

## **UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL (UTCC)**

Minutes of Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025, at 7pm in Broughton Primary School

Present. Justin King (Co-Chair), Steph Stewart (Co-Chair), Susan Brown (Treasurer), Shona Scott, Alison Dunlop, Jen McBeth, Gwen Sapsford, Councillor Drummond Begg SBC

Apologies: Chelsea Shapiro-Waugh, Tess Goodwin

**Minutes from the last meeting and Matters Arising.** The Minutes from the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February were approved and there were no Matters Arising that were not to be discussed in the Agenda.

### **Actions Register:**

1. Reporting on local issues – recommendation to go directly to the SBC page (see below) due to intermittent technology issues with FixMyStreet.
2. Ongoing issues with potholes, unsafe pavements not being filled in - email councillors directly
3. Ongoing issue with streetlights (Steph to contact councillors)
4. Resiliency - Look at viability of tree planting to manage flooding (Ali to link in with TweedForum based upon discussion)
5. Communication – put minutes and future meeting dates in shop and on notice boards. Update website with meeting dates (NOTE – No meeting in April)

### **Agenda Items:**

1. **Multi Member Ward Report** – Gary, our local Community Officer attended the meeting. General encouragement of CCTV usage as deterrent. Speed checks ongoing with increased visibility in the village, along with more permanent solution of Pop up Bob. Anti social behaviour in focus in other areas of the Borders. Abandoned vehicle on Biggar Road has been reported.
2. **Community Forum**
  - a. Toilets – assess whether local facilities are on closure list, then next steps
3. **Planning** – no applications flagged for review
4. **Treasurers Report** – received and agreed by members present. Awaiting feedback on top up from SSE and increasing level of youth bursaries in line with Tweedsmuir and Skirling
5. **Youth Bursaries (YB -1 ) / Micro-grants(MG - 0)** - One youth bursary requested and approved.
6. **SBC Councillor's Report**
  - a. 91 / 93 Bus Service – formal feedback pending. Likely future state is taking service in house with smaller buses which would require staffing, procurement of buses and validating timetables. Feedback provided has

been taken into consideration. Question pertaining to size of bus being large enough for school usage.

- b. Councillors looking to do a walk around to assess local issues – likely use of unpaid work team. Request for input of items to be gathered. (e.g. painting of bus stops)

## 7. Initiatives Update

- a. **Children's Play Park** – Confirmed by Councillor Viv Thomson that completion still estimated for March (exact date pending)
- b. **King George V Park Improvements** – Meeting in village hall on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Overwhelming support (98%) of items proposed. Now in pre-planning phase with SBC planning department, after which funding opportunities to be reviewed.
- c. **'Cut out kids' speed deterrent** – No additional update. Gwen updated cut outs will be decorated by school – will be a Spring project via the JLISO initiative
- d. **Community Neighbourhood Watch** – Letters were distributed to ~ 250 houses in the village. So far approximately 18 positive responses and now following up directly with the NHW scheme to formally register. Signs being put up in village as deterrent.
- e. **Resilience** – Received response from Hall committee regarding proposal to make the hall part of the resilience plan. WhatsApp group being set up for those who have come forward.
- f. **Thermal Imaging** – £800 funding for software and expenses will be transferred and ring fenced for this initiative. Two individuals have had training.
- g. **Village Cottage** – community council assisted in proposal for community pub. Working with hall committee and other parties to determine if plans feasible.
- h. **Shop** – hold up with building control that requires some work, and remediation for chimney (post recent storm). More information to be provided as available.

## 8. Other Items

- a. UTCC AGM to take place in MAY. Let us know if you are interested in being part of UTCC as we are looking for members for the new year (particularly a secretary, but anyone interested in being more involved generally very welcome!)

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Useful Links / Items discussed during meeting:

**SBC website for issues with ROADS/Pavements & Lighting** – please log any issues (lighting / roads / etc) here – they are directed to the relevant department for remediation.

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/roads-pavements/report-pothole-road-problem>

**Local Directory** – Tweedsmuir have led an initiative to gather local directory information, including clubs, sports, businesses and services. Click below for details: <https://tweedsmuircommunitycouncil.org.uk/community-information/>