

## **Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council Meeting, Wednesday 8th June , 2022**

**in the Village Hall at 7pm.**

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Apologies and Attendance.**

Apologies were received from M. Given, S. Hay and J. Fairbairn.

In Attendance were: P. Hood (Chair); R. Laird (Co-Vice Chair); S. Kennedy; C. Morrison; S. Fletcher Rev) (in part); J. Sutton (CDF); J. Morton (Sec); J. Virtue; A. Orr (Cllr); J. Anderson (Cllr); S. Boyd (CNC) (in part)

#### **2. Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

Signed and approved. PH checked everyone was happy for the meeting to be recorded.

Introduction from the two new Councillors. A. Orr and J. Anderson. PH explained to the new Councillors the CC. Each CC member introduced themselves and roles within the CC.

PH outlined the background of the Community Action Plan that had been prepared using the Internet because of Covid, as well as in person sessions for those not using the Internet.

KN explained projects were mainly small until the Village Shop. In view of the CAP we hope for more and bigger projects being pursued by the Community which will require even more due diligence as far as Community Funding is concerned.

#### **3. Actions.**

Reviewed. See separate table.

#### **4. Police Reports.** Introduction from S. Boyd (CNC) responsible for armed protection of the site and surrounding communities.

Torness Power Station is in the middle of an Outage, with increased presence on site and footfall. Increased footfall means increased Police patrols. There will be increased traffic, nothing to be concerned about, it is all part of the course. The CNC are expecting more officers to join the unit. In the summer they have one officer transferring from Police Scotland to further boost numbers. CNC are continuing to work with Police Scotland. Once adequately staffed, there will be joint patrols and immediate response to incidences. This has always been the case, but will be able to attend more reactive incidents than patrolling. We patrol Cockburnspath and Cove, Innerwick and up to Dunbar. There have been a couple of broken down vehicles on the A1. A Lorry broke

down 2 weeks ago on the roundabout. Undertook traffic management and no injuries to report. There was a car crash at the site entrance yesterday (7/6/22), 2 vehicles involved. Thankfully no serious injuries, currently being investigated. A reminder to all, please slow down when approaching the entrance to the site, stay mindful as it is quite a treacherous one.

Officers are now equipped with body video cameras for evidentiary evidence and Police as well as public safety. These will not be switched on unless an Officer feels it is necessary and will always tell you if they are going to record you. The Gala day has been passed onto the Sergeants to try and get a Police Car to come to the Gala day. Any incidents should still be reported to 111 or 999 if required.

JS mentioned a comment in the CAP that it is not the duty of CNC to patrol the Village. S. Boyd will do a small piece for the Newsletter.

**5. Funding applications emailed to all CC Members, Cllr Orr and Anderson prior to the meeting.**

- at
- 5.1 J. Virtue funding application for the Wednesday Club to attend an afternoon tea at the Garden Centre Dunbar for £160.00. Unanimously agreed.
  - 5.2 Village Shop application for essential fridges and freezer to be replaced as the current ones were from the old shop and close to failing. The application was presented by KN on the Shop's behalf. Quotes made for the equipment. The application is for £2069.00, the Shop will pay an Electrician to fit and will provide £100 towards the costs. The fluctuation of the Shops money was shown to KN. Unanimously agreed. A member of the Shop Management thanked the CC on behalf of the Shop

**6. SBC Councillor Reports.**

A. Orr (Cllr) mentioned how important it is for bringing onboard members of the Community in any Community setting, especially the next generation for the future of any CC.

J. Anderson (Cllr) mentioned that we have a very good, healthy and competent CC and should be very proud of how well we all work together for the Community. Both Councillors complimented the CC.

KN mentioned as we are coming out of Covid, things are all starting up again. The Caretaker is doing a fantastic job. Thanks were given to SH, CM and Ben on the fantastic job done on the fence around the play field. Wednesday Club, Flower Show, Bridge Club, the Allotments, Community Garden and Wellness activities were all proving

to be successful and well attended. The Green Initiative is coming together. The WI will start up again in September and have booked guest speakers to talk about plants and how to grow them.

J. Anderson (Cllr) The Floral Gateway Awards is now the Floral Greener Gateway Awards. The difference with these awards is they now have awards in different sections. So nobody leaves without something. The Citizens Advice Bureau are looking for experienced people to join them. Full training will be provided. They are also looking for Board Members again training will be provided.

## **7. Community Councillor Reports.**

### **7.1 Chair.**

The Mercat Cross is a listed structure and is becoming a cause for concern as some parts are becoming very weather worn. At the moment its ownership is unclear as it does not belong to SBC or Historic Scotland. If there isn't definable ownership then we need to think about taking ownership. KT has spoken to SBC experts to find out how we can attempt to repair the Mercat Cross, as without ownership it is very difficult to repair a listed structure. A. Orr (Cllr) will let us know re: funding/trust. SF has asked the Church and they do not have ownership.

Pingo a new on demand bus service run by Borders buses. If we don't use it we will lose it.

### **7.2 Treasurer report June 2022.**

#### **CDF and Kinegar funding - to August 2022**

Jenny was engaged by CC primarily for a community action plan. The CAP is intended to enable the Community to have their say and capture their views and so as to provide a basis for obtaining external funding.

**CDF** - Kinegar funds of approx £18k annually conclude in August 2022. So I feel a separate meeting is required to discuss how best to use the hours Jennie has outstanding for the CC and to forward plan we can address the three typical questions. Where are we now? Where do we want to be? And How are we going to get there? With the CAP and CAF. Suggesting that PH, KN and JS have a meeting in the first instance?

However the challenge is that there is not a CC meeting in July and therefore it may be August before the CC are together to discuss as a group.

Admin support paid to Kate for CAP has ended. Kate kindly prepared an update for Kinegar as to where we are now with the CAP.

## **IT Support and Kinegar Funding.**

IT Support to Alan Gribben will conclude in July. Alan's role to support the Village Poll and our CC Website has come to an end. It is hoped that Alan might continue to upload the Minutes and Agenda to the Website on a voluntary basis but not yet confirmed. Hopefully one of our CC team, or a member of our Community will step up if Alan is unable to continue.

## **Treasurer Role**

Meeting with local bookkeeper as potential treasurer support arranged for Tuesday 7th June.

## **BeGreen**

Further to the separate meeting on May 30th I will follow up on actions with Anouska and Rob Fryer (BeGreen - Aikengall - Community Windpower), KN will follow up. End of Year report for Aikengall to be submitted. Spend details shared at the May 30th meeting show the main support from Aikengall community grants this year is the Digital Development for the Village Poll and the defib maintenance.

## **Caretaker**

Caretaker standing order of £1750 per month in place. May paid by cheque and further 9 months by Standing Order. Invoices received on a monthly basis to give a record of the Expenditure Caretaker Expenses of £500 paid 30 May. How will this be recorded? Summary invoice perhaps, just showing the total and noted minutes of the next CC meeting?

## **Wellness Funding**

The £31,835 for Wellness Funding (CDF Project) was received on 14th April into our Run The Council Account.

JS (CDF) will manage these funds with the Wellness team. For now the CDF will draw down on the funds from the CC (£2,000 paid to date) and will detail spend monthly to the Wellness team. As the funds were applied for in the name of the CC, JS will report to the CC on summary spend and project updates as well as reporting to the Dumfries and Galloway TSDG who allocated the funds. Regular report to Dumfries and Galloway TSDG is part of the T&C's of the grant.

## **Bank Balances**

Run the Council Account 27/04/2022 £38,119.03.

Note this includes approx £32k Wellness fund and approx £4k from Fernylea. Both to be transferred to the Benefits Account.

Benefits Account Statement Date 29/04/2022 £308,695.88.

Note this includes ring fenced Caretaker £54k for three years support.

### 7.3 Co-Vice Chair RL

**BeGreen Update** - RL We had a meeting on Monday 30th May 2022. We receive windfarm money from Aikengall. We have to use £25,000 for energy improvements. The other £25,000 is for community funding. The meeting was to decide how to utilise the energy grants. Aikengall have an office in Dunbar called BeGreen. They utilise grants for energy and renewables in the Dunbar area. They constantly have enquiries from residents in Cockburnspath. From the meeting we set up a sub group consisting of RL, CM, SH to look at our way forward with the grants. We discussed the amount of money we would put towards these grants. (Once finalised this will be made clear to everyone and advertised.)

We also looked at what else could come under an energy grant. A meeting will be held with BeGreen on Friday 10th June. (action RL,KN update). We would like to use BeGreen to administer our energy grants, these amounts will differ from the amounts they use for Dunbar. Subject to Aikengall agreeing to this. PH thanked the members of the sub group.

### 7.4 Community Development Facilitator (CDF) JS

#### **Community Action Plan, CAP**

This is waiting for a final edit and then will be printed for the community to peruse through. Unfortunately, the copy that was distributed was slightly out of sync in terms of layout although content is accurate.

Plans for the next three months. JS anticipates she will help the Shop and Village hall to work together and explore, EV point, car park markings, Village Hall configuration, canopy for the shop, and potentially moving the toddler park.

Explore tourism, pathways, suw, unesco site of Siccar Point, Cove car parking and interpretation boards. This will be about pulling partners together and looking at a sustainable way of ensuring aspects move forward.

#### Village Hall

This small committed committee are working very hard to get systems and processes in place alongside BAVs. Looking at recruiting a cleaner, caretaker and a caterer to offer weekly cafe facilities.

As mentioned, looking at ways of reorganising the space to offer more facilities. An architect has been appointed for ideas and the CAP will assist in that too.

#### Jubilee celebrations

This was very welcomed. Lots of volunteer hours put in to ensure it was a success.

The Wellness Events.

The bereavement support course is almost at an end, it's been very informative and those who want to support Suzie will be well equipped with Suzie's guidance.

Walking Football has kicked off and it's open to all Women over 40 and Men over 50.

Other events planned, painting, stain glass making, yoga, parent space and JS attendance on the Hicc programme to train volunteers to perhaps set up a befriending and low level social care delivery.

The Gala too is planned on the 18th, volunteers to help would be useful. Ie. Teas, logistics, collecting and setting up gazebos.

The next Newsletter is due in July, any items please forward.

## **7.5 Planning Report**

Validating Applications:

22/00793/FUL | Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse | 1 Hoprig Square Cockburnspath Scottish Borders TD13 5YX - This a repeat application with slight variations on one that was withdrawn last year. SK has been in touch with the neighbours affected and have asked them to put in their comments. Comments closed on 6th June,

Decisions: None.

### **Community First Responder**

New defibrillator installed at the Church Hall and new pads installed at the Bowling Club defibrillator. Batteries to be replaced at Cove, funding will be applied for.

## **7.6 Secretary**

The collapsed Manhole in Hoprig Road, if not replaced by the end of the week this will be chased.

KN confirmed all the cheques for last month's funding request had been done.

## **7.7 S. Fletcher -**

The Picnic in the Park was a huge success with an attendance of 80+ people of all age ranges. Everyone enjoyed themselves and it was lovely to see the Community coming together again.

SF we had a really good Jubilee Lunch and Picnic and have our Gala Day on Saturday 18th June. Photos to follow. The Bereavement course has gone very well and I am hoping to have 6 or 7 continue after the last session on 15th June. The Guides helped to place all the signs around the Village, thanks were given. The Guides did interviews with people around in previous Jubilees. The children from the Primary School including the Nursery made a wonderful display in the hall for the Jubilee. Thanks were given.

## **8. A.O.B**

A member of the public wrote a card to thank JS and the CC for the Jubilee Lunch.

JS Thanked S.H, CM and Ben for the fantastic job done on the fence at the playing fields, this took two and a half days to complete. Thanks to Crystal Rig for funding this project.

JS. An EV site for the shop and future tourists. CM has found a grant for 75% affiliated to tourism. We would need to find funding for the other 25%. The Shop Committee is happy for this. We are currently looking at a fast charger. The Village Hall Committee is also happy for this. The Village Hall has raised concerns about parking. They have asked for car parking bays. PH - the CC are happy to fund the 25%. Unanimously agreed. Action JS/CM.

Marion thanked the CC on behalf of the Shop for agreeing to their funding request.

**The next meeting of Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council will be held on  
Wednesday 10th August 2022, at 7pm in the Village Hall.**

