

## DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY 2017

**Present:**

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor R Armstrong	
Community Councillor T Lothian	
Community Councillor C Nicol	
Community Councillor S Passmore	Treasurer
Community Councillor N Richards	
Community Councillor W Roberts	Secretary
Community Councillor S Robinson	(Co-opted)

**In attendance:**

Councillor A Cranston	SBC
Councillor W McAteer	SBC
PC Allan Patterson	Police Scotland
3 Members of the public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> CC. M Wilson, Councillor S Marshall	
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.	<b>All</b>
3.	<b>Police Report.</b> PC Patterson presented his report (attached).	
4.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting (16 Nov 16).</b> Amend to show apologies for absence had been received from CC T Lothian. So amended, the Minutes were proposed by CC Robinson, seconded by CC Richards. <b>Approved.</b>	<b>Sec</b>
5.	<b>Matters Arising.</b>	
a.	<b>Offensive Odours (Item 5d).</b> Recent new deposits were reported. Cllr Cranston agreed to pursue the matter with SBC.	<b>Cranston</b>
b.	<b>War Memorial (Item 11).</b> Sec had yet to contact Frank Scott at SBC again, but would pursue.	<b>Sec</b>
c.	<b>Dog Fouling (Item 12).</b> Situation was being monitored.	
6.	<b>Treasurer's Report.</b> Treasurer presented her report.	
a.	At 18 Jan 17, the balance stood at £1492.06, of which £296.05 was ring-fenced for the Defibrillator Fund, leaving a working balance of £1196.01.	
b.	Following previous donations and replacement of the defibrillator pads at Minto, the Projects Fund balance stood at £983.67.	
c.	There were no outstanding invoices.	
d.	Treasurer would be absent for the next meeting. Appropriate arrangements were in hand.	<b>Treasurer</b>

7. **Correspondence.** Several items, including:

- a. SBC letter: Public Consultation on Draft Supplementary Guidance: Housing. Comments required by 30 Jan 17.
- b. Notification that insurance policy was now in place providing cover for Community Resilience Group activities.
- c. Notification of public holiday dates for 2017 for the Teviot and Liddesdale area, as follows:

**Chair**

New Year 2017:	Mon 2 Jan, Tues 3 Jan
Easter:	Mon 17 Apr
May Day:	Mon 1 May
Common Riding:	Fri 9, Sat 10 Jun (CR week: 5 – 11 Jun)
Annual Trades:	Mon 24, Tues 25 Jul (24 Jul for 2 weeks)
Autumn:	Mon 9 Oct
Christmas:	Mon 25, Tues 26 Dec
New Year 2018:	Mon 1, Tues 2 Jan 18

- d. Thank you letters and verbal thanks from groups receiving donations.

8. **Planning Applications.** No new applications notified, other than for the Pine Burn wind farm (see Item 10b).

- a. **16/01200/FUL.** Alterations and extension to existing shed to form garage, and alterations to existing garage to form additional residential accommodation. D&DCC members had met with Cllr Marshall and Fraser Dunlop of SBC to discuss. No further developments were reported to date.

9. **Small Grant Scheme.**

- a. **Road to the Minto War Memorial.** Members reported that the access road to the Minto war memorial was deteriorating badly and it was suggested that this could be a candidate for funds from the SBC Small Grant Scheme.

**Armstrong**

10. **Wind Farms Update.**

- a. **Foundation Scotland (FS).** Sec updated the meeting. Agreement had been reached with EFS Anemoui on the draft for Fund B, for Langhope Rig community funds, and it was signed by all parties last month.

Sec explained that a sub-group of the CC was required to administer the fund and grant applications, and that he and Chair felt it should be members other than Chair and Sec. He would provide more details on the tasks involved as necessary. CC Susan Robinson outlined her personal experience in finance management, and that she would be willing to consider chairing the sub-group, following a more detailed briefing. CC Passmore indicated her willingness to consider assisting with the sub-group. Chair thanked CCs Robinson and Passmore for their offer and Sec would follow up.

**Sec**

Sec explained that all D&DCC members were required to provide details of their interests to satisfy governance requirements for the Community

Fund to operate satisfactorily. He gave guidance on the details required, and distributed data sheets for all CC members to complete and return as convenient.

All CC

- b. **Pine Burn.** Chair reported that EnergieKontor had now submitted their latest planning application to SBC, and circulated graphics of the predicted impact of the Pine Burn proposals. She also reported that, although the developer had stated that transport vehicles to the site would not route via Denholm, he later amended this to state that abnormal loads would avoid Denholm, but “materials” (ie HGVs) would transit the village.

Sec explained that they were proposing to route the abnormal loads via “unclassified roads” around Cavers, which clearly indicated a lack of reality.

The latest submission by the developer included extensive denigration of the southern Borders communities, including a failing economy, high unemployment and subsistence levels, and high crime rates, in an attempt to support their case as beneficial to the locality. Not very flattering.

Chair, SEC

Chair said comments on the application were required by 9 Feb 17.

- c. **Birneyknowe.** Leaflets had been distributed in indicating various benefits to the community, but members contended that much of the information was highly misleading.
- d. **Windy Edge.** No news.
- e. **Highlee Hill.** No news

11. **Resilience Group.** Unfortunately, Helen Howarth (RG Co-ordinator) was unable to attend. Chair reported that there had not been any material progress on the location or stocking of the RG Stores. Cllr McAteer offered to chase with SBC.

McAteer

12. **D&DCC Membership.** A tentative offer of a new member from Bedrule had not materialised. However, the Chair welcomed Mr Simon Clew of Minto (in attendance with his wife) who had expressed an interest in joining the CC. He introduced himself and gave a synopsis of his background, which included considerable dealings with corporate bodies; he agreed to attend the next meeting with the intention of being formally proposed and seconded as a Co-Opted Member.

Sec

Chair reported that Muriel Wilson had tendered her resignation from the CC, which was accepted with regret. Chair thanked Muriel for her valuable contribution to the CC, and all members wished her well for the future.

One vacant seat therefore remained on the CC. However, as there would be two co-opted members following Mr Clews' joining, **further co-opted members could not be sought** under the terms of the constitution.

13. **A.O.B**

- a. **Road Closures.** Sec reminded members that Main Street Denholm would be closed for resurfacing 23 and 24 Jan 1, and Mansfield Road, Hawick would be closed 1 to 3 Feb 17. Cllr McAteer commented on the short notification of these closures, and the poor level and of consultation in general regarding the consequences of such closures.

b. **Community Empowerment Consultation.** Cllr McAteer reminded the CC that the consultation process was on-going, and that members should consider carefully whether there were any “public assets” which might be appropriate for “transfer” to the D&DCC. It was agreed that he would seek to arrange a briefing from Ms Shona a Smith, the Communities & Partnership Manager at SBC.

**McAteer**

c. **Minto Golf Club Sign.** CC Armstrong raised the matter of a large pictorial sign which had been erected at the entrance to Minto Golf Club, which several residents had complained was unsightly and inappropriate. Further detail was provided by Mr Clews. Cllr McAteer offered to investigate whether planning permission had been granted for this sign, under an application regarding other signs within the Golf Club.

**McAteer**

**Date of Next Meeting.** The next meeting would be on Wed **15 Feb 17** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

**All**

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

W A B Roberts  
Sec D&DCC

20 Jan 17

**Membership of D&DCC:**

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

**Information:**

Mr A Cranston (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr S Marshall (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr W McAteer (Councillor, SBC)  
  
Democratic Services Team, SBC  
PC A Patterson (Community PC)  
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)  
Hawick News  
The Hawick Paper