

UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 18 October, 2021,

In Broughton Village Hall

- Present** Andrew Beveridge (Chairman), Rosalind Birchall (Vice Chairman), Nick Shapowal (Treasurer), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), Chris Lewin, Christopher Lambton, Simon Edwards, Fiona, Pagett, Penny Wedderburn Scott, Councillor Eric Small SBC
- Introduction** The Chairman opening the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 'physical' meeting expressing how pleased he was to see everyone following his own bout of poor health due to Covid.
- 01.10.21** **Apologies**
Councillor Heather Anderson SBC
- 02.10.21** **Minutes from last Meeting (held 20 Sep 21 via Zoom). Comments by email in advance.**
The Minutes were agreed (210920v2.0) following a couple of minor amendments.
- 03.10.21** **Matters Arising from previous Minutes (via Email)**
Discussion ensued regarding the on going situation with the Ambulance Service. In a desire to ensure the Community were fully aware of the situation, it was agreed that a 'Flash News' Notice would be put on the UTCC Website, alerting people of the delay in attendance by Ambulances to Emergencies at the moment.
Action: Chris to put a 'Flash News' Notice on the Website, Fiona to provide content.
- The Chairman then proceeded to go through the Actions from last month's meeting as follows (please see UTCC Action Register):
- 3.9.21** Broughton Public Toilets: Secretary to establish position. *COMPLETE*. (Further update in Councillor's report, see 8.10.21 below).
- 4.9.21** Ref. No. 21/01406/FUL Formation of off street parking, 2 Hillside Cottage: Secretary to write to SBC with the CCs view. *COMPLETE*.
- 5.9.21** Microgrant Forms: Chris to ensure all relevant information and forms are loaded on the website. *Still Outstanding*.
- 8.9.21** SBC Councillors Report: Forestry Works: Secretary to establish position from Councillor Heather. *Still Outstanding* (Councillor Heather absent).
- 9.9.21** Any Other Business: Simon Edwards to introduce a 'Log' system for the Defibrillators and include in with them a card detailing a mobile number and Sec UTCC email explaining that after use action to report usage must be taken. He would also arrange for an electrician to come out if one was required for the Defibrillator at Rachan Mill. *COMPLETE*.
- Simon explained that he would be doing the checks himself on a monthly basis (the day of the UTCC Meeting) and also how the Alarm might be tripped. There was a discussion regarding the suitability of Rachan Mill as the 'home' for one of the Defibrillators with a view that a better place might be found. It was also suggested that the wider Community should be aware of where the Defibrillators were situated as well as the local Ambulance Service.
- Action:** Simon to provide a plan of where the local Defibrillators are located and Chris to place this on the Website. The Secretary is to inform the local Ambulance Services.

04.10.21

Planning Applications

No new Applications to discuss. Councillor Eric SBC made the meeting aware that a prior application for Penvalla had been turned down again under the Appeals process. The Annex to be built was confirmed to only be for the sole use of the family and not also as a holiday cottage.

05.10.21

Microgrants

None submitted. The Chair asked for a volunteer to sit on the SSE Windfarm Endowment Fund project. It was explained that both Windfarms, SSE (Clyde) and Glenkerie already had panel members, with representation from the local CCs deciding on which bids from the Community should be granted the Windfarm funding, but that a new committee was being established in order to develop an Endowment Fund with the monies available to the Community that were unspent. Only a limited number of projects were coming forward and as the Windfarm was 'lived' it was felt that the unspent monies available each year should be placed in an Endowment policy in order that opportunities for funding continued beyond the life of the Windfarm. Chris agreed to support this but the Chair said he would attend the meeting scheduled for this week and report back.

06.10.21

Police Report – Emailed 6/10/21.

The Chair commented that there was nothing of particular note within the report and Councillor Eric made mention of a potential visit by Police Sergeant Granger. The Secretary explained that she had been in touch and sent an invitation to the UTCC forthcoming meetings and it was agreed she should get in touch again to reinforce the invitation.

Action: Secretary to send out a further invitation to Police Sergeant Stephen Granger to attend one of our meetings (January 2022 being the next physical meeting).

07.10.21

Treasurer's Report

Nick reported that the balance in the account is exactly the same today as a month ago as there has been no expenditure since. Balance in the bank is therefore £6648.94.

He further advised that in order to receive our CC Grant of £630, we have advised SBC that some of our funds are reserved for the purchase of a further defibrillator (£1200) with our thoughts of putting one at the Primary School and also the Tennis and Bowling Club have requested one. Our bank balance will still remain healthy and we might wish to consider some Community projects.

Chris asked the Chair whether we might be able to look at getting a small grant for the completion of some infrastructure works. He was particularly thinking of the state of the pavement south of his property. It is quite treacherous and heavily used. There might also be other things within the same vein that we might consider getting a grant for. Gritter Bins were discussed and then Councillor Eric suggested we might like to look at purchasing a 'pop up' Bobby to help with our speeding problem within the area. They are highly effective and he was at a meeting recently in Skirling with the local MP discussing exactly this as a possible solution there. Councillor Eric also confirmed that these things would all come under the Windfarms grant scheme. This suggestion prompted the Chair to mention our problem with the A701/Stobo Junction and Rosalind was keen to know what was happening with this matter. Simon reminded the Committee that

following all the works he had done to highlight the problem to SBC it had all gone quiet so he had let it drop. The Chair state he was keen to resurrect this as it is a dangerous junction and something needs to be done.

Action: The Chair to raise our concerns with the A701/Stobo Junction with SBC again, requesting a meeting to discuss a solution.

08.10.21

SBC Councillors' Report

Councillor Eric SBC commented that he only had three points, two of which he had already mentioned, Penvalla Planning and his Traffic meeting at Skirling. His third point was to inform the CC that the list of Roads For Repair had been circulated and it included a 450m stretch of the A701 road in Broughton.

09.10.21

Any Other Business

Bon Fire: Fiona asked if the CC would be holding a Bon Fire this November, it was unfortunately stated that we would not due to an issue with Insurance. The Chair explained that this was something that need to be planned some while in advance in order to get insurance etc in place and it might be something we would look at again for next year.

CC's Network Meeting: Nick explained that he attended the CCs Network Meeting this last week and one item had been about the Community Empowerment Act 2014 which entitled CCs to have a say in the decision making process of many local government initiatives. He explained that this could help us with matters such as Planning permissions for Forestry etc but that SBC were 'dragging their heels' in enacting this Act. More would follow. Chris stated that he would welcome an update on the Forestry planning position from Councillor Heather SBC as promised.

Tweeddale Community Fund: Chris reported that the local representatives selected to sit on this Fund were taking their responsibilities very seriously and go through the projects that have applied for funding very thoroughly. It is a step in the right direction.

Wreath: Simon asked about the Wreath for Remembrance Sunday and agreed to organise the purchase of the wreath from the Lady Haig's Poppy Factory. He kindly asked Col Stephanie Jackman to lay it on behalf of the UTCC.

Action: Simon to organise a Wreath.

Notice Board: Simon raised the matter of a CC Notice Board, something that had been discussed before the first lockdown but been put to one side during the pandemic. He suggested we made use of the one at the School. Chris commented that we had previously thought of putting a Board at the Tea Rooms but this option was no longer available. Simon also reminded the meeting that the Shop had been an option for the location of a Notice Board but that there was no longer the capacity to have one there. Chris then suggested the Bust Stop Notice Board as being a suitable one and easily accessible. Both areas to be looked at and considered.

Defibrillator: Simon raised the matter of placing a Defibrillator at the School, this was met with general agreement and he will now look to get a quote.

Action: Simon to get a quote for a Defibrillator for the School.

West Linton CC: Councillor Eric SBC informed the meeting that only 4 members of the public had put their names forward for election and since no one else wishes to be on the CC it will be disbanded until the New Year.

American Skunk Cabbage: The Chair advised the meeting that he had had cause to have his pond tested as he was aware he had an issue with an alien species known as American Skunk Cabbage. Tweed Forum are keen to clear this from water

courses as it is extremely invasive. They have an Invasive Species Officer, Emily Iles who arranges to remove any of said invasive species identified. They ask cooperation of landowners to inform them and give consent for their removal. The Chair suspecting he had a few clusters was surprised to find he had 14.

10.10.21

Date of next Meeting – 7.30pm, Monday, 15 November, 2021, via Zoom