**UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of Meeting held on 17 July, 2023, in Broughton Village Hall

# Present

Andrew Beveridge (Chairman), Rosalind Birchall (Vice-Chair), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), Susan Brown (Treasurer), Justin King, Steph Stewart

**01.07.23 Apologies.**

Jen McBeth, Jayne Cook, Chelsea Shapiro, Councillor Eric Small SBC, Councillor Viv Thomson, Councillor Drummond Begg SBC

The Chairman welcomed everyone. The Secretary informed the meeting that sadly Jayne Cook had had to submit her resignation with immediate effect. The Chair thanked her for her time on the CC. It was agreed that a solution to fill the vacancy would be sought.

**02.07.23 Minutes of Meeting held on 19 June 23**

The Minutes were approved.

**03.07.23 Matters Arising from Minutes**

There was one matter arising in that the Secretary gave an update on an email exchange she had had with Samantha Elliott of SBC who had asked for feedback regarding the implementation of the 20mph speed limit and if we required any additional support in terms of road ‘furniture’ etc. The Secretary had reported back three issues, overhanging foliage over the speed limit signs, the Flashing Light on the ‘actual’ speed sign was no longer flashing and that, as a result of a recent accident, it was felt the speed limit from the north end of the village should be a gradual reduction (60mph, 40mph then 20mph) rather than the current 60mph straight to 20mph. Samantha had replied with a positive response and our issues are being addressed.

# 04.07.23 Actions Register

The Secretary went through the Actions Register, with the only outstanding Action being the Plan for the Young People’s Funday in the Park now planned for September. She stressed the sooner she could have the details the better as the insurance needs to be applied for.

.

# 05.07.23 Planning Applications (0)

There were no new applications to discuss.

The Chair confirmed that the Glenkerie Windfarm request for an Extension (a further 10 years) had been awarded inclusive of their commitment to continue to support the Villages with grants.

# 06.07.23 Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s Report had been circulated with the Agenda. The current bank balance was £9,796.92 it was reported that since the last meeting we had applied for and received our annual top ups as follows:

SSE Windfarm - £2,500 (£1000 for Youth Bursaries, £1500 for Microgrants)

Glenkerie Windfarm - £2000.00 (an increase of £700)

The Treasurer further reported that the Microgrant awarded to the UTCC Drivers (£250) had been reimbursed; the Invoice for the installation of the Defibrillator at the School had been paid (Electrics £174). We were also informed that the completed Signature Sheet for agreement to the Code of Conduct could now be sent off with the Annual Accounts to SBC, on receipt of which, as long as everything was satisfactory, we should receive our annual funding from the Council (circa £700).

The Treasurer commented that it might be timely to use our Resilience Fund (£338) to, firstly erect a new Sandbag container, that had been previously asked for, up the Dreva Road, and, secondly, it might be opportune to ask Biggar Response to deliver a CPR and Defibrillator Course now that we have a number in the area. Jamie Franklin would be happy to do this for us at a cost of £15/head which we could cover. All agree we should look to do this, and the Chair asked the Treasurer to make the arrangements with Biggar Response.

**ACTION: Treasurer to arrange for Biggar Response to deliver a CPR and Defibrillator Course.**

Finally, the Treasurer confirmed that the Handover with Susan Brown was progressing, and she would shortly be a signatory on the account. A date for handover was still to be confirmed.

**07.07.23 Microgrants/Youth Bursaries. (1+0)**

One Microgrant was agreed to the Friends of Broughton Knowe for £250. There was some discussion in that they had asked for monies to have their website updated and it was thought they may wish to apply for a further Microgrant to pay for training of one of their members so that this could be done in-house.

It was also to be Minuted that approval had been sought and confirmed ‘Out of Committee’ for a Microgrant for the Broughton Choral Society (£250), in addition to two Youth Bursary requests for Dancing lessons and Football coaching respectively (£200 each).

Following a short discussion regarding how the Windfarm monies are allocated, the Vice-Chair stated that funds are allocated between the communities equally and not pro rata of population. All agreed it was excellent that Glenkerie had approval for their ten year extension as this would extend the terms of the funding for an additional ten years although we still have the Endowment Policy that has been set up as a financial buffer once funding ceases.

**08.07.23 Police Report – (to be emailed in advance).**

Secretary confirmed she had once again not received a report, however, through a Community ‘Watch’ Group had been informed that the Police were strongly advocating that people with Iphones should ‘accept’ all the updates offered by Apple, they had confirmed that most of the updates included improving security of data and personal information.

# 09.07.23 Report from SSE Panel Forum (held 13 June 23).

The Secretary, in her capacity as the UTCC representative on the SSE Panel, due to the Chair having been away for last month’s meeting, gave a quick recap of what had taken place at the meeting. One item in particular, was an application from one of the Communities, to create a Development Officer’s post (part-time) funded via the Windfarm; on this occasion it had not been successful due to the requirement for more information. However, the SSE lead, Colin McMillan, asked that we all give consideration to the application with a view to asking ourselves whether we might all fair better with spending the funds in this way ensuring our own Community projects from our ‘Community Action Plans’ can be actioned and achieved in a timely manner. Other considerations are that Scot Gov is keen to make the Borders a good tourist area with ‘Destination Tweed’ driving towards this so any help to progress our own plans might be the way forward.

**10.07.23**  **SBC Councillors’ Reports – SBC Councillors**

Not too much to report this month but Councillor Eric SBC did mention that the SBC Forestry Panel had sat, and knowing our interest in Forestry .in the area, explained that during a discussion about the plans for Stobo it was generally understood that even this panel has little influence when it comes to planning permissions for new Forrestry.

**11.07.23 Any Other Business**

**UTCC Marquee.** The Secretary explained that we have been awarded the funds for our Marquee from the SSE Panel (providing certain conditions are followed) but wondered whether we should be looking to apply for funds for a trailer prior to purchasing the Marquee. The Marquee needs to be stored somewhere and transported to where ever it is required so a Trailer seems like the best option. It was agreed this might be a good thing to do and Justin said he would look into this.

**ACTION: Justin King to makes some enquiries / research into purchasing a trailer for the new Marquee to be stored on.**

**Date of next Meeting –** 7.00pm, Monday, 21 August, 2023, in **Drumelzier Village Hall**

Slelj 15/08/2023