

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY 15 AUGUST 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:

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor N Richards	SBC
PC A Patterson	Police Scotland
Two Members of the Public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. CC S Passmore, Cllr C Ramage.	
2.	Declaration of Interest. Chair called for any declaration of interest, either in general or when related to a specific item under discussion.	All
3.	Police Report. PC Patterson presented his report for Jul/Aug (attached).	
4.	Shooting Incident at Minto, 10 Aug 18. CC Clew outlined the incident in which a Minto resident's dog had been shot dead by Lord Minto's Gamekeeper. PC Patterson gave the situation from the police perspective, and indicated that a review of the gamekeeper's gun licence would automatically ensue as a result of this incident. All members of the CC expressed their grave concern at the event and at the conduct of the gamekeeper; some members reported earlier incidents of his aggressive and abusive behaviour towards local residents. It was agreed that:	
	a. Sec was to draft a letter for Chair to send the Lord Minto expressing the concerns of the community, and	Sec, Chair
	b. Chair was to copy that letter to PC Patterson who undertook to forward it as necessary.	Chair
	[Afternote: Following the meeting, it was also decided that Chair would copy the letter directly to Chief Superintendent Lesley Clark, local Police Commander, and to the Firearms Licensing Authority in Edinburgh.]	Chair
5.	Minutes of the Last Meeting (20 Jun 18). The Minutes were proposed by CC Nicol, seconded by CC Clew. Approved.	
6.	Matters Arising.	
	a. Community Storage Facility (Item 5b). Sec reported that there had been no response to his email to Mr Neil Hastie at SBC, sent on 18 July, indicating that D&DCC was prepared to rent the facility. Sec to resend the email, with copies to our three Cllrs.	Sec

- b. **Kerb Damage (Item 15g).** Cllr Marshall reported that the work to repair the kerb damage had been included in the works schedule and would be completed as soon as practicable.
- c. **Litter Bins (Item 15i).** A litter bin had now been relocated inside the playpark in a position from which it could readily be emptied.
- d. **Fly Tipping (Item 15m).** There remained a quantity of rubbish on the Minto Road, and CC Armstrong undertook to send photos to Cllr Marshall. **Armstrong**
- Sec reported a child's bicycle and other junk had been dumped into the Slitrig River near the bridge to Sandbed in Hawick and had been there for some weeks. CC Armstrong was able to produce a photo of the rubbish and forwarded it to Cllr Marshall, who undertook to raise the matter with the Hawick Cllrs. **Marshall**
7. **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer was absent due to ill-health; no report was available.
8. **Correspondence.** There were three items:
- a. **Off-Licence Application** from the Post Office, Denholm. No objections. **Sec**
- b. **Locality Bid Fund.** The current round of bidding was due to close on 1 Oct 18; all members of the community were encouraged to propose eligible projects. Cllr Marshall said that the Locality Fund arrangements were to be reviewed in Oct. **All**
- c. **"Happiness Habits" Invitation.** Chair and CC Clew to contact. **Chair**
9. **Planning Applications.**
- a. **17/00857/FUL** Dwelling house at Eastcote – approved 26 Jul 18.
- b. **18/00957/FUL** Extension 10 Denholm Mill – Sec had replied 18 Jul 18.
- c. **18/01029/PPP** Dwelling house, Newton Farm. Resubmission of a previous application to which PPP had been granted in Aug 2015. CC Robinson declared an interest. There were no objections – Sec to report. **Sec**
10. **Battle's Over WWI Commemorations.** Chair gave details of the arrangements made to date. These were most comprehensive and included appropriate events at Denholm, Minto, Bedrule and (hopefully) at Cavers. Beacons would be lit on both Minto Hill and Ruberslaw.
- It was planned to hold an exhibition of WWI memorabilia in the village hall, and all were asked to encourage members of the public to search for appropriate items for display.
- Full details would be promulgated closer to the time. All members congratulated Chair on what she had been able to arrange. **All**
- It was agreed that a grant of £50 would be made available from the CC Project Fund to meet immediate expenses; an application for additional funding from the Langhope Rig Fund would be made in due course. **Treasurer**
11. **Denholm Main Street Footpath.** No evidence of title to the land supporting the footpath had yet been forthcoming. It was agreed that the matter would be reviewed at the next meeting. **Sec**

12. **Small Grant Scheme.**

- a. **Playpark.** Cllr Marshall, Sec and CC Nicol had recently made a site visit with SBC officers to assess the state of the playpark on the Green, and the prospect of enhancement. It was believed up to £12K could be made available and quotes were being obtained. In progress.
- b. **Minto Pump.** One quote for the work was to hand, but two more were required. CC Armstrong apologised for the delay but would progress the matter.
- c. **Cemetery Signs.** Cllr Richards agreed to chase the erection of the cemetery signs with SBC.

Armstrong

Richards

13. **Foundation Scotland.** CC Robinson reported no updates.

14. **Wind Farms Update.**

- a. **Birneyknowe.** Windfarm Public Enquiry. There were no new developments.
- b. **Pines Burn.** Chair reported the developer had expressed optimism of progress.
[Afternote: On 17 Aug 18, the Reporter announced that he had allowed the appeal against the rejection of the planning application for Pines Burn Windfarm - PPA-140-2069 refers.]
- c. **Barrel Law 2.** The application was due to be considered at SBC Planning on 3 Sep 18.

15. **A.O.B.**

- a. **Denholm Phone Box.** A quote had been received for £80 plus £50 for materials. It was agreed that the quote be accepted.
- b. **Cllr Ramage's Report.** In her absence, Cllr Ramage had provided an update on a number of issues:
 - (1) **Ashloaning.** Poor patching reported, and a re-work requested.
 - (2) **Parking on Pavements.** The new SG Transport Bill 2018 could result in drivers being fined. SBC had given assurance that the new law would be applied sympathetically, where residents had no option to park otherwise without causing congestion.
 - (3) **Development at Denholm Mill - Access.** The response to the Denholm Mill Association question regarding the local land dispute was overdue – Cllr Ramage was chasing with SBC lawyers.
- c. **Manhole Cover in Denhom Main Street.** CC Lothian reported a broken manhole cover on Main Street near the butcher's shop. Cllr Marshall would pursue.
- d. **Denholm Meet Sign.** CC Nicol observed that the new sign for the Denholm Meet, which had been reported as contravening the conservation area requirements, had not been addressed.
- e. **Mobile Phone Mast.** CC Nicol reported that the mast was now operational, and that the 4G signal was interfering with her television reception. An information/ helpline contact number was now available for

Chair

Ramage

Ramage

Marshall

any member of the public experiencing such interference; contact Chair for details.

- f. **Speeding.** It was hoped that the police would be able to deploy a speeding camera soon, as drivers were still routinely exceeding the limits, despite the recent road surfacing work.

**PC
Patterson**

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting would be on Wed **19 Sep 18** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

All

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

W A B Roberts
Sec D&DCC

19 Aug 18

Attachments:

1. Police Report

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)