

DENHOLM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 21 MAY 2025

Present:

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

In attendance:

Councillor N Richards	SBC
-----------------------	-----

Item	Subject/Discussion	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence. Cllrs S Marshall and C Ramage; CC D Hutchings.	
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.	D&DCC AGM. It was agreed that the 2025 AGM would be held at the next meeting, 18 Jun 25. Sec to arrange publicity in the community and the Hawick Paper.	Sec
4.	Code of Conduct for Community Councillors. Treasurer had requested that all CCs declare their adherence to the code at this meeting, so that this could be recorded with the submission of the annual accounts. All those present so agreed. Sec to contact CC Hutchings for his agreement.	Treasurer Sec
5.	Minutes of the Last Meeting held 16 Apr 25. The minutes were proposed by CC Passmore and seconded by CC Ploughman. Approved.	
6.	Matters Arising. Sec addressed the action points from the last meeting:	
a.	Ba' Game (Item 4b). Sec to arrange payment of £25 from the Feuars to the D&DCC to finalise the position.	Sec
b.	Denholm Cemetery (Item 4d). Cllr Marshall had reported he had arranged a site visit with SBC officers to inspect the cemetery and would report at the next meeting.	Marshall
c.	VE Day Celebration (Item 4g). The event had been a popular success with a reasonable attendance by residents. Cllr Marshall had reported he was awaiting a response from SBC regarding the availability of festival funding for Denholm.	Marshall
d.	"Welcome to Denholm" Brick Planter (Item 4h). Cllr Marshall had reported that a new planter would shortly be installed at the Jedward Terrace end of the village. Refurbishment of the one at the western end at a cost of £1,200 would also be scheduled, funded from the small grants schemes budget. Chair observed that this was planned using wooden sleepers which she felt would not be weather resistant and asked whether this could be reviewed. Cllr Marshall would be asked to investigate.	

- e. **Litter Pick (Item 15a).** Chair thanked those who had attended and helped with the litter pick on 10 May 25. **Marshall**
- f. **Potholes in Douglas Drive (Item 15b).** Cllr Marshall reported that the potholes had been filled in.
- g. **Review of Live Borders (Item 15d).** The consultation was on-going. All present expressed their concern over the potential implications of the review and stressed the need to maintain the many facilities operated by Live Borders for the benefit of the community as a whole.
7. **Police Report.** Chair had circulated the MMWR for March. No comments.
8. **Treasurer's Report and Foundation Scotland Update.** Treasurer presented her report. Details of recent activity are summarised in the attached annex. Treasurer reported that the accounts had been signed off by Christine Rodgers and would be submitted forthwith.
- a. It was proposed that the CC provide funds to the Feuars for production of a map in support the Dean 10 Year Plan, and **£500 was approved.** CC Ferguson to provide the necessary paperwork. **Treasurer Ferguson**
- b. It was also proposed to contribute £850 towards hire of toilets on The Green and a skip for the Rideout on Saturday 4 Jun 25. Also **approved.** **Treasurer**
9. **Correspondence.** Chair said she circulated the few items of correspondence received since the last meeting.
10. **Planning Applications.** Sec had circulated one planning application:
- a. **25/00535/FUL.** New dwelling house on Plot 24 Ruberslaw Road. CC Ploughman stressed the need to ensure an EV charger be included in the build. He also observed that the plan showed the house to be very close to the road, such that there may be no off-street parking available. Comments should be submitted to object to this if correct. **Sec**
11. **Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership.** Chair reported that the organisation was now defunct. At a recent meeting of various CCs, it had been agreed that the new group would be known as the **Teviot & Liddesdale Rural Community Alliance (T&LRCA)**. It's purpose was the continued mutual support for the various involved CCs, including the D&DCC
12. **Denholm & District Placemaking Project.** It was generally agreed that the current draft was not satisfactory for a variety of reasons. Furthermore, the current suspense date of Monday 26 May for the finalisation of the plan was wholly unrealistic, and that an extension should be sought. **Hutchings**
- Members expressed their concern that the importance of the school as an integral part of the village and surrounding district was understated in the draft report. It was also noted that there had recently been a drop in pupil numbers, although this should be balanced out in the autumn term when the new P1 pupils start. The CC sincerely hopes that SBC ensures provision of the support necessary for the future of the school as a vital part of the community.
13. **EV Charging Points.** CC Ploughman expressed his frustration following the recent Feuars meeting, where a number of comments had been made which highlighted a lack of knowledge regarding EV charging in general.
- He had since spoken again with Scottish Power (SP) who remained keen to go ahead with the current project, including with a new increased capacity of 60kw

per charger. They had also indicated a possibility of including a discount for some EV chargings in association with local events or functions.

It was noted that Mr Baines of the Feuars was now seeking help in pursuit of his alternative proposals, and that time was short for the production of a viable, practical alternative plan, which could include assured maintenance of the whole system, similar to that guaranteed by SP for the foreseeable future.

Chair again expressed the CC's thanks to CC Ploughman for his hard and prolonged work in pursuing the project over the last three years and reiterated the CC's support for his current proposals with SP and against the alternative approach being pursued elsewhere.

14. **Small Grants Scheme.** No comments
15. **Wind Farms Update.** No significant updates.
16. **AOB.**

- a. **Center Parcs (CP).** The CP leadership had continued to consult closely with various local communities affected by their plan. One question had arisen regarding their proposal for the disposal of sewage from the site, but this had still to be finalised.
- b. **Road Markings.** CC Passmore reported that some yellow road parking around the village were fading badly and were in need of restoration. Cllr Richards offered to report this to the Roads Dept.
- c. **Hawick Park Run.** CC Clew reported he had participated in the recent trial "Park Run" in Wilton Park, Hawick and that it had been very well attended. He believed there was a realistic prospect of this becoming a regular weekly event (with 9:30 start), with considerable benefit to the local Borders community as a whole.

Richards

Date of Next Meeting. D&DCC would next meet for its AGM on **18 June 2025** at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, to be followed by the regular monthly meeting.

ALL

The meeting closed at 8:35pm, and Chair thanked all for attending.

W A B Roberts
Sec D&DCC

27 May 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)