

Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council – Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 14th March 2018 at 7pm in Cockburnspath Primary School

Agenda item		Action
1	<p><u>Attendance and Apologies:</u> In attendance were P Hood (Chair); N Simpson (Vice Chair); K Nelson (Treasurer); K Tulloch (Secy); J Virtue, K Taylor (Torness CNC); Cllr H Laing (SBC); one member of the public.</p> <p>Apologies were received from S Hay; J Fairbairn; A Thackray; D Bouchard (attending SBCCN meeting); Cllrs Fullarton and Hamilton and one member of the public.</p>	
2	<p><u>Police Report</u></p> <p>a) Police Scotland had sent a report – no local incidents other than some related to A1 traffic incidents.</p> <p>b) PC Taylor from Torness CNC was in attendance and updated the CC on Project Servator which is progressing within the station. Sgt Lanigan will update us at a later date. Torness CNC were thanked for their help locally - particularly in relation to a lost dog. Their input to the community is greatly appreciated.</p>	
3	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u> – a small change to section 10 was agreed and KT will reissue for signature at the next meeting.</p>	KT
4	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p>	
4.1	<p>Paths etc – NS had not heard back from member of the public, but it was agreed that now that funds had been organised to cut the football field for this year, the priority was cutting back the brambles at the side of the SUW prior to bird nesting. NS/KN will progress this with Access Officer. <i>[Editorial comment: it has now been agreed that the CC appoint an external contractor to do this work week beginning 18th March and SBC will reimburse cost of £60].</i> PH had discussed the potential for joint ownership of cutting machinery between the Village Hall Committee (VHC) and the CC, and this will now involve a meeting between the football field sub group of the VHC and members of the CC. Co-opted member of public will continue to cut the existing paths as previously; the football field will be cut by a contractor this season, and the brambles will be attended to as above. In the meantime, we will progress additional manpower and machinery. NS had also spoken to 2 local farmers, and the fencing which has collapsed and is dangerous, around the sea braes will now be removed. It was agreed that a paths sub group be formed to look at other core paths to be included in a “paths leaflet” for walkers.</p>	NS/KN
4.2	<p>Rabbits at Bankhead cemetery – JV had not heard further from the officers, despite a further email from KT to Officer. Cllr H Laing will take this forward with SBC on our behalf. It was agreed that a proper rabbit fence was needed.</p> <p>Gritting at Hoprig/Hoprigshiels – it appears that a gritter has now attended to this area – to monitor.</p>	PH
4.3	<p>Treasurer laptop etc – KN has purchased a pc/printer/scanner from John Lewis and the total cost was £359.94. This will come from our annual CC budget. PH and KT will sign cheque for this.</p>	Cllr Laing
		KN/PH/KT

4.4	Big Things letter – a long list of applicants but we have been placed on a list. It was also agreed that we should look at obtaining a local history from some of the older population, to preserve it.	
4.5	Crystal Rig funds – KN has intimated to developers our current position with bank account and paperwork to enable funds to be passed to the CC for distribution.	KN Ongoing
4.6	Sandbag store – the store is not locked but the door is stiff. Recent localised flooding had necessitated access to it.	
5	<u>Correspondence</u>	
5.1	Howpark – KT updated briefly – we hope to have a decision soon.	
5.2	Noise letter – we now have agreement from the other CCs (Abbey, Grantshouse and Coldingham (subject to ratification at their meeting on 20 th March)) and a letter will be sent shortly to SBC regarding our disappointment and concern re the analysis and scrutiny of developers’ noise figures plus the impartiality of acoustics investigations. A copy has been circulated, and is available on request. It was acknowledged that noise was a very complex issue.	KT
(5.3	Moved to Community benefits.)	
5.4	Hoprigshiels wind farm is now ready to pay out and KN and PH are progressing this.	KN/PH
5.5	Slurry lagoon – approved subject to a section 75 re position and fencing. This is a permitted development and the Council, in approving it, have encouraged the applicant to look at local concerns and engage fully with SEPA. As an agricultural permitted development, the Council cannot object to the application nor refuse it.	
5.6	Surgery – Eyemouth Medical Practice are refusing to pay for the rental of the Village Hall for the public meeting regarding the surgery closure. They assert that the CC called the meeting, not them, so we have to pay for it. Although this is extremely disappointing, and it seems to indicate the surgery’s attitude towards Co’path, it was recognised that the CC will probably have to pay for it.	PH
5.7	Cove defib – heated box has failed and currently the defib is in Greenheugh. DB is liaising with the manufacturer and will let us know when a new box has arrived and it is fully operational again. Scottish Ambulance Service is aware of the temporary changes.	DB
5.8	Drone Hill panel – a request for new panel members has been circulated but there are no new applicants. Current members will continue.	
5.9	Neuk/Kinegar community benefits – a letter has been received from the developers offering £10k per megawatt installed capacity (£50,000) in community benefits. The fund will be administered via Foundation Scotland for the benefit of residents of Cockburnspath and Cove. The developers wish to see applications considered from Eyemouth etc providing there is a local benefit. They are also asking for a community engagement process to develop “strategic goals”. PH will respond to this.	PH
6	<u>Liaison Groups</u>	
6.1	Viridor – NS fed back and will circulate report. No train journeys to deliver waste and although there is a heat plan, there are no partners to take the heat. There is still a great deal of concern re litter from lorries and the amount of traffic at the junction to the A1. Visits to the site are available but	NS

<p>6.2</p>	<p>limited to 5 people at a time. A new substation at cement works will allow energy to be placed to the grid.</p> <p>The next Viridor Liaison meeting is 6th June 18, and NS will try to attend this, or inform us so that someone else can go. It would be interesting to learn more about their funding processes and criteria and NS will progress this.</p>	<p>NS</p>
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p>	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p>Dwellinghouse on land between Castledykes and Fernrig. There were no objections to this. Some concern re mature trees although there is outline permission in place already.</p>	<p>KT</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p>	<p><u>Wind farm community benefits</u></p> <p>Wednesday Club afternoon tea application – end of season event at Dunbar Garden Centre in April for 18 members. The club will pay a percentage of the total cost and the application is for £200. Due to 2 members being part of the Wednesday Club they declared an interest so the CC was inquorate. However, it was approved in principle, subject to an email vote around other members. Subject to this, Ferneylea funds will be used for the £200 which was agreed by members present.</p>	<p>KT KN April</p>
<p>8.2</p>	<p>Bus for Gardening Scotland event – 29 seater bus costing £300 or £340 depending on the quotes. Individuals will pay their own entry as member of the public has obtained preferential rates. 24 names are down currently. The quote of £340 was accepted and will be paid to the bus company (Eve’s Coaches). Member of the public was asked to check any disabled access required which may inform their choice of bus operator and to negotiate the total. Agreed unanimously to come from Ferneylea funds and this will be held over to the next financial year.</p>	<p>KN</p>
<p>8.3</p>	<p>Girlguiding Berwickshire – an application had been received from the new Dunglass Guides, to enable skill development for guiders to the new group. This application had originally been sent to Oldhamstocks, however it has now come to us to consider, as it is a Berwickshire group. Three local Guides are attending. Total costs are over £1700. Decided unanimously to award £1000 towards costs from Crystal Rig 2 funds.</p>	<p>KN</p>
<p>8.4</p>	<p>Surf Centre (Belhaven) – An application had been received from Coast to Coast surf centre for help towards a new surf centre at Belhaven. This has local implications as they also operate at Dunglass beach and Pease Bay. They already have 70% funding through Leader and a further 15% is available through their own funds. However, this is a limited (although not for profit) company and there was some concern about this. They had applied for Viridor funding but had not been successful. At present there is no information re their constitution etc. It was decided to ask the applicant to come to next meeting to expand on the application, as awarding monies to a private company which is asset locked, may create a precedent. In asking them to attend and expand, we would make it clear that the maximum amount payable would be around £1000 subject to further scrutiny. PH will write back to applicant. The next meeting will have a larger attendance of CC members to scrutinise this further.</p>	<p>PH April</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>SBC Councillors (Cllr Laing)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tomorrow is next meeting of Area Partnership and the theme is the economy and skills and learning. Cllr Laing encouraged attendance 	

<p>10</p>	<p>and PH said 2 members from this area would attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Localities Bid fund – still counting manual votes so results not yet available due to weather delay. • Public consultation on Library management currently available on SBC website under libraries consultation • Borders design awards for buildings – 4 categories including existing buildings and extensions. • Code Club in Galashiels – Cllr Laing said this was about writing a computer programme to build a robot. • Eyemouth post office has had a reprieve – a temporary postmaster has been appointed and the branch will reopen tomorrow. It was agreed this was very good news, although it may be that in the longer term it may move to an existing business to continue. <p>Community Councillor issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NS – bins at Cove. There is now a 2018 gallery of photos! Although not many visitors yet to the Cove, the bins are overflowing. The issue of a key has not yet been resolved as the refuse dept never have the key on the wagon. This means they cannot lift the bins mechanically. A solution is needed longer term to this, whether it is a different method of securing the bins, or ensuring a key is available. Cllr Laing will take this forward. • NS – Allotments – now applying for planning permission to change use to allotment land, but some political leverage may be necessary as it is outside the Local Plan. Cllr Laing will try to advice on this. NS had produced a photographic image and it was agreed that this looked very good. Although Transport Scotland has agreed to sell this land to the Community, the cost is disputed. They have indicated a price of £29,000 but independent valuation has suggested £18,000. The CC feels this is still too high, as the land is derelict, and it was agreed that a price of around £5000 is more realistic for the size etc. Cllr Laing indicated that an application to the Localities Bid Fund may be appropriate for this, as it would appear to meet the eligibility criteria. There was a cost incurred for the valuation and it was agreed that NS should forward this to the CC for payment at the April meeting. In the meantime, the application for planning permission would go forward. • KN – end of financial year so request for expenses and some payments will be held over to the new financial year. • JV – asked about repairs to the Cross. Although KT had already approached the Council re this and not received a response, she will do this again. • KT – passed on good news re local RBS branches. There is a “stay of execution” for a year, and if branches are to close, other methods of delivering services may be considered. • KT – Fire and Rescue Services are modernising and extending their remit into other areas, such as out of hospital cardiac arrest attendance, advice services, prevention etc and have received a lot of funding from ScotGov towards modernising their crews, remit and machinery. • KT - Move of CC meetings – these will now move to the hall from 	<p>Cllr Laing</p> <p>NS April</p> <p>KT</p>
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	<p>April 18. Although there is a charge for this, it was agreed that the hall offered much better, warmer and inclusive environment for CC meetings in the future. It was agreed that in paying the hall, the funds were going back into the community. Member of the public was thanked for his contribution towards opening the school for us for many years. We will inform the headmaster of these changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PH – DB is attending SBCCN meeting tonight. There remains an issue regarding community involvement in Council Committees, as SBC have turned this request down. DB will feed back after his attendance tonight. SBCCN are writing to ScotGov to say that SBC are in breach of the Community Empowerment Act. PH will circulate materials. • PH gave apologies for the next meeting which will be chaired by Vice Chair. • KT – information re new electronic road signs had arrived today – given to NS to consider. <p>There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Wednesday 11th April, at 7pm in <u>Cockburnspath VILLAGE HALL</u>. Members of the public are encouraged and welcome to attend all or part of any meetings.</p>	<p>KT</p> <p>DB/PH</p>
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