

UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 19 October 2020

Via Zoom due to Covid-19 Restrictions

- Present** Simon Edwards (Chairman), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), Nick Shapowal (Treasurer), Andrew Beveridge, Chris Lewin, Rosalind Birchall and Christopher Lambton, Councillor Kris Chapman SBC.
- 01.10.20 Apologies**
Penny Wedderburn Scott, SBC Councillor Heather Anderson
- 02.10.20 Minutes from last Meeting (held 21 September 2020 via Zoom). Comments by email in advance**
The Minutes were agreed.
- 03.10.20 Matters Arising from previous minutes (via Email)**
Rosalind Birchall informed the meeting that she had painted the Drumelzier Hall Notice Board with spare paint so at nil cost. No other matters arising.
- 04.10.20 Planning Applications**
Three Planning Applications were considered:
a. Extension at Glendene, Broughton
b. Extension at Glenkirk, Broughton
c. Extension at Forresthill Cottage, Broughton
No Comments recorded.
- 05.10.20 Microgrants**
The Chair advised of two applications; Lynne & James Short requesting £120 for a bike course in order to support their daughter with her cycling, who previously had received a Microgrant for a course, which was agreed. The second from Neil Robinson for the maximum amount of £250 in order to enable the delivery of a Church Christmas event that could be conducted under the present Covid-19 restrictions. The Committee learnt that it was one of three requests they were making in total, the other two requests to the neighbouring CCs of Skirling and Tweedsmuir, to cover costs for the hire of a sound system to support three 'Drive-In' Christmas Carol Services one to be held in each of the CC areas namely at Broughton Village Hall, the Crook Inn, Skirling Car Park. The Secretary commented that she had been asked to approach SBC to ensure this was something that would be allowed and advised that SBC were content if the organisers complied with the regulations stipulated, which it had been agreed were not insurmountable. The Committee also learnt that Skirling and Tweedsmuir were supportive and so agreed the grant but the Chair felt it should only be paid nearer the time in case the event had to be cancelled.
- Christopher Lambton informed the meeting that Broughton Choral Society were considering doing something similar, the details of which were still being worked and Councillor Kris SBC outlined the policy from Scotgov expressing that there was a 'need for Community Spirit' in these strange times and that there was to be an all Members meeting regarding Guidance for the Festive season and he would ensure the Committee received these as soon as possible. The Chair mentioned three other activities that were planned (no grants required) as follows:

- Halloween Windows: via Facebook encourage the decoration of windows to mark Halloween and one idea is a quiz – the number of 'X' in the window
- The Church during Advent: 24 days of advent depicted in the windows across 24 houses giving cheer as we lead up to Christmas
- Christmas lights: encourage community members to put up Christmas lights

06.10.20 Police Report for September – emailed 1st October

Nothing further to add.

07.10.20 SBC Councillors' Report

Councillor Kris first explained that CC Police Reports would be changing and would be moving back to more localised reports in the future rather than the 'one size fits all' current format. The 20 mph scheme was now in progress in a number of villages across Scottish Borders and would be fully rolled out by Christmas; it was for a trial period only and to be reviewed. The Chair commented there appeared to be an increase in speed now instead and others suggested varying behaviours as a reaction to the new limit. Kris continued by saying that SBC had finally declared Climate Change Emergency of concern and the Council were now to report on what action was being taken, linking sustainability goals and how they would meet targets set, very much work in progress but moving forward. Electric Car charging points was where more investment was required as SBC was looking at overall effects of Traffic and its impact across communities, part of the Sustrans Project, inclusive of TTROs (Temporary Traffic Regulatory Orders) and following the 20mph trial an informed assessment would be made.

Chris Lewin brought to the Councillor's attention the flooding on the A701 north of Broughton, not actually in the CC's area but of concern. Chris Lambton was eager to push the Car Charging Point matter suggesting that local authorities should be given an annual allowance to support, Broughton was finding it very difficult to find a site as the Hall Car Park had been rejected as a potential site for a couple of chargers. Councillor Kris also spoke of Event Management suggesting SBC were cautiously optimistic but also had to look to the potential of another lockdown, in the event of which the Assistant Hubs would support the Community.

08.10.20 Any Other Business

Community Council Code of Conduct / Annual Grant: The Members of the Upper Tweed Community Council all agree to abide by the Community Council Code of Conduct following signatures obtained by all. The Chair reported that with this and the completion of the audit of the Annual accounts the CC would soon receive their Annual budget of £630.

Complaint about speeding through Rachan junction: The Chair reported to the Committee that he had had a response from SBC regarding the speeding issue that had been discussed at last month's meeting and subsequently raised to the Council. The response came back with a question asking the CC how it was felt the matter should be addressed, it had been suggested there were not enough houses in the area of Rachan Mill to warrant speed restrictions etc. There followed a thorough discussion about traffic management in the whole area on the conclusion of which it was agreed the Chair would do some research into the matter particularly the number of houses between Rachan and The Wrae and make a proposal that he would circulate prior to submitting to the Council. He also requested support from Councillors Kris and Heather to see the problem addressed.

New speed limit in Broughton / 20mph signs: The Chair reported he had purchased 36 x 20mph Bin signs which had all been deployed so he had ordered a further 24.

Remembrance Day – Sunday 8th November: In accordance with Scotgov policy there will be no Parade for this year's Remembrance Day but a considerably smaller service is being considered which will not be advertised but will be similar to that conducted for VE Day and broadcast on the Church Website. Rosalind made the Committee aware that there would be a Service at Drumelzier Church on Wednesday, 11 November at 7pm that would be conducted by Pamela Straughan.

Ratchill Burn Culvert: The Treasurer made the meeting aware that Ratchill was on the Market and that he had written as a private citizen to the Solicitors involved to advise them of the flooding issue. Flood water regularly came down the drive caused by a blocked culvert which was causing significant potholing of the road and the Treasurer felt although SBC would patch the potholes this really should not be done at public expense.

(Subsequent Meeting Note: The Treasurer reported via email that his letter had had the relevant effect and the matter was no longer an issue).

Electric Vehicle Chargers (EVC): The Treasurer informed the meeting that with regards to EVCs, the Energy Saving Trust had funds to install chargers on land made available for public use and that Transport Scotland were offering interest free loans for the purchase of used electric Vehicles, unfortunately he noted the CC issue was more to do with finding a piece of land to put the chargers on since the Hall had rejected the idea.

Co-Opted Member Resignation 'Thank You!': Chris Lewin wanted to publicly thank Emma Reid, who as a co-opted Member of the Committee had recently resigned, for all her hard work on the Broughton Website, with the Bite and Blether initiative and with Broughton in Bloom. The Committee wholeheartedly agreed and felt she would be sorely missed by all.

09.10.20

Date of next Meeting – 7pm, Monday 16 November 2020, via Zoom.