

## UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL (UTCC)

Minutes of Meeting held on 19 August, 2024, at 7pm in Broughton Village Hall

**Present.** Steph Stewart (Co-Chairman with Justin King), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), Susan Brown (Treasurer), Jen McBeth, Tess Goodwin, Alison Dunlop, Shona Scott, Gwen Sapsford, Councillor Viv Thomson SBC, Mark Davey of Peebleshire News, and four members of the public

**01.08.24 Apologies.** Councillor Eric Small SBC, Councillor Drummond Begg SBC, Chelsea Shapiro-Waugh

**02.08.24 Minutes from the last meeting and Matters Arising.** The Minutes from the meeting held on 15 July, 2024 were approved and there were no Matters Arising.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that following a discussion with all CC members and from listening to the Community, it was decided that the format of our meetings be altered. Rather than deal with local issues in AOB at the end of the meeting, we would now discuss these as the first main item of the Agenda, under the heading of Community Forum. Under this item the public are invited to raise their issues and as the Co-Chair described, we will draw up a list of issues (seen at the end of the Minutes here), prioritise and show what we are working on (the Actions List will keep us in check).

### **03.08.24 COMMUNITY FORUM**

The following issues were raised by the public:

- **Buses.** Comments on the Bus Schedule now received and been submitted to SBC (was required by 9 Aug); Councillor Viv SBC will keep an eye on when the response comes out; general view was to keep the status quo; no date for end of the current contract.
- **Street Lights.** Faulty street lights reported ('flashing' from lights outside No 8 and No 1). (After Meeting Note: works completed).
- **Phone Box.** There was concern over the poor cleanliness and wasp infestation of the phone box on Dreva Road. Tess agreed to clean it out but it was agreed we need to determine what use we now put it to as the phone box was "adopted" by Broughton in Bloom which is no longer operational so the responsibility falls back under UTCC remit.

**Action: Tess to clean up; Steph agreed to take a photo and post on Facebook to ask for suggested uses/on-going maintenance**

- **Dog Fouling.** It was reported that the incidences of dog fouling were on the increase and that the issue would seem to be a lack of bins and

the emptying of said bins. Steph agreed to contact SBC to request more signage and an increase in Dog Litter Bins.

**Action: Steph agreed to contact SBC**

**Road Issues.** It was reported that cars are parking too close to the road junction by the Laurel Bank Tearooms so making it difficult for road users to exit the junction and it was felt an increase in white line painting in the area would help; Councillor Viv SBC agreed to take this back to SBC. She stated if we gave her a list of any road issues that needed addressing she would report them. A further matter was the terrible state of the surface of the road near the Skirling junction, from north of Broughton Knowe up to the Junction itself, the surface is in a very poor condition and it was asked if this was to be resurfaced in the light of other resurfacing recently done.

**Action: Councillor Viv SBC to put requests in for additional white line painting and road resurfacing.**

- **Christmas Lights.** The Christmas Lights would be going up as in the past although SBC do not want to provide the power source but with 'grandfather' rights the status quo would remain, however, no new lights could be put up, as had been asked.
- **Bon Fire:** It was confirmed this was a standing Calendar event very kindly organised and run by the Campbell's; it was hoped to go ahead again this year.

**Action: Secretary to confirm with Ingrid that the Bon Fire event would go ahead this November as it had done last year** (Insurance already passed to Ingrid by the Secretary in anticipation).

- **Tree Survey.** Discussion regarding overhanging trees on the Dreva Road, Councillor Viv SBC confirmed if they were on the verge they were SBC responsibility if not then on private land and not Council responsibility. It was stated there had been a survey done and it was agreed a copy of the survey should be sought.

**Action: Tess to find a copy of the Tree Survey, Dreva Road.**

**04.08.24 Actions Register.** The Secretary drew attention to Actions from the last meeting and progress made. She stated that we were starting with a clean Actions sheet and although the Sandbag Action was complete the resolution as to where we could have a second Sandbag Shed at the top end of the Village was still unresolved. Following a discussion regarding the current 'sheds' and 'containers' currently situated in the Hall Car Park, it was realised that the 'Broughton in Bloom' Shed was no longer in use with the demise of the club and it was agreed that this would be further investigated.

**After Meeting Note:** Justin King obtained a key for the old 'Broughton in Bloom' Shed which is now a UTCC Shed and sandbags have been moved from the School and are located in this Shed in the Hall

Car Park. SBC will be contacted to arrange for both locations to be restocked.

- 05.08.24 Planning.** No applications for discussion.
- 06.08.24 Treasurer's Report** was circulated prior to the meeting. Susan stated that the Bank balance @ 19 August 2024 was £5,856.31; expenditure had been on the Community News and Hall Hire. In terms of income, top-up monies had been received from Glenkerie Wind Farm and one Youth Bursary had been returned due to injury preventing the youth in question from conducting his sporting activity. The Treasurer also commented that in conjunction with Tweedsmuir there was consideration for a joint application for Wind Farm monies to cover the CN next year, more to follow on this.
- 07.08.24 Youth Bursaries (YB)/Micro-grants(MG):** 1 x MG Application had been received, for monies to support the Community Bite & Blether which is to restart on a monthly basis to begin with, on the first Wednesday of the month effective from 4 September.
- 08.08.24 Multi Member Ward Report (Police).** The Report (July 24) had been circulated to all members. Once again it was noted that there were reports of anti-social behaviour and home Thefts in the surrounding areas but nothing directly affecting the local Community although any news of this type was of concern. Councillor Viv SBC explained that she had met with Sgt Harrison and the following was agreed:
- There would be a meeting of the Community Council Chair persons twice a year with the Police Member, the first to be held on 24 October;
  - Sgt Harrison was moving on from his post but he agreed to pass on and link in to what we wished to achieve regarding our Speeding concerns, understanding that the stats were not evidence of the issue and that you needed to 'experience' the issue at first hand
  - Appreciation of the need to 'get to grips' with rural crime.
- 09.08.24 Councillors Report.** Councillor Viv SBC commenced by reporting on matters from Drumelzier first. She explained that the Grass cutting would be undertaken by SBC, once a year as is the practice, providing the posts and stones were removed. The next item was to inform the meeting that The Community Conversations were commencing once more, an opportunity to raise issues to Councillors; short notice but there was to be one on Tuesday evening in the Village Hall at 7pm and then the next would at West Linton Primary School at 6.30pm on 24 September. A further opportunity has arisen whereby one's own question can be read

out in a meeting when the Full Council Meeting is in session, details on how to do this are on the SBC Website.

- 10.08.24 Speeding.** The only update for this meeting is that Gwen has sourced the materials required for the School children to commence work on their 'Pop-ups' for the side of the road; she would speak to Barbara at the School and clearly there would be supervision but it would be the Children's design. At this moment Councillor Viv also informed the meeting that regarding the 'speed' of vehicles through Drumelzier, one action had been completed and that was the cleaning of the road signs.
- 11.08.24 UTCC Place Plan.** The Chair explained that we would now be starting to pull together our/the Community's Place Plan and that this was merely a statement of what we all feel is important to us and what matters to us in terms of our local environment and the area and 'place' we live in; putting some formality around our ideas. A draft document had been drawn up with some head lines and this would be circulated and spread through out the Community so that feedback and thoughts about what we consider important for our area could be sought, eventually drawing up the Plan that could then be shared with SBC. Councillor Viv stressed how important this would be especially when it came to the Council considering its LDP (Local Development Plans) as the Place Plans help to guide and shape their thinking.
- 12.08.24 Website / Facebook.** Shona explained that she had been in touch with Chelsea and that once she had 'Rights' she could start 'writing to the Website and the Facebook page.
- 13.08.24 Initiatives.** The Co-Chair, Justin, explained that this was a new item listing the major projects/plans that the UTCC were currently undertaking or hoping to undertake, and where progress would be detailed
- Community Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (CNWS).** Shona stated that she had had a far better response than she had expected from her post regarding the setting up of a formal CNWS with 21 initial responses. She suggested that a way forward would be to discuss with Sgt Harrison at the Police Meeting to help us formalise the Scheme and take it forward. Any previous scheme there had been was no longer actively managed.
- King George V Park.** The scale, ideas and thoughts for the park were considerable so the Chair explained that this was a big initiative with the requirement for a dedicated sub group to take this forward who no doubt would engage with wider stakeholders as it took shape. To begin with Chelsea was to research the Legal statue behind any works done in the Park (it is understood that the Park is 'owned' by Fields in Trust with

SBC the managers of it); a vision of the ideas we all had for the Park was required plus consideration of the various sources of funding we could tap into. First of all though a detailed drawing was required to start to look at what we really do want to do (apart from have an foot/cycle path all the way round) and give the Community a 'Vision' to consider.

**Development of the Children's Play Park.** Councillor Viv stated that the money had been ring fenced for the Scheme and that she did not believe the feedback window had closed yet; she was asked if the plans had been formalised for the new parks and she said she had not seen final plans as yet.

**Tennis Club.** The meeting was informed that the Tennis Club courts were now locked. A discussion about costs of joining the Club determined that membership was Free to the Primary School and £15/ year for students, who can join on the website. The courts were originally open to all but after some damage and misuse the club decided to padlock them. The tennis club are very supportive of encouraging more people in the community to use the facility and are open to discussing options.

There being no more items to discuss the Chair confirmed the meeting closed.

Next meeting is on **Monday, 16 September, 2024 at 7pm, in BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL.**

SLELL 04/09/24