**UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL (UTCC)**

Minutes of Meeting held on 19th May 2025, at 7pm in Broughton Village Hall

Present. Justin King (Co-Chair), Steph Stewart (Co-Chair), Susan Brown (Treasurer), Shona Scott, Alison Dunlop, Wendy Simpson, Tess Goodwin, Gwen Sapsford, Councillor Eric Small SBC

Apologies: Chelsea Shapiro-Waugh, Jen McBeth

**AGM:**

The Returning officer (Julian Birchall) opened the Annual General Meeting for 2025, welcoming all. He then asked if the Minutes of the AGM held May 2024 could be agreed, receiving a positive response he invited the Chair to give his Report. Key notes follow:

Over the past 12 months, one of the aims of UTCC was to create an environment where members of the community felt welcome and had the opportunity to share what was important to them.  We hope that the change in format of the meeting (enabling community input at the start) has helped promote sharing of views.

In response from the community, several initiatives have continued to progress, some of those noted below:

* Supported resolution of ongoing issues including street lighting, clearing drains, fixing potholes and tree felling.  Where these will remain ongoing given their nature, in large our councillors have helped remedy several of the issues raised.  Thank you to Drummond Begg, Eric Small and Viv Thomson for their continued partnership.
* Supported numerous micro grants and youth bursaries enabling members of the community to engage in various activities including dancing, piano and driving lessons while partnering with organisations to secure additional funding where finances were fully utilised.
* Supported community activities and events, including the annual Bonfire, and providing new Christmas lighting at the school.
* Reinstated the resilience group, and partnered with the village hall committee to have a space to convene should the need arise.  Along the theme of resiliency, we have secured use of a second site for sandbags (shed behind village hall) to make these more accessible.
* Canvassed the community around reinstating the neighbourhood watch scheme – although input was limited, this has been progressed.
* Initiated thermal imaging initiative which will be rolled out later this year.
* Gained support from our new local community police representative to monitor speeding (identified as a key concern for local residents) and providing a much appreciated local presence.  Thanks to Gary Beaumont.
* Supported a number of community engagement efforts including:
	+ Input into the bus service, which has been retained.  This will continue to be a focus to ensure that the revised service is suitable to the majority of users.
	+ Developing a proposal for future use of the small cottage at the village hall where discussions are ongoing
	+ Created innovative visual solution for speeding with cut out kids to be completed by the children at Broughton Primary over the coming weeks.
	+ Created a blue print for the future use of George V park and undertook outreach to gain community feedback.  Currently in planning discussions with the council, then will move into funding phase.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support and input, and for those on the UTCC and beyond for progressing initiatives as they arise.

**AGM – Nominations, Additions and Continuation of Roles**

Having received the relevant nominations, the UTCC members are noted below, with a call out to our new Community Councillor: Wendy Simpson. We are still looking for a secretary.

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| Position / Member Type | Name |
| Chair / Vice Chair | Justin King |
| Chair / Vice Chair | Steph Stewart |
| Treasurer | Susan Brown |
| Secretary | OPEN |
| Member | Ali Dunlop |
| Member | Jen McBeth |
| Member | Shona Scott |
| Member | Wendy Simpson |
| Co-opted Member | Gwen Sapsford |
| Co-opted Member | Chelsea Shapiro-Waugh |
| Co-opted Member | Tess Goodwin |

Review of Annual Accounts conducted by Susan Brown. No major concerns, but note that during the 2024/2025 session we supported a record number of youth bursaries through top up of grants.

AGM Closed, proceeding to discuss business as usual items (below)

**Minutes from the last meeting and Matters Arising**. The Minutes from the meeting held on 17th March were approved and there were no Matters Arising not to be discussed in the Agenda.

**Actions Register:**

1. Consider village support of toilets – confirmed that Broughton facilities are **not** on closure list at this time.
2. Lighting issues (those known at time of meeting!) appear to be resolved.
3. Buses – noted mixed views on new timetable, where we will conduct an outreach to provide back to SBC for continual review.
4. Receive feedback on playpark progress and date of completion.
5. Continue to review other items on action register

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Multi Member Ward Report** – Gary, local Community Officer, attended the meeting. In the future, Gary will be supported by an additional officer which will allow greater support. One aim is to get to schools providing early years education and intervention. In relation to speeding, encouraged residents to report offenders (using registration plates). A request for a speed prevention van will be made.
2. **Planning** – of the two active applications, no concerns raised (Rachan Mill and New Forestry Track)
3. **Treasurers Report** – received and agreed by members present.
Received additional £500 as a cost of living increase. Decision made to keep youth bursaries at £200 given other local communities have reduced awards to £200. Review in 12 months time.
4. **Youth Bursaries (YB -0 ) / Micro-grants(MG - 0)** - nothing new for consideration
5. **SBC Councillor’s Report**
6. Playpark update to be provided, based on feedback
7. Nursery in Broughton being maintained
8. **Initiatives Update**
	1. **Children’s Play Park** – discussed as part of community forum / councillor report
	2. **King George V Park Improvements** – pre-planning meeting to take place this week. Representative from SSE visited site and engaged in initiative.
	3. **‘Cut out kids’ speed deterrent** – Get update from school for completion date, if not soon, UTCC to take on
	4. **Community Neighbourhood Watch** – No update
	5. **Resilience** – No update
	6. **Thermal Imaging** – will start up in Autumn / Winter where conditions optimal.
	7. **Village Cottage** – continue to meet to review options (two proposals being reviewed)
9. **Other Items**
	1. **Adoption of Phone Box in Drumelzier** – additional details to be sought from local community. UTCC happy to undertake if we can be guided on the process.
	2. **Meet & Greet** scheduled for June 15th at the Crook Gardens, Tweedsmuir from 2-4pm in partnership with Tweedsmuir.
	3. **Glenkeerie** – Ali Dunlop agreed to represent UTCC on the panel
	4. **Sustainability** – local resident requested opportunity to meet with councillors to discuss concerns around local forest fires and sustainability issues.
	5. **Thanks** to SBC received for maintaining graveyard.

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