

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2026

Present:

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

In attendance:

Councillor S Marshall	SBC
Councillor C Ramage	SBC

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. CC L Fergusson	
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 21 Sep 26. The minutes were proposed by CC Passmore, seconded by CC Clew. Approved.	
4.	Matters Arising. Chair addressed the action points from the last meeting: a. Village Hall Chairs Invoice (Item 4a). On going. b. Denholm Cemetery (Item 4b). Chair reported that the overall condition of the cemetery had significantly improved. c. Correspondence (Item 7a). Chair had spoken with Mr Haddon and he had reported that the parking problem in front of his house had not abated. d. Dropped Kerbs/Road Markings (Item 12a). Some work had been done but Cllr Marshall would continue to pursue. e. Bottle Bank (Item 12c). Chair reported that the fence had now been completely removed, and that the fly-tipping had stopped.	Ferguson Marshall
5.	Police Report. The level and frequency of anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents was very worrying. Cllr Marshall planned to meet with senior police officers and they would be attending Hawick and Burnfoot CCs over the next few weeks where the matter would be discussed further.	Marshall
6.	Treasurer's Report and Foundation Scotland Update. Chair declared an interest in this topic with regard to a grant application. Treasurer presented her report which is attached.	
7.	Correspondence. a. Nuisance Tree. Sec had been contacted by a resident with concerns regarding a tree within the "Conservation Area", which she said was leaning badly and impeding access to her property. Sec would put her in touch with the Trees Officer at SBC so she could contact him for advice.	Sec

8. **Planning Applications.** Sec commented on the applications currently showing in the SBC Monthly Lists:
- a. **26/01423/FUL.** Amharc Horsley hill. Erect garage, 1st floor office, carport. Under consideration.
 - b. **25/01543/FUL.** Hassendean Stn. New dwelling house. **Approved.**
 - c. **26/01492/FUL.** Willowburn, Kirkton. Erection new shepherd's hut. Under consideration.
 - d. **26/01154/PN.** Townhead of Cavers. New access, track. SBC Landscape Architect had filed objections, and a local neighbour had also filed objections particularly with regard to vehicle access from the public road. Cllr Marshall suggested that a site visit by the Planning Officer should be requested. Sec to action. **Sec**
9. **Denholm Village Newsletter.** Chair had spoken to Carol Carr at Minto, and she had very kindly agreed to take on the task of compiling the monthly newsletter. The CCs all expressed their appreciation for this offer and urged all residents to contribute and assist Carol Carr as much as possible.
10. **Public Toilets.** Cllr Marshall reported that considerable progress had been made and that further work had been scheduled. The roof repairs had been completed and all asbestos removed; new ceilings, windows, toilets and washbasins were planned. The facility was due to close for the winter in November, and the major work would then ensue.
- Cllr Marshall expressed his appreciation for Wendy Oliver's support for the work, and the CCs all echoed their thanks to her and also to CC Hutchings.
- The cost of the work was being met in part with £5,000 from the Small Grants Scheme, and it was agreed to seek additional funds via Foundation Scotland for particular materials and equipment. **Treasurer**
11. **Footpath by The Green.** The debate surrounding the issue of resurfacing the footpath continued. In the end it was agreed that Sec was to raise with the Feuars the proposal for a new footpath on The Green itself and seek their agreement as the first necessary step in solving the issue. **Sec**
12. **Canongate Housing Development.** SBHA had hosted a consultation with residents on 5 Oct 26, and it was understood that they intend to submit their application in the next week or so. There was considerable discussion on the proposals highlighting the perceived problems, while agreeing that additional social housing in the area was necessary.
- Concerns centred on the total number of dwellings envisaged, the amount of parking space included, the need for enhanced infrastructure (particularly sewerage), environmental issues, and the major issue of vehicle access, both during construction and permanently. As currently proposed this latter issue would impact to an unacceptable degree on the residents of Canongate.
- It was agreed that Chair should write to the Head of Planning so that he and his staff were fully aware of the CC's concerns before the formal application was submitted. Sec to draft. **Sec**
13. **SBC Small Grants Scheme.** Cllr Marshall indicated that nothing had been agreed at this time, other than that at Item 10 above.

Cllr Marshall left the meeting at this point.

14. **Wind Farms Update.** Treasurer had received an email from Greencoat UK, owners of Langhope Rig windfarm, suggesting they visit the CC to outline their latest proposals regarding the future of the windfarm and of the financial support available to CCs. It was agreed that Treasurer would respond inviting them to our next meeting. .

Treasurer

15. **AOB.**

- a. **Christmas.** Chair asked whether Santa would be visiting the village this year. Sec indicated he would attempt to find out.
- b. **Hawick Fire Service.** Cllr Ramage informed the meeting that yet further reductions in the fire service readiness position across the Borders had been proposed. A public meeting had been called by the Fire Service Union for 6:30 pm on Monday 26 Oct 26 in Hawick Town Hall to discuss the matter, and all residents were encouraged to attend.

Sec

All

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting would be held on **18 November** at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8:40 pm, and Chair thanked all for attending.

W A B Roberts
Sec D&DCC

24 Oct 26

Annex:

A. Treasurer's Report.

Membership of D&DCC:

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

Information:

Mr S Marshall (Councillor, SBC)
Mrs C Ramage (Councillor, SBC)
Mr N Richards (Councillor, SBC)
Ms J Wilkinson (Clerk to SBC)
Mr J Marshall (The Hawick Paper)
Lothian Borders Police (CPO)