

Tweedsmuir Community Council

Minutes of Tweedsmuir Community Council (TCC) meeting & AGM on Thursday 4th May 2023 (7.00pm), Tweedsmuir Village Hall and via Zoom

Present: Gavin Parker (GP, Chair), Brian Bushell (Treasurer), Debbie Cullen (Secretary) Mark Cullen (MC), Lesley Mason (LM), Viv Thompson (SBC Councillor) and 5 members of the public.

01.05 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from Ralph Glatt.

02.05 Minutes of the last meeting

Item 05.04, The cost associated with the purchase and delivery of the next edition of Upper Tweed Community News was £80, not £40 as stated.

03.05 Matters arising

- The newly appointed outreach officer - Peebles Citizen Advice Bureau, had been invited to attend this meeting but was unable to do so. To extend invitation to attend a future meeting.
Action: DC to contact.
- Litter Pick – **GP** extended thanks to everyone who had taken part in the Litter Pick
Action: VT to liaise with colleagues at SBC re: uplift of collected rubbish from the Crook.
- TCC had been informed that SBC had made a site visit to Tweedsmuir to inspect potential damage caused by flood water to the bridge. A more detailed survey to be conducted.

04.05 Planning applications

- Ref: 23/00563/LBC Refurbishment to strengthen bridge SITE: Polmood House Tweedsmuir Scottish Borders ML12 6QN - see agenda for link. No comments received.
- **LM** reported having been contacted by the developers for Oliver Forest Wind Farm regarding the citing of noise measuring equipment.

05.05 Treasurer's report

See minutes AGM 'Treasurer's report'.

- **LM** reminded TCC of the need to identify a new panel member to join the SSE Windfarm Panel. It was noted that the representative, if not a TCC councillors, could be a residents co-opted onto TCC.

06.05 Microgrant applications

- **Driving lessons** – Application to SSE Youth Bursary for £250 from – M Hewitson
Approved
- **Driving lessons** – Application to SSE Youth Bursary for £250 from – C Rees
Approved

- **Gym lesson** – Application to SSE Youth Bursary for £250 from F Hewitson – **Approved**
- **Musicians for Rhubarbfest** – Application to SSE microgrant for £250 from Frances Leckie – **Approved**

07.05 Police report

The report can be found at - <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Tweeddale-East-and-West-April-2023.pdf>

08.05 Scottish Borders Councillor's report

VT reported -

- SBC are looking at Small Schemes for improving infrastructure – pavement improvements etc.
- Tweeddale Councillor's are in discussion with their counterparts from South Lanarkshire Council, exploring opportunities for joint working on cross boundary issues e.g., additional pressures associated with pupils from Scottish Borders accessing schools on Biggar.
- the prolonged wet weather has resulted in the High School build falling behind schedule but it is hoped to make up time when the wither improves.
- MC reported having received a query from a local resident re:debate reported to have taken place at SBC regarding the allocation of the Coronation Grants made available to Community Councillor's. **VT** reported a debate had taken place followed by a vote on 2 motions – one to make the amount available to Foodbanks rather than Community Councils, the second to reduce the amount being made available to Community Councils. Both options were defeated in favour of retaining the original proposal of making upto £500 available to each Community Council, subject to certain conditions. **DC** enquired how any underspend against the allocated monies would be spent. **VT** reported this would be the subject of further debate.
- **LM** enquired whether, as there is no likelihood of securing any reduction in the speed limit in the vicinity of the Crook, it would be possible to have signs warning of pedestrians crossing.
- **GP** reported having received queries from residents regarding the outcome of the SBC review of access issues at Hill House but had been unable to obtain any information from SBC.

Actions: VT to –

- explore option for 'Pedestrians crossing' signage
- make enquires regarding access issues at Hill House

09.05 Crook Inn

LM reported that the exterior of the Crook Inn is being painted. Work is underway to position and fix a range of outdoor equipment and furniture.

VT suggested that the 'Restorative Justice Team' might be able to help with fixing picnic tables etc.

Action: LM to make contact with the 'Restorative Justice Team'

10.05 Community development update

Gardening Group is now back up and running on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm.

LM reported on the success of the recent Storytelling Event, organized and funded by Connecting Threads. Plans are underway for a follow up event in the summer.

11.05 Community Development Plan

A 'one off' event is planned for 25th May 7-9pm to identify priorities from the plan. To try and ensure a range of views are represented each Community Councillor to approach one member of the community to attend.

12.05 Celebrating the Coronation

The Community Picnic will take place at the Crook from 2pm – cupcakes and soft drinks provided.

13.05 Consultations

None received.

14.05 Items for information

Biggar Medical Practice newsletter can be viewed at –

<https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Patient-Group-Newsletter-Spring-2023.pdf>

LM noted –

- the Health Fair planned for 26th August bringing together info from Health and Voluntary Agencies.
- the mobile Breast Screening Service will be returning to Biggar.
- the services provide by the surgery are now being constrained by the limits of their current accommodation and the practice will be seeking support to secure new premises.

15.05 Forthcoming events

- Details of forthcoming events can be found at -<https://www.tweedsmuir.scot/events/>

16.05 Any other business

- **Defibrillator** - Further to the discussion at the last Community Council it as agreed the defibrillator currently located at the Village Hall be moved to the Wee Crook.
Action: DC to contact Lesley Kirkwood to enquire whether Lesley -
 - is willing to continue as the Resilient Communities Lead and as part of this role continue to monitor the defibrillators
 - would obtain quotes of moving the defibrillator from the Village Hall to the Wee Crook

17.05 Date of next meeting

Thursday 1st June 2023

If you have any agenda items, please forward to the Secretary.

Annual General Meeting

Chair's report – link to copy to follow.

Treasurer's report

To view follow link - <https://www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Treasurers-Report-May-23a.docx>

1. Apologies

None.

2. Order of Business

As stated.

3. Declaration of interests

All confirmed none to be declared.

4. Membership of the Community Council

VT confirmed the following to be members of Tweedsmuir Community Council – Debbie Cullen, Mark Cullen,Carolynn Hoy, Frances Leckie, Lesley Mason and Gavin Parker

5. Appointment of Chair

Gavin Parker, proposed by Mark Cullen, seconded by Frances Leckie

6. Appointment of Vice Chair

Lesley Mason, proposed by Mark Cullen, seconded by Gavin Parker

7. Appointment of Secretary

Debbie Cullen, proposed by Frances Leckie, seconded by Lesley Mason

8. Appointment of Treasurer

Mark Cullen, proposed by Lesley Mason, seconded by Gavin Parker

9. Any other items of urgent business

All Councillors to confirm adherence to Code of Conduct.
(All Councillors subsequently confirmed in writing they have read, understood and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct)

www.tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk CONTACT: tweedsmuirsecretary@outlook.com

Chair: Gavin Parker Treasurer: Mark Cullen Secretary: Debbie Cullen

Other Councillors: Lesley Mason Carolynn Hoy

Resilient Communities contact: Lesley Kirkwood