

## DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL 2025

**Present:**

Community Councillor G Crew	Chair
Community Councillor S Clew	
Community Councillor D Hutchings	
Community Councillor S Passmore	Treasurer
Community Councillor W Roberts	Secretary

**In attendance:**

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor N Richards	SBC
1 Member of the public	

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b> Cllr C Ramage, CCs L Ferguson, D Ploughman.	
2.	<b>Declaration of Interests.</b> Chair called for any declaration of interest, either in general or when related to a specific item under discussion.	All
3.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting held 19 Mar 25.</b> The minutes were proposed by Chair and seconded by CC Passmore. Approved.	
4.	<b>Matters Arising.</b> Sec addressed the action points from the last meeting:	
a.	<b>Ruberslaw Road Street Lights (Item 4d).</b> Although lamp standards had been erected, lighting had yet to be installed. Cllr Marshall reported that the road extension had yet to be adopted by SBC, so the responsibility lay with the developer. He had asked SBC Roads Dept to investigate and take the matter up with the developer.	
b.	<b>Ba' Game (Item 4e).</b> Following some confusion regarding the issue of the prize money, it was established that the Feuars would be returning £25 to the D&DCC.	
d.	<b>Denholm Cemetery (Item 4f).</b> Cllr Marshall said the matter was being investigated by SBC Neighbourhood Services, Parks and Environment Depts.	
e.	<b>Scottish Borders Walking Festival (Item 7a).</b> The meeting agreed again that the event was too complex for the CC to take on, but it was agreed to offer to assist another CC if necessary.	Chair
f.	<b>SBC Civic Reception (Item 7b).</b> Chair said she would be attending the reception on 22 May 25.	Chair
g.	<b>VE Day Celebration (Item 16a).</b> The event was scheduled for Sunday 4 May 25 from 1pm to 4pm on The Green. Chair said that Mr Lee Baines of the Feuars had arranged for a presence by the Scots Guards, who would provide a piper, and various activities. The event was open to all residents in the Denholm and district community. Efforts were in hand to secure some funding from FS, but Cllr Marshall undertook to approach SBC for funds.	Marshall
h.	<b>"Welcome to Denholm" Brick Planter (Item 16d).</b> Chair re-emphasised that the eastern planer had yet to be installed, and the	

- western one was in need of repair. Cllr Marshall would meet with Chair and Treasurer at 10am on 21 Apr to view both planters, and to take the matter up with SBC. **Marshall  
Chair  
Treasurer**
- i. **A698 Manhole Cover (Item 16e).** More complaints had been received about the cover. Cllr Marshall indicated that this was a problem for Scottish Water to resolve, reference number 3782125.
5. **Police Report.** Chair had circulated the MMWR for March. No comments.
  6. **Treasurer's Report and Foundation Scotland Update.** Treasurer presented her report. Details of recent activity are summarised in the attached annex.
    - a. Lynn Ferguson will be exploring funding opportunities.
    - b. Mr Gordie Campbell (present) questioned why for several years no SBC funds had been allocated to Denholm for a festival. Requests to support the Denholm Rideout had been refused as this was considered a Hawick event. Cllr Marshall offered to raise the matter with SBC. Mr Campbell also mentioned that the Denholm Youth Club was really in need of funds. **Marshall**
  7. **Correspondence.** Chair said she circulated the few items of correspondence received since the last meeting.
  8. **Planning Applications.** Sec had circulated the two planning applications:
    - a. **25/00409/PPP** Dwelling house, Brieryyards, Hornshole. This was being reviewed following an earlier rejection. The CC felt there were no problems with the proposed build and would recommend approval. **Sec**
    - b. **25/00404/AMC** Dwelling house, Sawmill Cottage, Cavers. It was argued that the plot was very small for a dwelling house, but this was a matter for the developer. A question was raised over whether the local sewerage system could cope with an additional household, and Sec was to raise the issue with SBC. **Sec**
- Cllr Richards joined the meeting at this stage.
9. **Teviotdale & Liddesdale Area Partnership.** All the area partnerships within Scottish Borders were being wound up, and it had yet to be decided how funds would be distributed in future. Chair and Sec would be attending a meeting of local CCs the following evening, and it was hoped that a way forward would be agreed. The next public meeting was expected in May, date yet to be announced. **Chair  
Sec**
  10. **Center Parcs (CP) Proposal.** There was discussion over a number of related issues, in particular how power and water demands of the development would be met. It was generally agreed that, while the development was broadly welcomed, we would need to monitor the whole carefully over the coming years.
  11. **Denholm & District Placemaking Project.** CC Hutchings said a catch-up online meeting was scheduled for the following week. He said he felt that the last meeting had been somewhat rushed, and there remained a number of outstanding concerns about the latest draft of the plan. **Hutchings**
  12. **EV Charging Points.** In CC Ploughman's absence, Chair reported that the Feuars Council had started to get involved in the project, and there was considerable concern about that body reopening a number of aspects. Sec would discuss the matter with CC Ferguson on her return from holiday, to seek the Feuars' lawyers' input without further delay. **Sec**

Chair expressed the CC's thanks to CC Ploughman for his hard and prolonged work in pursuing the project over the last three years.

13. **Small Grants Scheme.** Cllr Marshall said £15K was available at the start of the year. £800 had been allocated for a new bus shelter in Bonchester, so £14,200 remained available.

14. **Wind Farms Update.** Chair briefly summarised the complex situation with windfarms across the Borders. Some funds were due from Pines Burn with the first instalment due this month and the second later in the year.

Discussions regarding the proposed cross border grid connection were on-going and expected to be addressed at the CC meeting mentioned at Item 9 above.

15. **AOB.**

- a. **Litter Pick.** Chair said the litter pick was planned for Saturday 10 May 25, 9:30start from the Denholm church; local residents were encouraged to participate. **All**

- b. **Potholes in Douglas Drive.** CC Passmore reported bad potholes on Douglas Drive. Cllr Marshall offered to report these to SBC Roads Dept. **Marshall**

- c. **Road Works.** Cllr Marshall warned that temporary traffic lights would be installed for drainage works at the junction of the D61/3 Bedrule access and the A698 from 6 May for 3 days.

- d. **Review of Live Borders.** Cllr Marshall reported that following a review, a report was to be published imminently, followed by a consultation period. All community councils were encouraged to respond. **All**

- e. **Spreading of Manure.** Several members raised the issue of the recent spreading of manure, reportedly including "sewage sludge", in local fields resulting in extremely unwelcome odours. Chair had discussed the matter with SBC officers, and it was understood that the practice was not illegal, provided certain regulations were adhered to.

**Date of Next Meeting.** D&DCC would next meet on **21 May 2025** at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8:20pm, and Chair thanked all for attending. **ALL**

W A B Roberts  
Sec D&DCC

21 Apr 25

**Membership of D&DCC:**

Mrs G Crew (Chair)  
Mr S Clew  
Mrs L Ferguson  
Mr D Hutchings  
Mrs S Passmore (Treasurer)  
Mr D Ploughman (Vice Chair)  
Mr W Roberts (Secretary)

**Information:**

Mr S Marshall (Councillor, SBC)  
Mrs C Ramage (Councillor, SBC)  
Mr N Richards (Councillor, SBC)  
Ms C Malster (Comm Eng Off, SBC)  
PC A Patterson (Police Scotland)  
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)  
Mr J Marshall (The Hawick Paper)  
Mrs J Currie (Denholm Facebook)