DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 19 NOV 2025

Present:

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

In attendance:

Councillor	SBC
Councillor N Richards	SBC

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	**Apologies for Absence**. Cllrs S Marshall, C Ramage, CC L Ferguson.	
2.	**Declaration of Interests.** Chair called for any declaration of interest, either in general or when related to a specific item under discussion.	**All**
3.	**Minutes of the Last Meeting held 15 Oct 25**. Treasurer pointed out an error at Item 4b: Subject should have read "Funds for Flower Show Tables had been provided". Se to amend retrospectively.	**Sec**
	Subject to this amendment, the minutes of the meeting were proposed by CC Ploughman, seconded by CC Passmore. **Approved**.	
4.	**Matters Arising**. Sec addressed the action points from the last meeting:	
	a. **CC Generic Email Address (Item 8b)**. Sec had responded to SBC's survey of opinion of CCs, indicating that D&DCC did not intend to adopt a generic email address.	
	b. **Center Parcs (CP) – Byelaw (Item 9a)**. Sec had attended the Teams meeting with SBC. CP rep had restated their need for a Byelaw suppressing the "Right to Roam" across the fenced area of the site, and this was generally accepted by those in attendance. The Byelaw issue was now with SG for a final decision. CP also stated their intention to maintain a minimum of 5 metres clearance between the boundary of their site and the fence around the actual inner campsite.	
	c. **Bedrule Phone Box (Item 15c).** Treasurer reported that the necessary forms had been completed for the adoption of the phone box, which now awaited engineers to remove the BT equipment.	
5	**Police Report.** Chair had distributed the MMWR for October.	
	Chair reported that the entire contents of the Denholm phone box had again been stolen. Ideas for measures to counter these thefts were discussed and some proposals may be implemented.	
6.	**Treasurer's Report and Foundation Scotland Update.** Treasurer presented her report. Details of recent activity are in the attached annex.	

a. **School Play Area.** Treasurer had received a request for a contribution towards installing a "play area" in the school grounds which would be open to the public outside school hours. It was agreed that we would ringfence £5,000 for the project; provision would only be made when the project was fully funded. **Agreed**

b. **Pinesburn Windfarm Funds.** Treasurer was awaiting a decision on the final name for a new account to handle the moneys from Pinesburn windfarm. Funds would be transferred in due course.

7. **D&DCC By-Election**. Arrangements for the election to be held in March would be finalised at the January 2026 meeting. **Sec**

8. **Correspondence**. Chair said she had circulated a few items of correspondence received since the last meeting.

Chair had just received notification of a meeting entitled: "**Notification of Community Council Convention on the Impact of Major Energy Infrastructure in the Scottish Borders Area".** This was to be held at Jedburgh Town Hall on Saturday 17 Jan 26 between 2pm and 4pm. The letter detailing the objectives of the meeting, and a copy of a Unified Statement by Highland CCs are attached as annexes to these minutes. Members of the community are encouraged to attend. **Sec**

9. **Planning Applications**.

a. **25/01639/FUL New InPost Mail Unit at the Denholm Post Office.** The retrospective application had now been submitted to SBC for consideration.

The CCs expressed their frustration that the unit had been installed without prior application, but this was recognised as a deliberate ploy by the InPost company. It was agreed that the CC should comment to reflect the negative impact on the conservation area and the resulting bad vehicle parking by users, while recognising that the unit was being well used and may be popular among residents. Sec to submit. **Sec**

b. **Conservation Area**. Chair had requested clarification from SBC regarding the permissions required for replacing windows, doors and solar panels in a conservation area, as there seemed to be a lack of consistency with certain works going ahead and others being refused. She was informed that, as planning permissions and permitted development was a complex matter, any proposed work within a conservation area should be checked out with Planning beforehand and, if required, a planning application submitted. Cllr Richards agreed that some improvements were seen to be beneficial and may be viewed more favourably within planning guidelines.

10. **Centre Parcs**. See Item 4b above.

11. **Christmas Events**. Chair indicated that the lighting of the Christmas Tree on The Green was scheduled for the evening of Sunday 7 Dec 25. Snacks and mulled wine would be available, and the donkeys were expected to attend.

Sec was to investigate availability of Santa's transport. **Sec**

It was agreed that donations of £20 each would be made towards events for The Brownies, the Bairnes' Party, and to the Seniors' afternoon tea. **Treasurer**

12. **Teviot & Liddesdale Rural Community Alliance**. Nothing to report.

13. **Petition: New Powers for Community Councils**. Ongoing. **Chair**

14. **Denholm & District Placemaking Project.** Chair reported that the D&DCC Placemaking Plan had been distributed for consultation. Responses were awaited.

15. **EV Charging Points.** CC Ploughman confirmed that the entire project was now dead. The subject will be removed from the agenda. **Sec**

16. **Small Grants Scheme.** Nothing to report.

17. **Wind Farms Update**. Chair summarised the vast array of windfarm projects for the Borders at various stages of scoping, planning submission or under construction. If all projects were implemented, there would be over 280 turbines across the area.

    Over the coming weekend, Chair would be circulating for comment a draft letter summarising the position of the CC and in support of the opposition to the Millmoor Rig windfarm (ECU 00003426). CCs were asked to comment asap as Chair needed to submit her letter on Monday 24 Nov 25. **All** **Chair**

18. **AOB.**

    a. **Teviot footpath**. CC Clew enquired whether there was any move to reinstate the footpath alongside the river where the ground had fallen away. The thinking was that it could not be done as the new path would have to be on a farmer's land, and this was not favoured.

    b. **Loaning Playpark**. Cllr Marshall hd reported that some work was on-going. It was seen that the children of the village were thoroughly enjoying the new facility.

Date of Next Meeting. D&DCC would next meet on **21 January 2026** at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8:20 pm, and Chair thanked all for attending.

W A B Roberts 20 Nov 25
Sec D&DCC

Annexes:

A. Treasurer's Report
B. Notification of CC Convention.
C. Unified Statement by Highland CCs.

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)
PC A Patterson (Community PC)
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)
Mr J Marshall (The Hawick Paper)