

Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council Meeting, Wednesday 14th July 2021 at 7pm by Zoom

Minutes

Agenda		Action
1	<p>Apologies and Attendance: Apologies were received from M Black, J Virtue, S Fletcher, J Sutton (CDF); N Simpson (co V/C). In attendance were P Hood (Chair); K Nelson (Treasurer); S Hay (co V/C); D Bouchard; L Smith-Sheerin; K Tulloch (Secretary); R Laird; S Kennedy; M Given; J Fairbairn; Cllr Helen Laing; Cllr C Hamilton (in part) and 3 members of the public.</p>	
2	<p>No police report had been received, but KT will forward when it comes through.</p>	KT
3	<p>Agenda agreed and that Planning should be taken first due to attendance of members of the public.</p>	
4	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting were agreed as correct and signed. Thanks to D Bouchard, M Black and J Lister for their contributions to the CC – we are saddened to lose them. Condolences also go to N Simpson over his recent bereavement. An introduction of CC members and SBC Councillors was made for the benefit of new members.</p>	
7	<p>Planning:</p>	
7.1	<p>Provisional Planning Application 21/00997/PPP for house adjacent to West Mains Farm Steading, Old Cambus. Applicant was in attendance and offered to withdraw if required. There were no objections to this application from the CC or neighbours, and currently no objections on the idox. KT mentioned that under the Local Development Plan, housing in the countryside can be supported if it contributes to the economy, as this does. Applicant spoke briefly to this as well and the issues around the other application for 2 houses at Old Cambus. Cllr Laing reported on a similar application elsewhere, regarding additions to an existing building group, where a refusal on this basis was overturned. She mentioned that the fact there is lapsed planning permission for this site, this was a material consideration. KT will respond to SBC.</p>	KT
7.2	<p>Application to extend Pease Bay Leisure Park – 21/01081/FUL – PH said that this can't be decided tonight, and the Planning Sub Committee will take this forward, as neighbours are still being consulted. The road is a major issue and the additions will increase already difficult traffic conditions. Calculations don't support the addition of 3.5 jobs and this application (the third similar application) brings Pease Bay out of the "bowl". Impacts on visual amenity and on Old Linhead – will be explored. KN also mentioned impact on SUW crossing over this road. MG will liaise with other cottages adjacent to him. Impacts on Berwickshire Coastal Path, Hutton Route and Cycle route and difficulty getting access to farm at Linhead for farmers. Lack of contribution to local economy from visitors to Pease, apart from to Bowling Club, who will provide some figures re this. LSS said that many of those who stay on site during February are workers, and has some experience of working there. PH will also explore another local contact she has re this. SH asked if conditions may be imposed re improvements to the road and Cllr Laing said that Roads Dept would be statutory consultees on this. Last traffic measurement was carried out in the "off season". MoP commented that there is also parking over the far side of the ford which</p>	MG JF

	<p>created a hazard. MG mentioned that many of the verges have been damaged by cranes lifting lodges etc, on the Pease Bay road – he will alert his neighbours and KT will resend planning information to him. PH asked that anyone with any comments email her or KT with these, as soon as possible. MoP also asked about whether Verdant owned the beach – clarified this was Crown Property as all internal coastlines were. She felt that access to the beach for all was important, as it felt that Pease discouraged access to the beach for anyone other than surfers or holiday makers/residents. Date for submissions is 3rd August – PH will pass copies of papers to MG to enable him to liaise with them.</p>	<p>MG KT All</p>
7.3	<p>Additional planning item which came in today (21/01135/FUL) – replacement door at 3 The Square. This is at the rear of the Square and replaces an existing door. Agreed there were few grounds on which to object. KT will respond.</p>	<p>PH</p>
5	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
5.1	<p>Allotment update – circulated but LSS, MG and SK may not have copies. KT will check. Questions on poll re part time gardener and school garden are being responded to.</p>	<p>KT</p>
5.2	<p>Village Poll update – KT updated re second category and kiosk. Developer has kiosk available for next week – Wed, Thurs and Friday (21st to 23rd July) between 9am and 12 noon to facilitate non internet users have their say on the categories. Hall is booked and KT has keys. KT had been advertising this via the Post Office this morning. Next category will probably be a “Peoples’ Poll” one to mop up some of the issues raised already including those from Cove. KT is developing questions for this currently in JS’s absence.</p>	<p>KT</p>
5.3	<p>Cove – Village Poll questions – a meeting had been held on Monday 12th in Cove car park to listen to concerns. KT has done minutes and circulated to KN and PH for approval and will circulate after any amendments. KN said that residents were appreciative of the meeting and felt that the CC addressed the questions and why they were set up that way (binary choices). All questions had arisen from issues previously raised with the CC. Right to Roam was also discussed and KT is having a discussion soon with Access Officer. Emphasised that the results of the Poll will also identify things that are not wanted.</p>	<p>KT</p>
5.4	<p>Foodbank accounts – not yet available – to be circulated.</p>	<p>KT/JS</p>
5.5	<p>Cove Tunnel lighting – liaison with SBC, Bear and Cllr Laing re the separation of supply to enable SBC to take over the maintenance. KT had also highlighted that this is a route to schools to Bear. Cllr Laing will continue to request action from SBC.</p>	<p>Sept Cllr HL</p>
5.6	<p>Elections – timetable circulated as well as Guidance for CC Elections handbook by KT. Working back from 8th Sept, notices will go on boards and website within the next week. KT will email nomination forms to those that have intimated a desire to stand and have blank ones at the shop to be returned to Returning Officer by 11th August. KT explained that once nominations were in, we could decide whether we can form a CC, whether it is an uncontested election, or whether a public ballot is needed. Cllr Laing mentioned about press release – it isn’t necessary for us as we have local publicity etc and it is largely meant for CCs in abeyance. We know of 10 willing to stand currently. KT has all paperwork and is happy to be Returning Officer if the CC wish this – it was decided that she be</p>	

	nominated as Returning Officer. KT emphasised that nomination forms should be hand written and returned to her by 11 th August at 4pm. If people don't have electoral roll numbers, this can be added by SBC. Only one person can propose or second someone. Cllr Laing will open first meeting (provisionally 8 th Sept but may be delayed if a public ballot is required) until a Chair is appointed.	KT
5.7	School update – still issues and Cllr Laing has also been involved. Parents remain unhappy with 2 teacher model and composite classes. Due to current depute covering the head teacher role a temporary teacher will also be needed in Co'path, reducing continuity again. Nobody has so far come forward as a School rep to the CC nor intimated a willingness to join the Parents' Council. SH said that feelings were running high locally regarding this, with some parents considering moving their children to other schools. Cllr Laing is liaising with Officers within SBC over the issues at both Coldingham and Co'path and will feed back.	Cllr HL
5.8	Bike rack and barometer at Cove – KN is awaiting a date for installation of bike rack and has liaised with Officer at SBC. She will update.	KN
5.9	Wind farm benefits update – RL opened this asking if there was an appetite to have an informal meeting with Old Luce Community Council, who had experience of outsourcing the management of their wind farm benefits. She felt that a response "from the horses' mouth" would be helpful on this matter and the CC agreed. RL will take this forward during the semi purdah period of the CC, as there will be no decisions made until the new CC is in place. Recent members were updated on the current situation for information. KN and PH are continuing with work towards a quote from Foundation Scotland. KN had prepared an Excel spreadsheet updating the current windfarm spends over the last couple of years. Should this be shared with the website? KN will consider best information for the website to increase publicity and public knowledge. £171k had been spent on community issues since 2019, so we are supporting the community. KN mentioned that some of the funds available are ring fenced for caretaker etc and Kinegar funds used for CDF and Admin, plus IT. BHA funds of £4k are still in the "pot" for parking changes to Crofts Road, and this is something that is being consulted on in the current category of the Village Poll, and will come back on to the agenda once results of the poll are available. KN also commented that Foundation Scotland may be able to get projections re longevity of some of the windfarms to allow better forward planning. PH said that the management fee for administering the monies by an external body may be obtained from developers? PH raised potential difficulties with GDPR over publicising more information, but KN will have a think about how to do this over the next week.	RL KN/PH
5.10	Bird scarers – withdrawn as this has stopped being a nuisance currently. Complainant will mention again if it recurs.	KN
5.14	Cycle track – KT and SH are working on this and Caledonian Trust who own the land adjacent to the football field are willing to talk to us on this. Insurance could be an issue – Cllr Laing advised that Eyemouth had done similar work and will put us in touch with each other as insurance is a question amongst other issues.	KT/SH Cllr HL
5.11	Telephone box update – SH has emailed BT again re this as no visit has yet taken place to assess condition of the box. He will feed back.	SH

5.12	Cliff fence at Cove – held over due to NS apologies.	Sept
5.13	Train noise – continue to monitor but currently less of an issue.	
5.15	Pease Bay to Cove SUW cutting – in dire need of work. KN, KT, SH and members of the public have contacted SBC. Danger of tics also as grass is very high at present. KN said grass is up to her ears at 5 ft tall! There are volunteers willing to help trim the area, but we don't wish to step on Rangers' toes and create a precedent. It's not possible for the tractor to cut this area, as it's too dangerous. PH has had people knocking on her door asking where the SUW is as paths are so long and some signage obliterated. Cllr HL with raise with Officers. Public toilets are not yet reopened and there is no update on this at the moment. Cllr Laing will take this forward.	Cllr HL Cllr HL
5.16	Coldingham Surgery – there hasn't been any feedback on this from Co'path residents so far, although it can be included in the Village Poll. At Cove meeting on Monday however, it had been mentioned – KN will investigate whether there is an appetite to feed back to NHS from this community. Cllr Laing mentioned contact from Coldingham and Reston CCs on this and she has written to NHS Borders but had a fairly bland response from them. Discussed difficulties getting appointments at Eyemouth, where the Practice Manager had denied issues with staff shortages. Lone working and lack of ability to provide a full range of clinical services from Coldingham are spurious. Consultation period is too short also as people are on holiday at this time. Cllr Laing has also contacted MSPs and MPs are also involved. Also discussed ability of Co'path shop to host a prescription service, but this is currently uncertain. Currently a volunteer gets scripts from Coldingham and can deliver to shop but relies on the good will of a volunteer.	KN
6	Correspondence – circulated.	
6.1	Eastern Link meeting – this has not yet been rearranged and DB will inform us if there is a further meeting proposed.	DB
7	Planning – taken early – see above.	
8	SBCCN/BAP – no updates at this time.	
9	SBC Councillor – an application under Small Schemes has been approved for 8 new grit bins locally, which has been welcomed. SH would like to keep the best ones left over to revamp them. Cllr Laing will investigate if this is possible.	Cllr HL
10	CC member issues – SH – caretaker role – cutting of right of way between Pathhead Farm and School, which is not on paths grant area. He will look at this and assess whether some service could be offered even once a year, so that it can continue to be locally maintained thereafter. PH referred to the issue with tics and the need to maintain cutting. SH – to Cllr Laing – steps between Croftsacre and Crofts Road – no response to this yet from BHA. Cllr Laing will follow this up PH – no feedback from BHA re the purchase of garages. This is up to BHA to progress. LSS, SK , had no issues to raise. JF – thanked PH for being the Chair and for her support over the last 8 years KT confirmed that PH could stand for Chair again, so long as she is an elected member of the CC. This information has been obtained from SBC.	SH Cllr HL

<p>11</p>	<p>PH said that CC Scheme stated that property and funds would be transferred and vested in SBC should the CC be dissolved. Cllr Laing said that the idea was that once a CC was re-established funds would be returned. She will clarify this via the Scheme Review and whether it would apply to wind farm monies as they generally cannot be used for statutory requirements. Whilst the CC admin funds can be taken over by SBC, it is uncertain whether wind farm monies would suffer the same fate.</p> <p>KN has mentioned to members of the community, that if a CC wasn't in operation, they may lose control of the wind farm monies.</p> <p>KN is away for a couple of weeks but has passed cheque books etc to PH in her absence.</p> <p>KT said she was happy to continue as secretary (co-opted) until the end of the year.</p> <p>DB – hosting the defib at his fence – this will continue. SK will continue to keep an eye on the defib as part of the Community First Responders' Scheme.</p> <p>Member of the public re dust in village – complaint from member of the public – aimed at quarry dust but not certain that the dust isn't coming off fields. Reminder however to quarry re damping stuff down. SH said that much of the dust recently had been field dust and commented on dust over the weekend which he had seen coming off the fields. Also advice to MoP re Environmental Health involvement and the need to keep a diary. The CC will support as required. KT will feed back to MoP.</p> <p>Agreed to send thank you cards to JL, MB and DB who have/are standing down. KT will facilitate</p> <p>The Community Council formally stood down at this point and nominations can now take place for CC members. KT will facilitate. There is therefore no formal meeting date for the next CC as it will depend on whether there is a need for a public ballot or not. Provisional date is 8th Sept 2021.</p>	<p>Cllr HL</p> <p>DB/SK</p> <p>KT</p> <p>KT</p> <p>KT</p>
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