

**Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council – Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 9th January 2019 at
6.30/7pm in Cockburnspath Village Hall**

Agenda item		Action
1	<p>Apologies and Attendance: <u>Apologies</u> were received from J Fairbairn; K Nelson; N Simpson. <u>In attendance</u> were P Hood (Chair); S Hay (Vice Chair); K Tulloch (Secy); J Virtue; M Black; D Bouchard; A Thackray; Cllr H Laing; Cllr J Fullarton; Cllr C Hamilton initially; 16 members of the public; representative from Savills (GP); representative from BHA (CY).</p>	
2	<p>Police Report – no major issues, with most areas of concern relating to A1 traffic incidents and concerns for welfare. No mention of gun crime and links to abandoned vehicle in Co’path. Comments were that police report, albeit retrospective, doesn’t always reflect actual issues, although also acknowledged that we don’t have significant levels of crime. KT to write to police re updating reports/currency of info contained.</p>	KT
3	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting were agreed as correct and signed by Chair.</p>	
4	<p>Berwickshire Housing/Savills potential plans for affordable housing in Co’path: CY and GP from BHA and Savills respectively attended the meeting and spoke to the proposal. For some time, BHA have been committed to extending affordable housing locally, and had originally proposed looking towards a development opposite the current housing in Callander Place. However, CY explained that Roads at SBC were against this proposal, due to access, which had already been highlighted by the CC to BHA. As a result, BHA are now looking at a potential development site west of the village, on the outskirts, opposite the current bungalows in Hoprig Road. He was at pains to explain that this discussion was only exploratory in nature and did not form a planning application at this point. Sixteen members of the public had attended to listen to potential proposals, and some objected to the site on the following grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site not currently within the LDP although it was acknowledged that SBC may look favourably on this site, being on the perimeter of an existing village, and affording affordable housing development. It was agreed that more affordable housing would be welcomed in Co’path although not necessarily on this site. - Lack of infrastructure – pavements, transport, access issues etc - Interruption of sunlight and views to existing properties - Potential issues with site – access and underground stream - Increased traffic through village, with poor existing routes and poor road surface - Potential parking issues, which are already an issue at top end of village (e.g. Crofts Road etc). <p>Two sites currently exist within the LDP and these are located at South Site, and Tollview respectively. Both are owned by Calendonian Trust and they have refused permission to allow BHA to develop any of this land. One MoP asked about CPOs to purchase some of this land from Calendonian Trust, but there wasn’t a precedent for this – however, it may still be a potential proposition. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that BHA/Savills will reflect on issues raised, and should this proposal progress to a planning application, a public meeting for the entire village would be considered. Opportunities to object or otherwise to any plans submitted to SBC would be given in the fullness of time. It was however recognised that the alteration to the site boundaries from those originally discussed with the planning sub committee in June 18, should have</p>	

	<p>been disclosed prior to this meeting to enable a more representative group of the community to become involved in the discussion. The Community Council were only aware of changes to the potential site boundaries and location, at the beginning of tonight’s meeting. BHA/Savills will keep the CC updated with whether they are to progress with this site, or any other in the future and the community will be kept up to date with any progress. Please ensure that you read our CC minutes and agendas on notice boards, and if on line, use our facebook page (Cockburnspath and Cove) and website – www.cockburnspath.org for updates. Please feel free to ask your local community councillors and if unsure who they are, please email secretarycccc@live.co.uk or phone 01368 830246 for information.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
<p>5.1</p>	<p>Garage Sales – PH had received papers from BHA for signature, but would discuss these with a legal representative, as they included poorly designated boundaries to each site. It was agreed however, that the CC is prepared to purchase site A, with the addition (at no extra cost) of the ground J, in return for maintaining said ground. The Allotment Association, as a constituted group, would probably be the purchasers of site A and ground J, as, although the CC were allowed to own land, the potential future changes to office bearers may cause issues. Discussed container on this site and KT gave feedback from Planners at SBC re this – probably looked on favourably if suitably disguised with plantings and paint. MoP at this point offered a container she no longer used, with lock, if it could be uplifted and moved to site. Current occupant of BHA garage would be asked to vacate contents asap. SH will liaise with MoP re suitability of the container and work required to bring it up to planning standards. MoP was thanked for this very generous gesture, which is much appreciated. PH and SH will feed back on legal progress and suitability of container to Feb meeting. Recognised that potential savings on purchase on container could be spent on making it as aesthetically pleasing as possible.</p>	<p>PH SH</p>
<p>5.2</p>	<p>Tractor insurance – still no definitive answers on this. Problem is between insuring a grass cutter and a vehicle which goes on the road. SH will speak to suppliers re this and Roads Police, who seem to suggest it may not legally require insurance. Recognised however that it should be insured on a TPF&T basis at least. Also discussed was trailering the tractor, but this would require the purchase of a trailer and availability of vehicle with tow bar. If not “on the road” CC insurance may cover – to cf to Feb 19 meeting and in meantime, SH will also contact another neighbouring CC member for advice. SH had recently cut the football field and other grass areas, and the results were excellent. Many members of the public had commented on the increased accessibility over aspects of the SUW and in the condition of local grassy areas. Well done!</p>	<p>SH</p>
<p>5.3</p>	<p>Crofts Road parking – an impasse seems to exist between the community, CC and the Council on this. KT forwarded emails to local Councillors regarding actions local Officers had committed to, but it was recognised that this needs to be moved forward and resolved. Several issues remained unanswered e.g. if the community saved enough to pay for these works, would the Council adopt it, and would the Council consider selling the small patch of grass land under Community Empowerment/Right to Buy. Cllr HL will continue, along with the support of Cllr JF to pursue this with Officers at SBC. Much discussion, but cf to Feb 19 CC meeting for feedback.</p>	<p>Cllr HL Cllr JF</p>
<p>5.4</p>	<p>Planting to Allotment side of Bankhead cemetery – JF will raise this with Member of Public who had offered planting – delayed due to festive holidays. However, the community wished to thank SBC for the fencing work towards improving the cemetery, which although had taken significant time to occur, was a good job. KT will email Officer with thanks.</p>	<p>Feb KT</p>

5.5	Dean/right of way – Agreed that some aspects of the Dean were still very poor in terms of access since the recent tree felling. KT will email Savills re this and try to obtain some reassurance re reinstatement to previous standards.	KT
5.6	Community Action Plan – members were updated on the ill health of the development officer who was taking this forward. Hopefully, some news about her recovery would follow soon, but in the meantime, the CC members wished her a very speedy recovery. CF Feb 19.	Feb
5.7	Penmanshiel funds update – PH had submitted further information and was awaiting confirmation of payment – to check situation in Feb 19.	Feb
5.8	Stabilisation of parts of SUW – Cllr HL, NS and officers had been in communication about this and we understand a request is being progressed. Check Feb 19.	Feb
5.9	Allotments – much discussion again around the lack of validation letter from Transport Scotland (TS) and the lack of purchase costs of the potential site. Some costs have been met already and chicken and egg regarding further costs without clear assurance that TS will sell land at a reasonable cost. Cllr HL has written to TS to ask about progress and what is holding up this request. In the meantime, work towards planning permission etc progresses, but slowly, until a clear response re costs is received from TS. Cf Feb.	Feb
5.10	Salt bins – some feedback on current salt bins situation – Tollview had note – KT will email. No new salt bins available apparently.	KT
5.11	Underpass at Cove – Cllr HL fed back that Officer at SBC will effect a tidy up although apparently lighting is now also an issue in the underpass. Cllr HL will advice re whether this is Amey or SBC although we think it was previously Amey. KT will also email Amey in the meantime.	KT
6	Correspondence	
6.1	Liaison group – Viridor – on 16 th Jan – NS aware	NS
6.2	Shadow Flicker from Neuk turbines – two householders being affected and one member of the CC commented on the effect in certain weather conditions i.e low sun, clear days when turbines are turning – usually Nov to Jan each year. SBC and developers are aware and taking action, but CC maintains a watching brief on progress to ensure local community concerns are taken seriously and acted upon.	
6.3	Phone box maintenance – the phone box in Co’path located at the bottom of Hoprig Road, will be repainted in 2019. To monitor.	KN
6.4	Eyemouth Art Trail – KT said she had received a FB message from Eyemouth CC regarding an art trail. This will be passed to those who organise the local art exhibition and have some expertise, but there are various local exhibits that may be of interest – fishing disaster bronze; market cross memorial; Sparrow Castle etc. KT will pass on information.	KT
Report	<p>Treasurer’s report – KN in her absence had submitted an update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monies from CR1 and 2 had now been deposited in the CC bank account for direct distribution to funding applicants. Total deposited (accrued, not annual) = £46,621.36. However, applications must still go in front of Crystal Rig/Fred Olsen for approval prior to payment. This was massively welcomed as it cut down the gap between approval and receipt of payment and demonstrated a trusting relationship between developer and CC. • Foundation Scotland credit of £9805 had been received (notice boards and leaflets etc). Must be spent within the year however. • Complaint upheld with BoS regarding accounts and compensation offered. PH and KN are in consultation about how to progress this. • Other issues – tractor insurance and telephone box – see individual items. 	

7	<p>Planning</p>	
7.1	<p>No new applications had been received, and KT had submitted a response to SBC regarding the Pease Bay licencing application, on the n basis that we could not access sufficient details to make an informed comment. Cllr HL will also feed this back to Officers.</p>	Cllr HL?
8	<p>SBC Cllr updates</p>	
	<p>Cllr HL updated the CC on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Localities Bid Funding round was open again for applications. - Free disability inclusion course available 27.1.19 at Berwickshire High School between 10am and 1pm - Consultation on support for carers opens on SBC website on 8.2.19. 	
9	<p>Community Councillor updates</p>	
	<p>SH – garage parking – it was agreed that progress had been made to reduce the vehicles parked on verges etc in proximity to the garage. The state of the verges was subsequently very poor however. Some discussion ensued around alternative parking areas locally for garage vehicles – discussion continues.</p>	Monitor
	<p>JV – wall at churchyard has been “bashed” by grass cutter – KT will email Officer to effect repair.</p>	KT
	<p>MB – fence on SUW at Bait Hole – allows access to Network Rail – MB to try to get photo and KT will forward for securing area, to Network Rail, ccd to SBC.</p>	KT
	<p>MB – Bankhead cemetery – needs mole catcher! KT will email.</p>	KT
	<p>MB – no salt bin at Tollview – KT will email Officer</p>	KT
10	<p>Members of the Public</p>	
	<p>MoP – enquired re whether an application to install a barrier on the edge of the cement slab between Cove and SUW would be looked at favourably by the CC. Advised to present full argument and issues giving rise to this request and KT will email documents for consideration. Agreed that potential applications couldn’t be considered without full paperwork/estimates etc.</p>	KT
11	<p>AOCB - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.</p>	
	<p>The next meeting of Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council will be held on Wednesday, 13th February, 2019 in Cockburnspath Village Hall at 7pm</p> <p>Members of the public are welcome to attend (and encouraged!) all or part of any meeting – it’s your community council – come along and hear what’s going on!</p>	