

## DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

**Present:**

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor R Armstrong	
Community Councillor S Clew	
Community Councillor T Lothian	
Community Councillor C Nicol	
Community Councillor W Roberts	Secretary
Community Councillor S Robinson	

**In attendance:**

Two Members of Denholm Feuars  
Two Members of the Public

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> CC S Passmore, SBC Councillors S Marshall, C Ramage and N Richards, PC A Patterson.  Chair thanked all those who had agreed to attend the meeting postponed from 17 Jan 18.	
2.	<b>Declaration of Interest.</b> Chair called for any declaration of interest, either in general or when related to a specific item under discussion.	All
3.	<b>Police Report.</b> PC Patterson was on duty and unable to attend.	
4.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting (18 Oct 17).</b> Chair requested an amendment to Item 10, to read: "...following the sale of the <i>owning</i> company, and...."  The Minutes (as amended) were proposed by CC Nicol, seconded by CC Robinson. <b>Approved.</b>	
5.	<b>Matters Arising.</b>	
a.	<b>Road Texturing (Item 9a).</b> On-going.	
b.	<b>Grant for School Staging (Item 6b).</b> Defer to next meeting.	
c.	<b>Road Signage (Item 13b).</b> A sign to the cemetery had been agreed and funding would be requested under the small grants scheme.	
d.	<b>Fire Services (Item 13h(2)).</b> Sec was to write to the local Chief of Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, expressing the CC's concern at the new policy of NOT responding to 999 call when an ambulance was not available.	Sec
e.	<b>CC Membership (Item 13k).</b> Cllr Armstrong to pursue and keep Chair informed.	Armstrong
f.	<b>Feuars Matters (Item 13l).</b>	

(1) **Lighting of Leyden Monument.** Mr Campbell reported that the monument lighting was the responsibility of SBC and the matter was now in hand with them.

(2) **Grant for a Denholm Festival.** On-going.

Campbell

6. **Treasurer's Report.** In the Treasurer's absence, Chair presented her report (attached):

a. Current balance stood at £1127.71.

The Projects Account balance stood at £1089.60 of which £175.50 is ring fenced for the Defibrillator Fund.

b. A new account had been established for the Langhope Rig Windfarm Community Fund, and £1406.19 had been transferred into it from the Projects Account. £367.00 of this amount was the outstanding balance for the printing of the Denholm News, leaving a balance of £1033.19

c. There were no outstanding invoices.

7. **Defibrillator Costs.** Chair reported that the child pads in the Denholm defibrillator required renewal at a cost of £70, and that the adult pads would be due for renewal in May. Avril's Trust had agreed to replace both sets at a cost of £177, including a single £20 installation fee.

In Oct 2018, the Minto battery pack was due for renewal, at a cost of £150 plus £20 installation, and the Bedrule pack soon thereafter. Chair proposed £177.00 for the Denholm pads from the current account, which would allow these later costs to be met from the defib fund. Seconded by CC Nicol. **Agreed.**

Chair

8. **Correspondence.** One item only:

a. **Letter of Thanks.** Thanks had been received from Denholm Rainbows and Ruberslaw CS Guild for the grants approved at the last meeting.

9. **Planning Applications.**

a. No new applications had been received.

b. **Communications Mast.** The mast had now been erected and work continued on site. No operational date was known. The general consensus was that the new lattice mast presented quite a low visual impact. Some damage had been caused to the access road by the contractors' vehicles, but CC Robinson reported this appeared to have been restored.

10. **Small Grant Scheme.**

a. Chair had heard from Cllr Marshall that the "Kissing gate" had been repaired, but was awaiting repainting.

b. Chair suggested that the required cemetery signpost should be considered for the Scheme. It was then suggested that TWO signs would be required – one at the junction of Kirkside with the A698, and one at the top of the Cannongate. Chair to action.

Chair

11. **Foundation Scotland (FS).** CC Robinson reported that there had been a number of new enquiries regarding possible grants, but none substantive to date.
12. **Community Storage Facility.** On-going.
13. **Wind Farms Update.** Chair reported the following:
- a. **Birneyknowe Windfarm.** The Inquiry would be held at Minto Golf Club and representatives of interested parties would be invited to attend.
  - b. **Pines Burn.** Now in appeal.
  - c. **Others.** A new proposal had been notified for a windfarm straddling the D&G - Borders border. This was a Section 36 application envisaging 49 turbines up to a height of 200m, 10km north of Langholm.
14. **A.O.B.**
- a. **Teviot & Liddesdale Locality Funding.** Chair outlined a short-list of 14 candidate projects seeking funding from the total allocation of £38K. Members of the public should vote for up to 4 of their favoured project(s), which could be done online or at various locations.
  - b. **CC Insurance Policy.** Chair suggested that the village fete should be included within the cover. **Agreed.**

It was queried whether the RG stores were covered under the current insurance policy. Sec to enquire with SBC.
  - c. **Grit Bins.** Following the survey of last November. Cllr Marshall had requested additional grit bins for Denholm. SBC had responded with a list of the criteria against which bins were issued/installed. The impression given was that no additional bins would be provided for Denholm.
  - d. **Locality Working Group.** CC Nicol reported the establishment of a "Locality Working Group" under the "Locality Health & Social Services Partnership" *[distinct from the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Locality Committee, which had succeeded the Area Forum]*, and which she had recently attended. This body was intended to provide a "drop-in hub" at which members of the public could seek advice on health and social services issues. However, the hub would be activated in Denholm only once every six weeks.
  - e. **SBCC Network.** CC Nicol reported an improved attendance at the most recent meeting of the network.
  - f. **Resilience Group.**
    - (1) There was a discussion regarding the suitability of the location of a storage facility on the Dean Road. To be resolved by the Group.
    - (2) Mr Gordie Campbell reported that the equipment supplied by the scheme was wholly inadequate – two shovels had broken on first use. It was proposed to replace these items with more robust examples, from CC funds. **Agreed.**
  - g. **Newsletter.** CC Nicol reported the newsletter was now available online, as well as in printed form. It was suggested that this should be moved onto the Denholm website. CC Nicol would contact the newsletter editor

Sec

Sec

Robinson

Robinson  
Treasurer

- Jackie Charley to liaise with Jane Currie re inclusion on the Denholm Website **Nicol**
- h. **“Yarn Bombing”**. CC Lothian expressed his congratulations to all involved in the Denholm “Yarn Bombing” effort over the festive season. All agreed that this was much appreciated.
- j. **Bottle Bank**. Mr Iain Thompson reported that, although the bottle bank at the Fisherman’s carpark was emptied regularly, the site was in much need of cleaning, which was the responsibility of SBC. Mr Iain Thompson was awaiting an update on the matter. **(Thomson)**
- k. **Village Hall Flooding**. Mr George Pilch reported that there had been some serious flooding within the Village Hall corridor, although the root cause was unknown. Cllr Marshall had initiated an investigation, but the results were inconclusive. Chair would ask Cllr Marshall to pursue. **Chair**
- l. **Flooding at Eastgate**. Mr Pilch also reported that the land around his home on Eastgate had recently been flooded. He was aware of some history to the problem, but asked that the cause be investigated anew. **Chair**
- m. **Contribution to “The Denholm Ba”**. Mr Campbell requested that the CC once again contribute £25 to funding the annual Ba’ event. **Agreed**. **Treasurer**
- Date of Next Meeting**. The next meeting would be on Wed **21 Feb 18** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm. **All**
- Meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Will Roberts  
Sec D&DCC

24 Jan 18

**Membership of D&DCC:**

Mrs G Crew (Chair)  
Mr R Armstrong (Vice Chair)  
Mr S Clew  
Mr T Lothian  
Mrs C Nicol  
Mrs S Passmore (Treasurer)  
Mr W Roberts (Secretary)  
Mrs S Robinson

**Information:**

Mr S Marshall (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr C Ramage (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr N Richards (Councillor, SBC)  
  
Democratic Services Team, SBC  
PC A Patterson (Community PC)  
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)  
Ms K Wylie (Hawick News)  
Mr J Marshall (The Hawick Paper)