

UPPER TWEED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 18th November 2019

In Broughton Village Hall

Present Simon Edwards (Chairman), Stephanie Jackman (Secretary), David Campbell, Chris Lewin, Christopher Lambton, Emma Reid, Rosalind Birchall, Councillor Eric Small (SBC), Nick Shapowal, six members of the public.

01.11.19 Apologies:
Andrew Weston (Treasurer), Andrew Beveridge, Penny Wedderburn Scott, Councillor Heather Anderson (SBC),

02.11.19 Minutes from last Meeting (held 21st October 2019)
The minutes were agreed.

03.11.19 Matters Arising from previous minutes
No matters arising.

04.11.19 Community Plan
Bite & Blether: See Agenda item.

Community Speed Watch: Chair reported that signs are being noticed by the Community, currently concentrated on the main road and Chair plans to expand scheme and deploy remaining signs along the Dreva road and Springwell Brae as requested by residents. Not as effective as West Linton. Permission granted by Police and SBC happy as long as signature obtained from participating residents. All agreed with the plan to expand the scheme.

VE Day Event: Nothing further to report, still looking for a bugler.

Laurel Bank Tea Room: Reported it is now up and running.

Scout Hut: The Chair stated that he had not as yet heard from Councillor Kris regarding this matter, he had agreed to look into the feasibility of the School making use of the Scout Hut.

Parking at School: The Chair reported that the Council are currently 'dragging their feet' on this matter. Previously a yellow line had been asked for but rejected, now a white line has been requested to be placed from the school up to the old railway bridge on the school side as this is where the issue is with parked cars. The Chair also informed he has asked the School to write to parents regarding the matter.

Resilience: Chair briefed the meeting that the All Scottish Borders area, Resilient Community Co-ordinator Meeting planned originally for 24 October 2019 and postponed to December has been postponed yet again until the New Year. In the meantime he asked if the Committee could start thinking about this from a local aspect.

Community Website: The Chair was pleased to announce that this continues to grow as it is developed and Chris Lewin expanded saying they were looking for more local news, hoping to have information on local jobs available and that the Community News would be put on the Website.

BT Adopt a Kiosk Scheme: To be taken in the Agenda.

Following this section, Chris Lewin suggested a review of the Community Plan at the start of the New Year to ensure the Community Council are picking up on everything going forward.

05.11.19

Bite and Blether

The Chair expressed what an excellent job Emma was doing in managing this initiative which was agreed by all. Two of the six weeks complete, both a success with 28 people attending Week 1 and 24 Week 2. Emma presented her completed Costs Breakdown to the Committee. Expenditure to date was reported to be £119.60, with further predicted costs giving a total predicted expenditure of £342.56 for the whole Trial. The suggested donation of £2.50 per person has given an income to date of £178.29. In order to break even the Trial needs a minimum attendance each week of 16 people, far less than originally anticipated and with its popularity so far it is predicted that we should be in profit at the end of the Trial period. Emma has further calculated the exact costs of a Bacon roll and coffee inclusive of the hire of the hall costs, this is proving invaluable in determining the success of this Trial. The Chair commented that he hopes if the initiative is to be a permanent feature then the Hall Committee might consider a concession for the event, he also gave a vote of thanks to all those who were providing home baking which is hugely appreciated. As there is no CC meeting in December it was agreed to review the next steps over email at the end of the Trial. Following a discussion including the possibility of the Tea Rooms taking the event on it was agreed a decision should be made before the last Bite and Blether event in order to publicise the start date for January.

06.11.19

BT Adopt a Kiosk Scheme:

The Chair explained the background, that 3 x BT Kiosks had been placed at risk and offered to the Community, the UTCC had applied for all 3. BT have confirmed we can have the one in Dreva Road at a cost of £1 (we take on full responsibility for it) and Broughton in Bloom were keen to have the second in Drumelzier and the third is at the School; unlikely to hear about these two as BT want to keep them active, they need smartening up if they do. Good news is we can still put Defibrillators in them. At the moment only have two (Rachan Mill & Broughton Garage) we need to apply for Windfarm money for further Defibs. Costs are £800 for equipment and £400 for the case.

07.11.19

UTCC Constitution: This was sent round the Committee on 11 November via email.

08.11.19

Broughton Village Hall: A complaint had been received from the Broughton Village Hall Committee to the UTCC (Chair) the contents of which were shared with Committee Members. The Chair has now responded fully although this matter will not be discussed by the Village Hall Committee until their meeting in January 2020

09.11.19

Planning Applications:

Tennis Club: UTCC had put in an objection regarding the second Tennis court proposed, as there were numerous queries. The Planning Application has been amended and so the objection was withdrawn. Parking is now the main issue and again the Planning Application was amended with Parking all left to the School layby.

Erection of 11 Houses, Springwell Brae: Concerns regarding this application are specifically about access from the Main Road/Dreva Road Junction with a significant increase in traffic anticipated with this proposal. The Chair will write to the Planning Officer as a number of aspects were pointed out by the Committee following a fruitful discussion; this could be of benefit to the shop and village itself although the junction needs to be looked at as it requires upgrading (Nick Shapowal pointed out this was discussed in 2012 regarding another matter), parking along the main road should remain for the shop plus it acts as a speed deterrent so we would not want to lose parking, would an alternative access road be looked at, we should encourage SBC to come and have a look on site so our concerns can be aired accordingly. The Chair agreed to draft his letter and allow the Committee to view it before it went. It was also agreed that a Village Plan showing proposals should be added to the Website.

10.11.19

Microgrants.

The Treasurer was absent but it was reported there were 3 requests for grants although there was no more money in the 'pot'. The Chair suggested that a report be submitted to the Wind Farms and then we will receive a top up of monies, we are behind on our claims. A discussion ensued regarding how the Wind Farms operate in terms of the Grants and how we as a CC allocate monies.

11.11.19

Police Report.

Nil. Still hopeful for a generic report to be produced each month as promised, the Chair reported this should be forth coming in the New Year.

12.11.19

SBC Councillors Report

The Committee were made aware that due to the impending election SBC was at a standstill. Funding for CCs to change, still being discussed as to how it would work, consultation is taking place and a decision is to be made circa 19 Dec. This caused some discussion and Chris Lewin requested it be Minuted that we would be opposed to any development of new plans that would mean we would receive a cut in funds. Councillor Eric Small commented that a proposal was put forward within the Council and then it was agreed at the Partnership Meeting, we will have to await the outcome.

13.11.19

AOB

Dates for UTCC Meetings: These have been circulated via Email by the Chair.

Community Speed Watch: A 'Pop Up' Bobby (life sized static figure) has been requested for Broughton by the Chair.

Broughton Bonfire: This event received excellent feedback and only one complaint from a Dog owner. It was agreed that the plan used for this years event would be the template and Standard for subsequent years. The Chair has written a letter of thanks to Ingrid and David Campbell for organising the event.

Pavement at Whitlade: This is very narrow due to overgrown vegetation, it was suggested the Council should be asked for funding. The Chair will get in touch with Elaine Nicol at SBC who deals with 'small schemes' and if agreed the work will be done.

Beech Tree at School: The large beech tree by the School is rotten and is to be felled on Tuesday, 3 December. This could cause considerable inconvenience around the School which happens to be closed the day before but not on this date and it was remarked that the works need to be clearly cordoned off with clear access for the children to still be able to get to school. It was also noted that this will be the third tree felled and no replanting of a replacement. It was generally agreed the Council should replace these.

Broughton Oil Group: Bruce Fraser has given notice as he no longer wants to run this and it requires a volunteer to take it on.

Resilient Communities: All were asked to consider who we might consider vulnerable people in terms of Resilience this Winter in the area.

Rubbish: It was reported that there is some rubbish by the Wooden Bridge from BT that needs lifting

EV Car Charger: It was noted that the UTCE has shown interest in land for EV Car Chargers and is on the Agenda for their Meeting.

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on 20 January 2020 in Broughton Village Hall.