

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DENHOLM VILLAGE HALL WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 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 S Passmore	Treasurer
Community Councillor W Roberts	Secretary
Community Councillor S Robinson	

In attendance:

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor N Richards	SBC
Councillor C Ramage	SBC
Three Members of the Public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. PC A Patterson, Police Scotland	
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 was unable to attend but had submitted his report for Oct/Nov (attached) by email, which Sec presented.	
4.	Resilience Group Report. Chair welcomed Mrs Lynn Fergusson, who gave a report on the Resilience Group's activities: During Storm "Alf" there were a number of instances of power outages and mains water rupture, and the Group had been able to respond effectively in support of vulnerable and affected residents, despite considerable disruption to communications. As a result of the experience, it was decided to procure a number of "Emergency Packs" for distribution in such circumstances; a quote had been obtained for 25 such packs, and an application for funds would be made to the Wind Farm fund. CC Armstrong had agreed to provide storage. Following a rupture of the mains water pipe at Minto, the Village Hall had been opened and several residents had been provided with an alternative water supply. Also, following a request from the Group, the teachers and children at Denholm School had produced a supply of yellow "Helping Hand" signs which residents could show at a window to indicate a call for help. The Group would be participating at a meeting at SBC to update their list of persons at risk. Chair praised the Resilience Group for their response, and called for a vote of thanks to Lynn and her Group member for their excellent work throughout the	Treasurer Armstrong

storm and its aftermath, and also to the teachers and children for their excellent contribution.

5. **Minutes of the Last Meeting (17 Oct 18).** The Minutes were proposed by CC Armstrong, seconded by CC Nicol. **Approved.**

6. **Matters Arising.**

a. **Minto Pump (Item 5b).** CC Armstrong was having considerable difficulty obtaining a second quote for the very specialised work required. Sec questioned whether a second quote was essential under the circumstances; Cllr Marshall agreed to discuss with Mr Dunlop at SBC.

Marshall

b. **Denholm Phone Box (Item 5c).** See Item 13 below.

c. **Speeding (Item 5d).** Chair and Sec had received an email from Mark Russell MSP outlining his call in the Scottish Parliament for a widespread introduction of a 20mph speed limit in the streets where we “live, work and play”, and thanking D&DCC for our contribution to the discussion hitherto. Sec was to enquire whether Mr Russell would welcome any additional input from the CC.

Sec

The recent deployment of the hardboard “standing policeman” on the A698 was most welcome, as was the installation of the hard-standing for the speed-camera vehicle at the western end of the village.

d. **Playpark (Item 5f).** Cllr Marshall reported on the result of his discussions with SBC. He offered two alternative commercial proposals for the CC to consider; these had also been shown to children at the school. The meeting agreed unanimously to opt for the proposal by Kompan. Mr Gordie Campbell reported that the children had also favoured the Kompan option. Cllr Marshall agreed to take this forward with SBC.

Marshall

e. **Monument Lighting (Item 14g).** It was confirmed that the monument lighting was now operating.

Cllr Marshall offered his apologies, but had to leave the meeting at this point.

7. **Treasurer’s Report & Foundation Scotland Update.** Treasurer presented her report: Current account balance stood at £995.70. The project Ac balance was £1182.71. Langhope Rig Community Fund stood at £7343.99, of which £518.40 was earmarked for the Denholm News printing costs. There were no outstanding invoices.

Treasurer proposed that the CC once again make donations to local entities from the Project Fund, as follows:

Auld Cross Keys, towards firework display £100
1st Denholm Brownies £50
1st Denholm Rainbows £50
1st Denholm Boy's Brigade £50
Denholm Bairns Christmas party £50
Ruberslaw Guild - Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch £50

Agreed unanimously.

Treasurer

8. **Correspondence.**

- a. Thanks received for the rugby competition medals.
- b. Avril's Trust contract to be ratified.
- c. A History and Heritage Workshop would be held at the Borders Textiles, Towerhouse, Hawick on Thurs 29 Nov, 10:00 to 12:00 noon.
- d. From SBC, a letter confirming that the Craigend development had been approved in Nov 2017. Reason for the letter was unknown.

Chair

9. **Planning Applications.** No new planning application.

10. **Battle's Over WWI Commemorations.** Chair gave a report of all the activities on Sunday 11 Nov, which had been highly successful and very well attended at each venue. In particular, the afternoon teas had raised the sum of £327 for charity; the meeting was asked to decide which charities should benefit.

It was agreed to split the funds 3 ways: to Help for Heroes; to Invictas (Sec to investigate); and to "First Light Trust" (the veterans' coffee shop in Hawick High street).

**Sec
Treasurer**

Chair thanked all who had contributed to the day and showed the certificates which had been distributed to mark the event. It was decided that the wreaths and poppies should remain on Denholm war memorial until at least the turn of the year.

Sec proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair for her outstanding efforts to make the day such a success. Carried unanimously.

11. **Denholm Main Street Footpath.** There had been non new developments.

12. **Small Grant Scheme.** No new applications.

13. **Phone Box Use.** CC Nicol showed examples of the literature displays she was proposing to install, but had been unable to access the phone box which seemed to be jammed shut. (Mr Dougie Crew agreed to attend to this issue.) It was agreed the displays should be funded from the CC account.

CC Robinson suggested installing a large **i** sign to indicate the phone box was a source of information. All were asked to seek such a sign.

All

14. **Wind Farms Update.**

- a. **Pines Burn.** Chair had received notification of a [proposed variation to the Pines Burn wind farm planning consent (17/00010/FUL), including a significant increase in tip height for a number of the turbines to no less than 149.9m. This has resulted in the case becoming a Section 36 application, which would therefore bypass SBC and be dealt with at SG level. It was agreed that D&DCC should voice its disappointment at this development, which betrayed once again the devious tactics of wind farm developers, to the detriment of the local democratic process.

Sec

- b. **Others.** No developments.

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

- a. **Co-opted Member.** Chair had received a letter from resident Gill Rennie of Jedward Terrace, in which she expressed interest in becoming a co-opted member of the CC. Following discussion it was agreed that Chair would respond welcoming her offer and initiating the necessary process.
- b. **Main Street Road Sign.** CC Nicol pointed out that the Main Street name sign on the end wall opposite the Post Office had become detached from its mounting. Cllr Ramage agreed to report to SBC.
- c. **Manhole Cover.** CC Lothian pointed out that the manhole cover in Main Street at "butcher's corner" was still unrepaired. Cllr Ramage to report.
- d. **Localities Bid Fund.** Cllr Richards reported that the fund was to be relaunched with a new closing date in January 2019, and encouraged members to propose projects for funding.
- e. **The Dean Tearoom.** CC Armstrong announced his intention to relaunch his campaign to restore the pathways and the tearoom in The Dean.
- f. **Feuars Business.** Mr Gordie Campbell informed the meeting that Denholm Feuars had assumed responsibility for maintenance of the 63 trees on The Green, including related costs.

Chair

Ramage

Ramage

Date of Next Meeting. Chair pointed out that there would be no meeting December. The next meeting would be on Wed **17 January 2019** at Denholm Village Hall at 7.00 pm. Meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

All

W A B Roberts
Sec D&DCC

26 Nov 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)