

## DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 20 June 2018

**Present:**

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor R Armstrong	
Community Councillor T Lothian	
Community Councillor C Nicol	
Community Councillor S Passmore	Treasurer

**In attendance:**

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor C Ramage	SBC
One Member of the Public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> CC S Clew, CC Will Roberts, CC Susan Robinson , PC A Patterson (Police Scotland).	
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 had emailed his report for May/June , which Chair read to the meeting (attached).	
4.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting (26 May 18).</b> The Minutes were proposed by CC Nicol, seconded by CC Passmore. <b>Approved.</b>	
5.	<b>Matters Arising.</b> a. <b>Flooding at Eastgate (Item 5b).</b> Councillor Marshall confirmed that the team dealing with the new flood prevention proposals were hoping to produce plans after the summer recess b. <b>Community Storage Facility (Item 5c).</b> Cllr Ramage had written again to SBC but had not had a response yet. Chair suggested writing to SBC Estates to confirm CC's interest in leasing the property. c. <b>Dementia Care Presentation (Item 5g).</b> Treasurer confirmed a cheque had been sent to Mr Simon Wallace.	<b>Ramage Chair  Treasurer</b>
6.	<b>Treasurer's Report.</b> Treasurer presented her report (attached).	
7.	<b>May Fair 26 May 2018.</b> Chair reported that the day had been very successful and the weather had contributed to bring locals and visitors to Denholm and enjoy the programme that was on. Chair extended special thanks to all CC	

members who had been active in the pre-organisation and for offering help on the day.

The CC BBQ and funds from the Car Boot Sale had raised £349.63 after expenses, which were now transferred into the project fund. Special thanks were also given to Cllr Ramage, who helped at the BBQ and for judging some of the events. Chair reported the format for the May Fair may change next year, and another Community Event run by the CC could be an option for 2019.

8. **Correspondence.** Some correspondence regarding residents' concerns re local grass cutting and the state of our cemeteries were sent to Chair. These were duly passed onto SBC Councillors.

**Chair**

9. **Planning Applications.** No applications were received this month

10. **Denholm Main Street Footpath.** Following the recent meeting with concerned residents over the proposed changes, SBC are still awaiting confirmation as to the ownership of the land. Residents are urged to try and gather evidence from deeds etc to prove who the rightful owners are. Matter ongoing

**Marshall**

11. **Denholm Defibrillator.** Chair reported that she had been approached by a local resident as they thought a second defib. would be advantageous to the village. After some discussion as to where this could be sited and also the logistics required for another installation, it was agreed that no further action be taken at the moment.

12. **Small Grant Scheme.** Cllr Marshall reported that the recent proposals for the upgrade work for the well at Minto was in hand. Further considerations were also agreed re new equipment for the Denholm Play park. It was agreed that any new proposals would be discussed with Denholm Feuars, local residents and also local children. Cllr Marshall agreed to discuss the idea with SBC under the Small Grant / Quality of Life schemes.

13. **Foundation Scotland.** Treasurer reported there would be a new contact for enquiries after the summer, although Rachel Searle-Mbulla was still dealing with applications. The Denholm news-sheet would require another application to continue. No problems were envisaged for funding to be reapplied for.

**Wind Farms Update.**

14. a. Birneyknowe Windfarm Public Enquiry. There were no new developments.  
b. Pinesburn  
c. Other windfarms

There were no further developments on any at the moment

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

- a. **SBC Grass Cutting Policy.** Chair reported that a letter had been sent to

SBC officials expressing CC concern at the way the policy was now being implemented.

Chair had also expressed concerns to Officials present at the Locality meeting the previous evening, (Tuesday 19 June). It was reported to them the anguish and anger that residents and visitors expressed over the state that local cemeteries were being deemed to be 'acceptable condition' and also local playparks not being cut enough. Financial restraints were the reason given as to the change of policy, but CC members and local feelings deem this required a 'rethink'. It is also understood that SBC will be looking for even more savings and grassed areas will be checked to identify correct ownership and some areas may not continue to be cut in the future. It was suggested that areas such as the Denholm Green, and are used by the School as playing fields, may be the responsibility of the Education Department. D&DCC continues to express their concern at this change of policy.

**Chair  
Marshall**

b. **Recycling Centres.** Cllr Marshall reported that plans were ongoing to revise the opening days/times of the SBC recycling centres, and would keep the CC informed of developments.

c. **Denholm Toilets.** As these are not an SBC statutory requirement, further discussions are due shortly as to the economic costs of maintaining some public toilets. The CC are concerned that yet again consideration may be made to close this facility and any move to do so would be strongly opposed.

**Chair  
Marshall**

d. **Borders Rail Link Extension.** CC Nicol & CC Armstrong attended and agreed the meeting had been useful. Notes from the meeting were distributed and further support requested for the future.

**Nicol  
Armstrong**

e. **New Data Protection Regulations.** Chair reminded members that because of the new regulations, permission had to be obtained by a correspondent before it was passed onto another person. It was agreed that a standard 'permission letter' be available to every CC member to keep the format universal to all. Once shared, it is then the receivers' responsibility to do the same if yet another person gets involved. It is also a requirement now that any email on a shared basis is addressed to one person and then Bcc to all other members.

**Chair  
All**

g. **Kerb Damage.** Cllr Marshall reported that the damage to the footpath kerb at Eastgate opposite The Loaning, caused by an HVG which cut the corner, would be repaired by SBC

**Marshall**

h. **Cemetery inspection.** It was noted that an inspection of the headstones in Denholm Cemetery would be carried out shortly. It was the policy of SBC to lay flat any headstones deemed dangerous, and then if possible next of kin contacted. In the unfortunate situation that this could not be possible, the headstones would remain lying down. Although this can be upsetting to see, it is not SBC policy to re-erect.

i. **Litter Bins.** CC Passmore had spoken to head of school re supplying an extra litter bin for the school entrance. It was agreed that the Project Fund would pay half the cost. Mrs McCredie would make arrangement to order the bin.

**Passmore**

A litter bin was also requested to be placed inside the play park as it was

becoming messy due to the lack of a bin being in the vicinity.

It was suggested the one near the area, but on the Green side, could be placed inside the fence and if there could still be easily emptied by SBC.

**Marshall**

- j. **Denholm Rideout.** Although this is not the remit of the CC, and organised by Denholm Feuars, it was noted that this year there had been a charge for uplifting the rubbish after the event. Cllr Marshall confirmed this would likely continue and suggested a joint meeting with all parties and the Common Riding Committee (possibly Cameron Knox) to air views and come to a better solution over the costs for this event.

**Chair**

- k. **John Lamont/ Rachael Hamilton Summer Surgery.** It is noted that both members are having a summer surgery in Denholm Village Hall on 30<sup>th</sup> July at 9am.

- l. **Street Lighting Issues.** It had been reported by residents in Ashloaning that lighting was on/off all day long. Cllr Marshall reported that this had been passed onto the relevant persons and that the problem appeared to be an issue with the suppliers and would be dealt with in due course.

**Marshall**

- m. **Flying Tipping.** CC Lothian reported an incident of fly tipping on the Denholm/Lilliesleaf road. CC Armstrong agreed to photograph and forward to Cllr Marshall so it could be dealt with.

**Marshall**

- n. **Bottle Bank.** A member of the public reported the appalling mess left at the Bottle Bank. A large number of carrier bags containing bottles had been dumped outside the 'bank containers' and were unsightly. It appeared the containers were full and had not been emptied for some time but this had not deterred glass being left. Cllr Marshall agreed to pursue.

**Marshall**

**Date of Next Meeting.** The next meeting would be on Wed **15 Aug 18** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

**All**

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Gwen Crew  
Chair D&DCC

28 06 18

Attachments:

1. Police Report
2. Treasurer's 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)