane Black, Iain Dougal, Stuart Kelly (SK), Sandi Keddie (SAK), Cllr Robson, Cllr Mountford

**Apologies:** Iain Dougal, Angela Walker, Zoe Keddie-Dixon

**Members of the Public: 3**

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| 1 | **Apologies for Absence:** as above |  |
| 2 | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** |  |
|  | Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed by the Chair. |  |
| 3 | **Matters Arising/Outstanding** |  |
| 3.1 | Mobile Coverage – **Ongoing but no immediate actions.** |  |
| 3.2 | Concerns re Flooding – PR attended to look at the issue during the recent heavy rain and it looks as though the water is running off one of the crop fields. PR will look at this further with the landowner. **Ongoing.** | PR |
| 3.3 | Notice Board – No update available from ZK. PR and Kevin Lee will provide costings for a new structure at the next meeting. **Ongoing.** | ZK/PR |
| 3.4 | School Signs – ER has matters in hand, it would be ideal for any move of the sign to take place during the summer holidays. **Ongoing.** | ER |
| 3.5 | Potholes – ER noted that the issue with the water/drainage and some of the potholes at Mindrum has now been addressed. There is also a current bid for funding to resurface the road in the next financial year. Some other issues regarding potholes at Hoselaw and Proctor Smiddy were raised. **Ongoing** | SM/ER |
| 3.6 | Littering – Signs have now been made and will be put up around the village. **No Further Action.** |  |
| 3.7 | Community Council Review – SS noted that the SBC meeting was changed and we were not notified of this. A letter was received regarding the proposed membership of the working group. |  |
| 4 | **Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns** |  |
|  | Recycling Bins: Three members of the public attended the meeting and asked whether it would be possible to have a recycling waste bin in the vicinity of the shop as the current little bin is mainly used for items which would be recyclable. SM noted that waste is separated out during processing and, therefore, just because these items are in a general litter bin does not mean that they will not be recycled. SS noted that we have requested more bins from SBC in the past and been told no.  Public Toilets: Concerns were raised surrounding the state of the public toilets and it was noted that a group of volunteers would be willing to take responsibility for the upkeep of the toilets. SS reiterated points from the discussion at the May meeting and it was noted that the new neighbourhood services officer is coming to the village for a site meeting and this is one of this issues on the list for discussion.  Further discussion took place regarding the state of the bus shelter and grass cutting on the green – this is also to be discussed at the upcoming site meeting. |  |
| 5 | **Police Report - Community Beat Officer (PC Suzanne Howgego)** |  |
|  | PC Rachel Stark attended the meeting. She advised of the ongoing campaign regarding security in the rural environment. The only issue raised in the monthly report was vandalism to the public toilets, investigations in to this are ongoing. SS advised of concerns relating to traffic management during Stob Stanes ride and the potential use of marshals to supplement police was discussed. |  |
| 6 | **Festival Committee Update:** |  |
|  | The annual ‘greeting meeting’ took place last night and was well attended and the majority of feedback was positive. The festival appears to be in a good financial position this year. |  |
| 7 | **Portfolio Presentations:** |  |
| 7.1 | **Housing and Planning - Shane Black (Vice Chair)** |  |
|  | Only one application received which is for internal adjustments to a listed building. There was also discussion surrounding the potential use of outbuildings at Maple Cottage. |  |
| 7.2 | **Finance - Angela Walker** |  |
|  | Angela provided a report as she was unable to attend the meeting – there has not been much activity in this first part of the year. It was noted that a number of web invoices are outstanding and to be chase and SS asked those present to suggest any other businesses/individuals who may be interested in advertising on the website. |  |
| 7.3 | **Yetholm Resilient Group – Stuart Kelly** |  |
|  | SK advised that he has started work on updating the vulnerable persons list but asked about the procedure for obtaining consent – it was noted that he will need to be compliant with GDPR. Discussion took place regarding the location of sandbags and the potential to store these in a container on the land in Town Yetholm currently being cleared by SBC. It was also agreed that SK should purchase a mobile phone to use for resilience alerts. |  |
| 7.4 | **Village Maintenance & Utilities – Paul Robson** |  |
|  | There are quite a few tasks outstanding which PR will attend to as soon as possible. It was noted that the sewerage works are in quite a bad state and there is also a telegraph pole in the Haugh which is now in danger following the river changing course after heavy rain. |  |
| 7.5 | **Education - Zoe Keddie-Dixon** |  |
|  | No Update available. |  |
| 7.6 | **Grants- Denise Allan** |  |
|  | SM advised that the result of the localities bid fund is expected by mid-July. |  |
| 7.7 | **Health & Social Services – Sandi Keddie** |  |
|  | No Update. |  |
| 7.8 | **Tourism – Graeme Wallace** |  |
|  | More monies collected to be passed to AW. SS noted that the Spine Race is imminent, and the runners will again be using the Youth Hall. Congratulations to History Society for a great exhibition during festival week. |  |
| 7.9 | **Projects, Events & Pavilion – Iain Dougal** |  |
|  | No Update. |  |
| 7.10 | **Chair, Website Liaison & Public Events – Susan Stewart** |  |
|  | SS advised that the website has had 399 unique visitors and 1223 hits this week. |  |
| 8 | **Scottish Borders Councillors Update** |  |
|  | ER advised that the council will be considering the main issues report for the local development plan tomorrow.  SM noted that there is to be a review of area partnerships and community funding which would see all funding allocated to one pot and approved at area partnerships (including festival grants). |  |
| 9 | **Additional Correspondence** |  |
|  | None. |  |
| 10 | **AOB** |  |
| 10.1 | SS noted that the fencing around the recycling area is in a bad state – this will be discussed at the upcoming site meeting. |  |
| 10.2 | SS mentioned a potential plan for a community take-over of the village shop, however, this is in the very early stages at present. |  |
| 10.3 | Concerns were raised over rubbish and building materials at Valleydene however it is hoped that this will decrease organically over time. |  |
| 10.4 | GW asked about the progress of the history society planning application to be submitted via the community council. SB advised that this should be passed to him in the first instance. |  |
| 10.5 | SB thanked David Edgar for continuing to provide grass cutting services and advised that a fence is to be removed in one of the areas which required cutting. Concerns were also raised about overgrowing hedges at Lochside again and along the Cherrytrees road. |  |
| 10.6 | PR raised concerns about parking close to the sharp corner at the entrance to Town Yetholm causing a hazard. He asked whether it would be possible to have some road markings here. |  |
| 10.7 | SK advised that the number of Presbyteries in Scotland is to reduce from 45 to 12 which will lead to a diminution of funds and make it more difficult for collaboration with the local churches. |  |
| 10.8 | SS advised that the bus shelter in Kirk Yetholm has been cleaned up by a volunteer, however, there are a number of significant issues with the structure. |  |

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 30th July in Yetholm Youth Hall at 7.30pm.**