

## **UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of Meeting held on 26 September, 2022, in Broughton Village Hall

*The meeting was delayed by one week as a mark of respect for the death of  
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*

### **Present**

Andrew Beveridge (Chairman), Rosalind Birchall (Vice-Chair), Nick Shapowal (Treasurer), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), Tess Goodwin, Chris Lewin, Simon Newstead, Jen McBeth, Christopher Lambton, Councillor Drummond Begg, Councillor Eric Small plus 10 members of the public

### **01.09.22 Apologies.**

Simon Edwards, Councillor Viv Thomson

The Chairman also took the opportunity to welcome everyone to the meeting and reflecting on the sad news of the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II

### **02.09.22 Minutes of Meeting held on 15 August, 22**

The Minutes were agreed.

### **03.09.22 Matters Arising from Minutes**

Chris Lewin asked that one matter from 09.08.22 (UTCC Website) be taken in the Agenda.

### **04.09.22 Actions Register**

The Secretary went through the Actions Register; only one new Action was recorded and that was to include a request for volunteers to support the planning and execution of the proposed Broughton Fayre next year in SHOUT as this was now having wide circulation.

### **05.09.22 Planning Applications (1)**

- Coomb Hill Land South of Holmsmill Broughton Scottish Borders  
Ref. No: 22/01412/PN Received: Wed 14 September

The Chair outlined the above commenting that he had found the map which had been included very difficult to view due to being so small. Chris Lewin agreed maps in planning applications are poor and that not enough of the surrounding area is included, it was agreed a note should be sent to SBC Planners.

**ACTION:** Secretary to write to SBC Planning Department requesting improved maps with clear elevation are included in future in Planning Applications.

Simon Newstead raised a separate issue regarding an email circulated by Simon Edwards in which Simon Edwards informed the CC of 'off the record' comments he had received from two SBC Planners about Comments submitted from Broughton Community and the CC regarding the proposed development on Dreva Road. The comments had referred to a lack of understanding of permitted planning objections and an anonymous leaflet encouraging the Community to object. Simon N admitted to circulating the leaflet which he had done so prior to being voted onto the CC. The Chair suggested that it might be opportune to invite Barry Fotheringham, one of SBCs Lead Planning Officers, to deliver a further Presentation on Planning Guide Lines, regarding how to constructively object to planning applications and what was a permitted objection, as it was evident we needed to understand material issues and what we can object on. He had already tried to contact Councillor Barry with no luck. Simon N suggested there should be

no 'definitive list' for material consideration and that SBC should consider all the views of the Community, it was wrong if the CC were trying to direct or limit what people wished to submit. One or two members of the public were concerned that it now might be that their objections would not be taken seriously.

Councillor Drummond SBC then interjected suggesting it was in people's right to raise objections but that it would be worth receiving an update on the Planning Guidelines as the rules were changing and one should know what was permitted and what was not, all objections had to follow certain criteria that conformed to the 'Planning Portal Check Boxes'. He also explained that, irrespective, if there were 5 or more objections the Planning Application went before the Planning Committee for consideration which was a quasi-judicial process and UTCC were fortunate as Councillor Eric SBC sits on that Committee. Councillor Eric was then able to explain the planning process.

One or two members of the CC were still not happy regarding the so called 'off the record' comments issue to which the Chair agreed to speak to Simon Edwards to ascertain clarification of the event, it being difficult to comment as Simon Edwards was absent from the meeting. It was also agreed that information should be circulated more widely, and it was agreed this could be done by the SHOUT distribution list and Christopher Lambton agreed to help with this as the SHOUT email list was not as lengthy as the one for the Shop.

ACTION: Andrew Beveridge to seek clarification from Simon Edwards regarding the 'Off the record Comments'.

ACTION: Councillor Drummond SBC to engage with Councillor Barry Fotheringham SBC regarding setting up a Planning Guidelines Presentation for the CC

ACTION: Christopher Lambton agreed to email the addresses he had for the shop requesting addressees to agree that their details be included on the SHOUT database via a Link he would attach.

**06.09.22      Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report this month stated the current balance in the bank was £1796.94, he had nothing further to add at this time. Rosalind Birchall requested a 'top up' of funds for Youth Bursaries and Nick agreed he needed to review levels of funding across all grants and was happy to apply for a 'top up'.

**07.09.22      Microgrants.**

Two Youth Bursary requests had been received since the last meeting, both from Mary Johnstone and had been circulated to CC members. Both were accepted as deserving of funding but it was agreed one would have payment delayed till the end of Nov 22 in order to adhere to policy regarding Youth Bursaries where no more than one successful application may be paid to the same recipient in any 12 month period.

**08.09.22      Police Report – emailed in advance.**  
No report received.

**09.09.22      UTCC New Website**

Simon Newstead updated the meeting on the ongoing work he had done since the last meeting which included 're-jigging' the website and the

Broughton Facebook Page. Particularly looking at the Planning area and also a suggestion discussed at the last meeting, to include a subsection on 'Nature' with a link to an external website which would include Julian Birchall's very good work on local Birds. He stated he had done nothing on 'the History' yet but that it would be treated in the same way making both less formal and allowing individuals to upload their own information for which he suggested Chris could be the 'Admin'. Additionally, he felt this would give the CC what had been 'promised' to the Community, was more inclusive, less risk and less work for any Admin. Chris responded by complimenting Simon N on the great work he had done but reiterated the Community Plan promised and 'all inclusive' site. Chris went on to say he had drafted the history article which now included links to more detailed information. Simon N said he was happy to include Chris' piece. A discussion ensued with agreement that the two do not need to be mutually exclusive, Andrew suggested a 'Central Portal' and finally it was agreed that Chris would upload his history article (inclusive of links) and Simon N would explore Facebook options.

#### 10.09.22 **Broughton Fayre 2023**

A standing Agenda item so nothing of note to report with no particular progress, however, with funding being a constraint, Tess volunteered to look at what grants might be applied for and apply. There had been no news of any volunteers coming forward to support a Working Group and Simon N agreed to put the request out in SHOUT again this month. Chris suggested that it might be too ambitious to hold an event every year, this year being so successful due to grants from the Platinum Jubilee Fund and that potentially we might look to hold an event every 5 years or for a special occasion. No theme has yet been decided and it was agreed that we still required a separate group to work on this.

ACTION: Simon Newstead to include a request for volunteers to support the planning and execution of the Community Event next year in SHOUT.

#### 11.09.22 **SBC Councillors' Report**

Councillor Drummond SBC delivered his report as follows: **Larch Dieback**, a disease that causes rapid decline and death of Oaks and Larch trees is heading North; no real information at this time, it's a fungus, a tree pandemic, very difficult to deal with and felling is usually the only option, in addition, biosecurity controls may be required; no more information at this time but will keep us updated. **History**, with the archaeological dig currently ongoing, reading, *On the Trail of Merlin in a Dark Age* by Robin Chrichton, and can highly recommend especially since Merlin was Scottish from this part of the World. He also informed the meeting that Councillor Viv SBC wished it to be known that **The Bridge** had finally been painted in the right colour, linking in with Schools. Regarding the **Community Shop**, he confirmed that all three Councillors, (Begg, Thomson and Small) were in full agreement and supportive of the plans going forward. Moving on to the topic of the 101/102 Buses, he reported that the three main contributors, D&G, SPT Lanark and SBC, were still meeting to discuss how to furnish the Bus Services from March 2023. Chris interrupted requesting that 'Timing' was considered when pulling together any new Service as local Services must link together, currently the 91 Bus that comes through Broughton to Biggar is not timed to link in with the 101/102 Bus services. Councillor Drummond SBC responded that he appreciated this would be ideal but along the route there were 5 Council areas and a number of local routes that similarly needed to be taken into consideration. Currently there were several threats to the Service

existing at all; come October, Covid funding would be withdrawn, fuel prices were on the increase, over 60% of subsidies are reimbursed at approximately 50%. What was required to give the Service real gravitas was to increase the use of the bus, to grow public transport, you need to use public transport. Chris then asked if the West Linton 'Pingo' Service could be trialed in the Broughton area for 6 months, Councillor Drummond explained this was the Passenger initiated Service, a little like 'dial a bus' and although he was supportive the priority must be to save the 101/102 Services. The second part to this was a whole review of transport, Chris requested that a trial of a Pingo Service was put into the mix, Councillor Drummond agreed saying that there must be transport fairness across the board, there was the train in the East and central and we needed more down our side.

Councillor Eric Small SBC reported on the new Schools either completed, planned or about to be built in the SBC area including Galashiels Academy, plans for a new School in Tweeddale and the roaring success of the Jedburgh Campus (Pre-school through to Secondary education) now finished. He further commented that Budget talks were currently ongoing with money very limited.

The Chair commented that it was so refreshing to see our 3 Councillor's working together so closely and so well for the benefit of the communities they served.

**12.09.22**

### **Any Other Business**

**Broughton Community Bonfire & Fireworks Event.** Ingrid Campbell, in attendance at the meeting, reported on the plans for the Bonfire Event having volunteered to pull together a similar event to the very successful one held in 2019. She explained that Jemima Elliott had given permission for the use of her field and that the Village Hall, Car Park, and Field behind would be used as before. She requested the monies left over from the 2019 event (£405.00) be made available for this year's event and that she was happy to Crowd Fund, advertising in the Shop and Tea Rooms. Following discussion, it was agreed that the UTCC Bank Account would receive any monies raised, that the event would be held on the Friday, 4 Nov so as not to clash with the Film Club showing of a film on the Saturday evening, that in outline the plan would be to commence early evening with the lighting of the Bonfire at approx. 6.30pm, a short Firework display would be delivered, and, as before, Soup and sandwiches would be served in the Car Park. Ingrid asked the Secretary to investigate the Insurance for the event to which the Secretary agreed and also suggested children might like to have a 'Make a Guy' competition which was met with a positive response.

**ACTION:** Secretary to find out from SBC what additional premium, if any, must be paid to ensure the Bonfire Event is covered by insurance particularly public indemnity.

**Re-dedication of Peebles War Memorial.** There is to be a Re-dedication of the Peebles War Memorial at 6pm on Thursday, 13 October. Peebles CC along with the Lord Lt of Tweeddale, Sir Hew Strachan, have organised this event to mark the Memorial's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; Lord Astor, grandson of Earl Haig will be in attendance to lay a wreath. Members of the CC are encouraged to attend, the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary intimated their intention to attend.

**Hill/Fell Running Event.** The British Championship for hill/fell running will be held in Broughton on 15 Oct, Scotland only holds the event once every 5 years so it is anticipated that circa 1000 people (175 teams of 6 taking part plus spectators) will be in attendance plus catering trucks. Landowners have been contacted and Andrew Dunlop is supporting the event by offering a field for parking. The organiser, Iain Whiteside, Carnethy HRC, had been in contact with Andrew to see what they could do to support and thank the village for hosting the event. Following a short discussion it was agreed that a donation would be appropriate and that we would put the monies towards the Bonfire event. It was also suggested that other big events that inconvenienced the village (ie Tour O'Borders Cycle event) might like to also give a donation towards something for the Community.

**Housing Issue.** A member of the Community informed the meeting of a very difficult personal situation regarding her property that she was getting no help from SBHA with, and now being at her wits end decided to bring it to the meeting. Councillor Drummond SBC agreed to take the details and ensure resolution.

**Broughton in Bloom.** Jayne Cook briefed the meeting on some repair works she had managed to orchestrate to be done in the Village. Having met with Neil Pringle SBC and walked together through the village, a considerable number of repairs are now lodged to be done, repairs to the road, pavements etc, and that Broughton would be receiving a new Recycling Enclosure, new Dog Poop Bin down near the Bowling Green and that there were new specialist Recycling Bins in the Village Hall (please go and look) for Blister packs, batteries and Bras. She also briefed on how the plans for works to be done in the King George Park were developing, she has received to date 3 quotes for the pathway and some of the works and also hoped to have 4 benches in the Park, encouraging sponsorship for these in order that they can be personalized with a carving/carvings, the sponsor saying what is to be done with any carving potentially carried out by a local carver, ie The Humble Woodsman, if they wished. It was thought the cost of each bench would be £800 approx. Furthermore she reported that when SBC are mowing the grass in the Park they are leaving all the grass cuttings in a heap where the Woodland Walk is planned. Councillor Drummond agreed to speak to Councillor Viv and together they would ensure this practice would cease.

**Recycling visit.** Tess raised the issue of the Public Information Evening requested in order to learn about the recycling practices in the SBC area. Councillor Drummond explained that some officials felt nervous about doing this. Recycling was a very complex business with many layers to actually how it is delivered but he agreed to keep working on getting some form of presentation set up.

**Community Place Making local plan.** Simon N suggested that a Community public meeting should be set up to discuss the Community Place Making Plan.

**Flashing Steet Light.** A member of the Community reported to the meeting that a Street light close by was continuously flashing.

**13.08.22**      **Date of next Meeting** – 7.00pm, Monday, 17 October, 2022, in Broughton Village Hall, small hall.