**Yetholm and District Community Council Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held online by Zoom Call.**

**Tuesday 27 July 2021 at 7.00 pm**

**Present:** Susan Stewart (SS) (in the chair), Shane Black (SB), Graeme Wallace (GW), Stuart Kelly (SK), Angela Walker (AW), Denise Allan (DA), John Stobart (JS) (Secretary), Cllr E Robson (ER) Cllr S Mountford (SM),

**Apologies:** Iain Dougal (ID),

**Members of the Public**: 2

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|  | **Minute**  | **Action**  |
|  | **Apologies for Absence:** as above. It was noted that the Community Police Officer would not be attending as the Police Force have said they do not have access to Zoom. The Police Report is referred to below.  |  |
|  | **Minutes of the Previous Meetings** |  |
|  | The Chair drew the attention of the meeting to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th June 2021 and asked for any comments or corrections. There were none except as noted in the matters arising set out below and, subject thereto, the minutes were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair. |  |
|  | **Matters Arising/Outstanding** |  |
|  | With regard to minute 3.1 ER informed the meeting that there had been a traffic accident at the site but the Police had said the occupiers were not responsible. The cause had been driver error. Contact had been made with Road Safety about erecting signs.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 3.2 it was confirmed that the refurbishment of the benches was proceedings. Two had been taken away for refurbishment.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 3.3 DA confirmed an email had been sent to the Access Ranger who had yet responded.  |   |
|  | With regard to minute 3.5 the additional chevron sign for Catch-a-Penny was being manufactured.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 5.2 it was noted that the car on the Morebattle Road had been removed. . |  |
|  | With regard to minute 7.3(a) ER confirmed a contract had been let to a painter in Kelso for completion by October.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 7.4 it was confirmed the painting would be done.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 7.5 the Chair referred to the email about Pathways Grant.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 7.6 (b) JS said that all that needed doing was a grant applying for as the technical side had been covered off in his report. DA would look at the grants that might be available.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 7.8(b) about picnic benches there was a meeting schedule for the following week to discuss location.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 8 (a) it was confirmed that the kerbstone had been re-laid.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 8(b) there were no developments to report. A site meeting was proposed to be arranged.  |  |
|  | ER raised the tourist sign to the West of the village which was not the responsibility of the SBC. It needs some attention and SS will contact a possible source for refurbishment.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 10.3 it was confirmed the phone box had been repainted.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 10.4 relating to badgers the problem had not been resolved. The SBC had responsibility for the churchyard but did not see the badgers as a problem. The position will be monitored.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 10.5 the hedges were getting worse. SM said that cutting back could not take place until October because of nesting birds. The footpath on Dow Brae was overgrown as the verge needed attention.  |  |
|  | With regard to minute 10.11 work had started on the potholes up the Bowmont Valley but was expected to be resumed.  |  |
|  | **Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns** |  |
|  | A member of the public said the footpath from the Youth Hostel to the haugh was not due to be cut until August.  |  |
|  | A member of the public raised the question of grass cutting in the playing field and said that many of the seats could not be accessed as the grass around them was overgrown. It was agreed that this would be looked into by SBC.  |  |
|  | **Police Report** |  |
|  | The Secretary reported that a police report had been received since the last meeting and had been circulated.  |  |
|  | The road makings generally in the Yetholm area are all going to be redone as they were somewhat faded.  |  |
|  | **Festival Committee Update:** |  |
|  | The Chair said there was nothing to report.  |   |
|  | **Community Council Scheme**  |  |
|  | The secretary had circulated the papers to members.  |  |
|  | The next election will be for the full community council but thereafter will be a rolling programme.  |  |
|  | **Elections to Yetholm and District Community Council** |  |
|  | ER confirmed the YCC itself was to set the process underway. The paperwork had been circulated by the secretary.  |  |
|  | It was agree the process should be started. It would require all members to be nominated and existing members should reapply if they wished to continue. Timing was discussed and it was agreed that the process should be begun.  |  |
|  | It was agree that he August meeting should be postponed to 7th September to accommodate the process.  |  |
|  | The secretary will action the paperwork.  |  |
|  | **Portfolio Presentations:** |  |
|  | **Housing and Planning - Shane Black (Vice Chair)** |  |
| a)  | SB reported that no applications had been received.  |  |
|  | **Finance – AW** |  |
|  | AW confirmed the position was the same as the previous month.  |   |
|  | **Village Maintenance & Utilities – JS** |  |
|  | JS said all matters had been mentioned earlier.  |  |
|  | **Education - Susan Stewart** |  |
|  | SS said the school was on holiday.  |  |
|  | **Grants- DA**  |  |
|  | SS reminded that she had asked the YCC members to look at the email on pathways grants that had been circulated with a view to applying for a grant for Yetholm pathway improvements.  |  |
|  | **Health & Social Services – JS**  |  |
| a) | JS confirmed he had inspected both defibrillators and that they appeared to be in working order and the pads were within date.  |  |
|  | **Tourism – GW** |  |
|  | GW said there was nothing new to report.  |  |
|  | **Projects, Events & Pavilion – SB**  |  |
|  | SB said he was waiting for quotes.  |  |
|  | The burst pipe will be looked at one weekend.  |  |
|  | The Chair asked that the marquee be collected from The Plough.  |  |
|  | **Chair, Website Liaison & Public Events – Susan Stewart** |  |
|  | The Chair reported that activity on the website was quite low.  |  |
|  | The Chair reported that there were very few public events. Some visitors from Kelso had left litter on the village green the previous weekend which had been cleared up by SBC.  |  |
|  | **Scottish Borders Councillors Update** |  |
|  | Neither SM nor ER had additional matters to raise.  |  |
|  | **Additional Correspondence** |  |
|  | JS confirmed that all incoming appropriate correspondence had been forwarded to the relevant members for consideration.  |  |
|  | **AOB** |  |
|  | The Chair raised the matter of the large tree down to the haugh on Grafton Road which looked dangerous and moved in the wind. SM will raise it with the tree officer.  |  |
|  | DA raised the issue of the sewage on Grafton Road. Scottish Water will clean the sewer if requested by jetting.  |  |
|  | GW mentioned the wasps nest that had been cleared by SBC at Romany Marsh.  |  |
|  | SB said the SBC had cut back the hedges next to the signs.  |  |
|  | SK raised the speed of the lorries through the village in excess of 20 mph including bin lorries.  |  |
|  | A member of the public raised the issues on the trees overhanging the back lane.  |  |
|  | There was a discussion about works on the pavilion.  |  |

The meeting closed at 19:58 hrs.

**The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 19.00 hrs by Zoom call.**