

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2011 in Ayton Community Hall

PRESENT	Michael Cook (SBC)	MC	Norman Robertson	NR
	Dick Noble	DN	Ian Logan	IL
	Rob Weatherston	RW	Kenny Combe	KC
	Graham Dolan	GD	Raymond Allan	RA
	Rob Boyd	RB	Paul Wilson	PW

RW chaired the meeting.

Also present: John Slater (**JS**) and Paul Priestman (**PP**)

ITEMS**Action****1 Police Report**

CPO Kirsty Nash attended but had to leave before the meeting started due to an urgent call. During the past month the police had 13 calls for service. 8 of these related to traffic matters, 3 were for advice, 1 regarding an alarm and 1 about the police drop in surgery. There had been 5 recorded traffic crimes, all of which were detected.

The Scottish Government's 'Gear Up For Winter' campaign had started and vehicles were being checked for roadworthiness. Householders are being urged to prepare for winter weather.

Operation Gremlin was ongoing, preventing the sale of bangers, flour and eggs in the run up to Hallowe'en and bonfire night. The police were also seeking information on possible bonfires, so that advice could be given.

Posters were distributed for another campaign, 'Made From Crime', where the public are encouraged to contact Crimestoppers if people they know seem to be living well above their means and may be involved in crime.

2 Open Forum

No topics were raised.

3 Apologies for Absence

None

4 Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on 4th October were approved without comment. Approval – proposed by RB, seconded by DN.

5 Membership

John Slater and Paul Priestman were co-opted on to the CC.

6 Matters Arising from Minutes

- **Peelwalls Corner** SBC had painted a new road boundary line on the outside of the corner.
- **Blackmains Wind Farm** All members received a brochure produced by those opposed to the wind farm. The idea of the CC organising a referendum to gauge local opinion was discussed. This is to be considered at future meetings.
- **Edinburgh Buses via Ayton** SBC questionnaires completed by residents had been returned to the transport department.
- **Keep Ayton Tidy/Floral Gateway** RW and RB attended the Berwickshire Civic Society AGM and received Keep Berwickshire Tidy award for the tidiest town or village in Berwickshire. AEG had planted crocuses at the north end.
- **Drone Moss** There had been no further progress: MC is still investigating the legal aspect of past and current feuars.

- **Christmas Lights** The permanent power supply for the Christmas tree had been fitted on Clock Tower House. The cost of this will probably be met from the SBC small grant scheme, through SB Local. RB to contact SB Local. It was decided not to purchase any other lights in the meantime. GD and DN agreed to check the lights on the clock tower. **RB
GD
DN**
- **Pathway from High Street to Playing Field** The pathway has now been made accessible. At some point it will be properly surfaced and connected to the existing path in the field.
- **Trees in Playing Field** RB to report to Ayton Enhancement Group regarding where trees may and may not be planted. **RB**
- **Missing Bench** The missing bench at the entrance to Lawfield Drive had been beyond repair and had been replaced by SB Local.
- **Request for Bin** A new bin had been sited near the bridge over the Eye Water.
- **Horse Field** Police had dealt with the matter.
- **Remembrance Sunday** NR had purchased a commemorative wreath.

7 Councillor's Report

MC reported that a planning application to build a wind farm with 15 turbines at Penmansheil had been lodged with SBC.

The new SBC waste collection calendar had been circulated.

SBC had recently appointed a new Chief Executive, Tracy Logan.

The 2012 Borders Walking Festival is to be based in Eyemouth.

The CC congratulated MC on being shortlisted for the Scottish Local Government Politician of the Year.

8 Treasurer's Report

The accounts for the past three years had been audited and the 'books' handed over to the new Treasurer (NR). Account signatories had been updated. The audited accounts had been submitted to SBC. It was noted that the CC grant for the 2009/10 financial year could not now be paid as audited accounts were not submitted by the required deadline.

The current bank account figures are: Treasurer's Account £535.45; Project Account £616.25.

It was agreed that GD would organise a gift for the auditor. **GD**

SBC had requested that all community councillors agree to the *Code of Conduct for Community Councils*. A copy was signed by all 11 councillors who agreed to adhere to the Code.

9 Planning Applications

Land South of Bleachfield, Beanburn – Siting of Caravan, Erection of Stable Block and Construction of Septic Tank. The CC agreed to 'No comment' on condition that the caravan was not to be used on a permanent basis. **GD**

10 Relevant Correspondence and Emails

Queen's Diamond Jubilee - Letter from the Lord Lieutenant about various plans locally and nationally to celebrate the occasion.

SB Elder Voice Newsletter

ASCCs - Various Newsletters

SBC Winter Code

Drone Hill Wind Farm - Various communications regarding transport

BCCF – Minutes *JS agreed to attend the next meeting. **JS**

SB Draft Housing Strategy Consultation

SBC Scrutiny Committee – Invitation to suggest issues

Commission on Rural Education – Call for Evidence

Invitation – Planning Aid Scotland

ESSsc South East – various energy saving offers and ideas.

SBC – Tree Works in Ayton Area

SBC Community Resilience Initiative – To be discussed at next meeting.

11 **AOCB**

Leaking Sewage PP reported that the manhole outside 'Dunclatha' on the High Street had been leaking sewage. Scottish Water had been informed.

RAGES A request had been received for a letter from ACC supporting RAGES. This had been discussed by RW and GD and had been sent.

Fallen Branch PP had contacted SBC regarding a branch blocking the footpath at the north end of the village.

Community Hall GD advised the CC that the community hall is shortly to have acoustic panels fitted which will alleviate the reverberation problem.

12 **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 6th December at 7.30pm in Ayton Community Hall