

**Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council Meeting, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7pm in  
Cockburnspath Bowling Club**

**Minutes**

Agenda item		Action
1	<b>Apologies and Attendance:</b> Apologies were received from K Nelson (Treasurer), C Morrison and retrospectively from L Smith Sheerin. In attendance were P Hood (Chair); R Laird (V/Chair); S Hay (V/Chair); N Simpson; J Virtue; J Fairbairn; J Sutton (CDF); M Given; S Fletcher; S Kennedy; Cllr H Laing; Cllr J Fullarton; 1 member of the public.	
2	<b>Police Reports:</b> Good that one had been received but nothing of note locally. <b>Grit bins</b> – SH asked Cllr Laing to chase up replacement grit bins.	Cllr HL
3	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> – agreed and signed.	
4	<b>Agreement of agenda items</b> – agreed	
5	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
5.1	<b>Playpark fencing</b> – Caretaker, volunteer and SBC officers had visited the playpark. Agreed that work needed to take place and officers will replace within the next two weeks. Officers agreed it was unsafe. CM and SH have placed a gate on the vehicle access and blocked up the pedestrian gate in the meantime, pending SBC works. School delighted. Maintenance to be carried out on equipment by SBC. Await upgrade before considering any lease of playpark to community.	Nov
5.2	<b>Fencing of Football field</b> – CM and SH are working on this and JS is preparing an application to Fallago Rig for funds (external to CC funds). Approved at last Village Hall Committee (VHC) meeting. Await results of application to Fallago Rig. If unsuccessful, then an application may come in front of the CC from the VHC. The CC is grateful for the assistance of CM.	JS
5.3	<b>Village Poll</b> – new category has generated some further interest – see newsletter around community. (People’s Poll). NS said that many were not engaging due to “technical issues”. PH confirmed that the tablet format was available in the Village Hall. KT asked NS to get people who are experiencing technical issues to contact her or JS. If we don’t know that they are having issues, we can’t help them.	
5.4	<b>CDF expenses</b> – a cheque for £500 was reissued.	
5.5	<b>Role of CDF/Caretaker moving forward</b> – Appointed person – KT feels that as she is removing herself from CC, an appointed contact point was needed. CDF role is subject of separate meeting.	
5.6	<b>Wind Farm Community Benefit update</b> – KN not available, but has provided an update. Meeting on 14 <sup>th</sup> October to discuss. Paths Grant has been paid.	PH/KN KT
5.7	<b>Aikengall Green applications</b> – KT explained that £25k is supposed to be allocated to householder green applications for energy saving or renewables. Will use Be Green figures for funding, and all will be in the next newsletter. Aikengall have agreed that retrospective claims can be made (due to COVID and contract delays) until Nov 21. Newsletter will contain such info, and also information on wind farm funds available. New application form for green applications has been drafted. Cllr JF discussed some potential projects which may qualify. KT to send info for newsletter to JS. <i>(Inaudible discussion re FITs).</i>	KT

5.8	<p><b>Co’path Telephone Box</b> – this has not been used for a single call in the last 6 months. It is the subject of review by BT in February, but we fear it may be closed. However, there is a case to be made to retain it. Vicious circle of it not being used and the fact it is so dirty that people don’t want to use it. We are not, as a community, allowed to upgrade/paint it. To monitor. SH is contact point. It could be seen as a Res Comms issue. There is a scheme “Adopt a Telephone Box” – to consider pending results from February 2022 review.</p>	Feb 22
5.9	<p><b>Co’path Public Toilets</b> – have reopened. Cllr Laing will check re potential closure date of end October – we would prefer that these were kept open for trades people, delivery people, visitors etc. Some complaints of people using the bus shelter at Grantshouse as a urinal – direct to nearest toilet which is currently Co’path. In other areas, the public toilets are manned by volunteers. CC feel that the toilets are still being used on a regular basis and should remain open. Cllr JF discussed some other rural areas which have either purchased their public toilets, or run them voluntarily as part of shops/restaurants etc. SBC have approached us in the past about taking this service over, but it was recognised that it is a big commitment. There is also an “Adopt a Toilet” scheme. PH asked for details of how much SBC pay their cleaners per annum but this wasn’t available at this time.</p>	Cllr HL
5.10	<p><b>Clarification of funds under CC Review Scheme</b> – cf to November.</p>	Nov
5.11	<p><b>Litter picks</b> – agreed this was necessary at times, but Bear Scotland to be contacted re rubbish on roundabout. SBC are responsible for litter off the trunk roads. Start with Caretaker analysis.</p>	
5.12	<p><b>Facebook management in the future</b> – KT confirmed that a member of the public has taken this over, and she had also agreed to take on the emails from the secretary account, which in turn informs some items on the agenda. We hope to approach her about agenda production in the future.</p>	
5.13	<p><b>Secretary role moving forward</b> – PH started the discussion re KT’s departure and the need for someone to shadow her to see what is involved. Suggested this is renamed “administrator”. KT had provided PH with a breakdown of “duties”. KT is willing to carry on with planning applications in the short term and PH asked for volunteers to take up sections of KT’s responsibilities now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Connections with SBC officers – SH will take over liaison with officers on aspects of his Caretaker role and will be assisted by MG.</li> <li>ii) RL will take over Torness liaison group and liaison with Torness CNC.</li> <li>iii) NS will continue with Viridor liaison and Res Comms contact. KT will contact Officer to inform.</li> <li>iv) Minutes – NS suggested JS but she is busy, and is only contracted until August 2022. Although she owes some hours at present, it was decided that this should be carried out by a member of the CC. NS will consider taking this on. Cf.</li> <li>v) JS asked for KT’s role to be divided into “chunks” and PH said this had already been done.</li> </ul>	SH MG RL NS
	<p>Cf to November – PH will split up the “tasks” and circulate prior to next meeting.</p>	?NS/Nov PH

<b>6</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Resilient Communities</b> – KT suggested SH/NS be the new contact points for this. NS will take this on. Explained that this role is a contact point, and that a “tree” of contacts for various roles in terms of resilience is established. PH mentioned that Co’path Village Hall is the largest hall in the area as a “rest centre” in emergencies. KT and SF said that during Covid, a network of volunteers had been set up eg prescriptions, shopping etc. This can be built upon. CM and other farmers may be willing to assist with road clearance in bad weather, but would need to be contained under SBC insurance. A lot of lessons had been learned during the pandemic and it was acknowledged that we now had good foundations to build on. KT will contact Officer at SBC to advise. NB need to speak to SBC re road clearance and whether CM and MoP are willing to be involved.	NS  KT
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Eastern Link update</b> – circulated. No further comments.	
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Housing Strategy</b> – KT, PH and RL will take this on together to respond. By end November. These three will meet to discuss.	KT/RL PH
<b>7</b>	<b>Funding applications</b> (taken in reverse order!)	
<b>7.9</b>	<b>Application from S Fletcher for funding for Climate Change action group</b> – subject to paperwork being received, this was agreed in principle. <i>[Editorial comment – received 14.10.21 and circulated]</i> . Award of £50 unanimously agreed. KN/KT to action.	KN
<b>7.8</b>	<b>Coldingham Surgery questionnaire</b> – JS described potential plans for Coldingham Surgery to be turned into a Wellness Centre, and asked for funds towards printing of questionnaires for all potentially affected CC areas. The building is owned by Eyemouth Medical Practice, who intend to sell the building. The question is whether the communities affected wish to see this turned into a Wellness Centre. The contribution towards printing costs for this community’s questionnaire was agreed unanimously at £80 pending paperwork being received. (Posters and house to house surveys). Eventual plan subject to results of the survey would involve purchasing the building as a CBS amongst all CCs in agreement who would each purchase shares in it. Cllr JF suggested that change of use may not be required. SH asked about how people are coping with appts at Eyemouth – one person was offered an appointment in 6 weeks time and changed to Dunbar, seeing a GP the next day. Many people here have changed to Dunbar practices. JS said that if this succeeds GPs may agree to hold some surgeries in the building. KT added that a member of the public had said that they were collecting prescriptions from Eyemouth pharmacy each Friday, and that her views were that pharmacy in Eyemouth may consider deliveries to Co’path. Approved unanimously subject to paperwork being received. (£80).	JS/KN
<b>7.7</b>	<b>Wednesday Club Christmas vouchers</b> – approved unanimously at £240 to cover £20 vouchers for each member. JV showed the CC accounts for the previous year.	KT/KN
<b>7.6</b>	<b>Defibrillator battery and pads</b> – SK has now purchased these items and the application is for £426 was unanimously agreed. Payable to S Kennedy.	KT/KN
<b>7.5</b>	<b>Christmas tree</b> – wanted for The Square and for Cove. KT will organise and confirm costs. <i>[Editorial comment: 1 x 15 ft Spruce and 1 x 6 ft Spruce delivered on 29<sup>th</sup> November at total cost of £112]</i> Agreed unanimously. Some discussion around voltage required for further Christmas lights around Square and other areas. Complications with getting power supplies	KT

	elsewhere. SH is looking into speaking to households re extending power supplies.	SH
<b>7.4</b>	<b>Borehole application</b> – A payment grant from SBC is anticipated to cover £8000 of such costs, to supply bore hold water to 10 units locally. Agreed to cover the remainder of the costs for this up to the level of the estimate. Total costs = £11295 minus £8000 assumed grant = £3295. <b>(Please see update in email)</b>	ALL
	This was unanimously agreed and should probably come from either Ferneylea or Fishermen 3. It was noted that some of the people most affected by this issue are vulnerable.	
<b>7.3</b>	<b>Playpark fencing</b> – agreed to reimburse cost of £292 to CM for large gate at playpark. Unanimously agreed by all.	KT/KN
<b>7.2</b>	<b>Fencing to football field</b> – JS is applying for Fallago Rig funding for this and is in discussion with CM re costs. (£2000). Should the Fallago application fail, the Village Hall Committee could make an application to CC held funds. Cf Nov.	JS Nov
<b>7.1</b>	<b>Revision to printing funds for CAP</b> – updated application had been received. Agreed amount at £1500 subject to any funds over being repaid. Unanimously agreed.	KT/KN JS
<b>Addn item</b>	Member of the public moving to Coldingham informed the CC about her plans to create digital story telling locally. She added that such stories are valuable anthropologically and historically. This is now becoming a global event. Visit Scotland are keen to look at some funding of this to promote the area eg to provide a laptop for recording. There is a similar project with school children but this is about adult stories. The CC agreed that they would like to hear more about this project moving forwards. PH said that something like this could be included in a community newsletter and MoP will prepare a paragraph for JS to include. RL asked about how such stories were shared after filming/telling and MoP added that Vimeo was a good platform for such items. MoP directed to some key people in the community. Cllr Laing would like details for work with people with dementia and offer potential opportunity to joint work.	JS MoP/JS Cllr HL
<b>8</b>	<b>Planning</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>Planning application 21/01545/FUL</b> had been received. The applicant's response to objectors, including the CC had previously been circulated. As issues concerning heritage and design, proximity to sensitive receptors, rights of way and permissive customary paths had been resolved in the new application, as well as confirmation of repair of bridge, access and roadway, the CC agreed it would offer no objection to this new application. However, it was noted that trees to be removed should be detailed on the application.	KT
	PH also discussed the Pease Bay comments from agents. KT confirmed that she had sent in a response to say that our concerns remained.	
<b>9</b>	<b>SBCCN/BAP feedback</b> - PH had been unable to connect to the SBCCN meeting and minutes are awaited. Berwickshire Area Partnership – JS has sent out minutes. (inaudible discussion)	
<b>10</b>	<b>SBC Councillor update</b> <b>Cllr JF</b> – A1 action group held a meeting in Haddington; RAGES (Reston railway) has an AGM on 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct. Feedback and pressure to ensure enough trains stop at Reston is needed. Currently 5 x Transpennine, and potentially further trains from Scot Rail.	

<p>11</p>	<p>Cllr Laing – Place Making Consultation closing 25<sup>th</sup> Oct – PH will action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 20mph limit consultation – demonstrated average speeds had reduced from 25 to 22 mph which has a significant effect on lowering injuries from RTCs. Proportion of vehicles speeding had also reduced. Cllr Laing will request info from Officer regarding speed reduction signage which have featured heavily in the Poll. However, these haven’t been shown to be majorly effective in speed reduction. KT said that the short nature of the 20 mph here meant that people are less aware of the 20 limit in other longer stretches. It may be that we will have to fund these ourselves. Cf Nov.</li> <li>- New Greenspace Officer – Amy Alcorn at SBC. Potential useful link over allotments. Cllr HL will confirm email contact.</li> <li>- New business development officer has fed back re directional sign for the new shop which is required in The Square. Cllr HL will send Officer’s contact details to JS to pass to shop team. JS also mentioned that the shop did not require permission for the banners in adjoining fields which advertise the shop.</li> </ul> <p><b>CC member feedback incorporating Members of the Public feedback:</b></p> <p>NS – asked if anyone had experienced brown rust spots on white paintwork locally. Wondered if this came from quarry or fields?</p> <p>SH – Dog poo issues and confirmed that both the Shop and Village Hall were in favour of CCTV being installed. Dog waste continues to be a huge issue on the football field particularly.</p> <p>KT – had received a complaint about the state of the SUW compared to other walkways/paths in England. There had been a lot of grass growing this season, which has contributed. NS said that in places the path really needed to be re-routed to enable effective maintenance. MG added that the steps at the waterfall close to Old Linhead were also broken. The wire covering them is broken and dangerous to animals’ paws. Cllrs HL and JF will pass this to Officers.</p> <p>KT – had received a complaint from member of the public regarding planning required for “residential units” at Old Cambus Quarry. She had passed this to Planning Officer and in turn, this has been passed to Enforcement Officers.</p> <p>It was broadly agreed that a mixed meeting between face to face and zoom had worked quite well and member of public was thanked for their assistance over setting this up.</p> <p><b>There being no further business the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7pm. Venue etc to be confirmed.</b></p>	<p>PH</p> <p>Cllr HL</p> <p>Nov</p> <p>Cllr HL</p> <p>Cllr HL</p> <p>SH</p> <p>Cllrs HL and JF</p>
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