**Yetholm & District Community Counci l Meeting**

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

**Tuesday 30th January 2018 at 7:00PM**

**Present:** Susan Stewart (Chairperson), Shane Black, Sue Rose, Graeme Wallace, Alan Kerr, Angela Walker, Paul Robson, Denise Allan, Iain Dougal, Zoe Keddie-Dixon, Cllr Mountford

**Apologies:** Cllr Robson, Natasha Gray (Secretary), Charles Brooker

**Members of the Public: 3**

**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 SB Meeting with SBC re Speed Sign – No update. **Ongoing**

3.2 Vegetation at Lochside. One side has now been cut but the opposite side still needs attention. **Ongoing.**

3.3 Speeding Concerns. SBC have a proposal ready but it is being put on hold until the beginning of the next financial year. **Ongoing**

3.4 Public Toilets. SM reported that there is an ongoing review of Public Toilets throughout the Borders & there were no plans at present for a refurbishment at Town Yetholm. PR indicated that the heat & pressure applied during the recent clean may have contributed to the paintwork blistering.

3.5 Mobile Coverage. Cllr Robson advised that the ‘heat map’ is still outstanding & will circulate once this has been received. **Ongoing**

3.6 Yetholm Online Website. SS has met with Graeme Watson & this is progressing really well. Graeme is happy to continue populating the Website with information & also to speak to those who wish to have access to input their own information on.

3.7 Disabled parking Spaces. SBC have confirmed that there are 2 in Woodbank Road, 3 in Grafton Road, 2 in Cheviot Place & 1 in Deanfield Place. Only 7 are under the control of SBC as a small section of Grafton Road is under the control of a Housing Association.

3.8 Street Lighting on Woodbank Road – No update. **Ongoing**

**4 Members of the Public – Issues and/or Concerns**

2 Members of the Public provided an Anti Social Behaviour update following continued harassment of dog owners & their dogs from both villages and visitors with dogs. Several residents have been the target of intimidation & this is also impacting upon the reputation of the villages. Following a letter to the ASB Unit which was signed by a number of residents, information packs have been issued and diary sheets to record any further incidents & then to be returned to the ASB Unit. The Head of the ASB Unit has advised that if any individual feels “fear or alarm” due to the behaviour of another person, they should call the Police on the non emergency number (101) or contact the ASB Unit at the Council Offices. PR has spoken to an individual re the above & there have been no recent incidents of intimidation.

**5 Police Report**

New report circulated – no issues raised.

**6 Festival Committee Update**

SS advised that the first meeting of 2018 had been held and there had been discussions around some changes to the Programme. The next meeting is Monday 5th February. Fiona Thomson will update the CC with the financial position but the Festival Committee are pleased to report a profit from last year.

**7 Portfolio Presentations**

**Housing & Planning/Pavilion – Shane Black (Vice Chair)**

SB advised of 2 Applications for replacement windows & front door at Rose Bank. With regards to the building at the rear of the Youth Hall & the eventual demolition SB will speak to Laura Tait.

**Action SB**

All of the expenditure for the Fun Day held at the Pavilion in August has now been received and the profit for the day has been declared at £1,039.37. Donations are being made to Eyemouth RNLI & University of Edinburgh Development Trust of £330.00 each. The pavilion has also recently received a donation of £500 to go towards insulating the roof. A further meeting is to take place to finalise arrangements re setting the Pavilion up as a Sports Club & SB advised that a quote of £148 had been received for liability insurance.

**Finance – Angela Walker**

Over the past 2 months income of £931 has been received and expenditure of £1,445 recorded giving an overspend of £514. The carried forward position at the end of November was £8,722 so at the end of January this is now £8,208 of which £1,992 is earmarked for the Pavilion. A recent initiative involving the collection of windfall apples aptly named the Windfall Fund has distributed £100 to YCC to assist with the additional insurance premium required for Bonfire Night.

**Yetholm Resilient Group - Alan Kerr**

AK advised that the grit bins are being checked regularly & we can have more bins if required. AW said that one would be most useful for the track at the end of Woodbank Road but this might have to be outside of CC expenditure as the track is unadopted. **Action AW**

**Bonfire & Village Maintenance – Paul Robson**

The field still hasn’t been cleared after Bonfire Night due to the ground being too boggy & PR experienced similar issues removing the Xmas Trees.

**Education – Zoe Keddie-Dixon**

ZKD attended the Burns afternoon at the Primary School which was very entertaining & well organised. The request for the defaced School sign is still ongoing.

**Grants – Denise Allan**

A Quality of Life grant has been submitted for the Defibrillators, no response as yet. We still need to apply for a Path Maintenance grant. **Action DA/PR**

**Health & Social Services – Sue Rose**

SR advised that all is ok with the defibrillators & the only necessary monthly check that is required is to ensure that the lights are flashing. Physically checking drains the batteries.

**Tourism – Graeme Wallace**

GW reported sales of £61 for Notelets & Tea Towels & circulated a pack of Notelets with a view to updating the design which is at least 6-8 years old. We will need to purchase more Tea Towels this year so an ideal time to make changes. Kate Moses has also given GW a copy of the Walk Book, again asking for improvement suggestions. Ideas to GW please.

**Utilities – Charles Brooker**

No update.

**Chair, Website Liaison & Public Events – Susan Stewart**

SS has visited The Border Hotel to speak about Festival Week & the Craft Fayre etc. The booths in the Dining Room have now been removed making it once again a suitable venue for village events, starting with a Race Night at the end of February for the Festival.

**Scottish Borders Councillors Update**

SM gave an update regarding the wall in Back Lane. Once the wall is taken down it will be replaced with fencing which will widen the road slightly. However agreement needs to be reached with Mr & Mrs Rustad, if SBC take their part of the wall down it will make the Rustad’s wall weaker.

**Additional Correspondence**

SS Circulated a letter from John Lamont but as there were no comments, no response was collated.

A letter has been received from David Redpath stating that road flooding is still a problem particularly just as you leave Town Yetholm on the way to Kelso. PR to speak to James Wauchope.

SM told the meeting that the Cheviot Area Partnership Meeting will be held at Kelso High School on 7th Feb from 18.30 to 20.30pm. Attendance is quite important.

The recent Spine Race caused a few issues, namely around double parking resulting in the Snow Plough & Gritter being unable to access The Yett. SS has spoken to Margaret Boyd as participants stay in the Youth Hall.

**AOB**

ZKD asked if the day of the meeting or meeting time could be changed to ease the pressure on her other commitments. Following a short discussion it was agreed that with effect from the meeting following the AGM the start time would change to 7.30pm.

PR reported a vehicle that has been issued with a Prohibition Order in Kelso is now at the rear of the Garage. Also someone is living in a caravan in the wagon park whilst waiting for permanent accommodation to be made available & there have been issues around a generator running for a long time during the evening. PR will make enquiries re housing.

AK has received lots of positive comments re the toys in the Play Park.

SB told the meeting that all potholes in the Villages have been repaired to a certain standard & there are plans over the next 2 years to resurface the road from TY to KY.

SM gave an update on the Localities Bid Fund. There is £35,000 of funding available & it will be allocated either entirely or split amongst 1.Borders Search & Rescue Unit – part fund the building of a new base to house vehicles & equipment, 2. G10 Sports – taking Funky Monkeys into Nurseries helping 2-5 year olds to improve physical & mental health & 3.Kelso Chamber of Trade – funding the development of a marketing tool focussing on the creation/distribution of a town map for visitors & the local community. Every Member of the Public in the Cheviot area has 2 votes which is taking place 1st – 28th February. Voting forms are available by either calling 01835 826659 or by emailing communitygrants@scotborders.gov.uk

The meeting closed at 8.30pm