

**Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 7th February 2012 in Ayton Community Hall**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Rob Weatherston	<b>RW</b>	Norman Robertson	<b>NR</b>
	Dick Noble	<b>DN</b>	Rob Boyd	<b>RB</b>
	Graham Dolan	<b>GD</b>	Kenny Combe	<b>KC</b>
	John Slater	<b>JS</b>	Paul Priestman	<b>PP</b>
	Michael Cook (SBC)	<b>MC</b>		

6 residents attended the meeting.

RW chaired the meeting.

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

CPO Alan Richardson was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report.

There had been 18 calls to the village over the past 2 months.

A house was searched under a drugs warrant and a large cannabis growing operation was discovered. 4 people have appeared in court as a result.

A vehicle was damaged in the Crofts over the Christmas period.

A vehicle was seized from a youth following antisocial driving in the High Street.

2 incidents occurred on the B6355 road between Ayton and Chirnside

There had been several calls related to bad weather and some alarm calls.

A number of road checks (speed checks, checks for travelling criminals, drink driving checks and defective vehicle checks) had been carried out.

The No Cold Calling Zone initiative which was piloted in Ayton is to be introduced to other Berwickshire villages.

The police targets for the next period include drivers using mobile phones while driving, prevention of fuel and metal and vehicle theft, including quad bikes.

**2 Open Forum**

**Queen's Diamond Jubilee** Some residents were keen to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by planting a special royal oak tree, available from the Woodland Trust. The CC agreed to purchase a sapling and to pay for a protective fence. GD to order. The siting of the tree to be negotiated with Ayton Enhancement Group. A free pack of 105 mixed Jubilee saplings has been ordered by the CC for planting by AEG. **GD**

The SWRI, in conjunction with the Young Mothers' Group, may be organising a village picnic on Tuesday 5th June.

It was suggested that the CC present each pupil at Ayton Primary School with a commemorative mug or coin. GD to investigate the cost of this. **GD**

**Post Office** Residents were concerned about the imminent closure of the Ayton Post Office at Doughtys. No clear indication had been received from Post Office Ltd regarding plans for a future service. GD to contact Post Office Ltd about future plans. **GD**

**3 Apologies for Absence**

Ian Logan (IL)

**4 Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting on 6th December were approved without comment.

Proposed by RB, seconded by JS.

**5 Matters Arising from Minutes**

- **Blackmains Wind Farm** RB gave a summary of the second community liaison group meeting, held on 23rd January. Suggestions were being sought regarding best use of

community benefit funds. RB to contact ENERTRAG to enquire why the met mast has not yet been erected.

It was agreed that the CC would organise a referendum to gauge local opinion once full planning permission for the project has been submitted by ENERTRAG. The CC will then support the majority view.

- **Drone Moss** KC agreed to pass the information received about fears on to Sheila Stoddart of Doughtys who it was thought had been involved with this in the past. **KC**
- **Christmas Lights** New icicle lights for the clock tower were purchased and fitted by DN and GD.
- **Trees in Playing Field** RB to report to Ayton Enhancement Group regarding where trees may and may not be planted. A free pack of 105 trees selected for colour has been ordered from the Woodland Trust. Some of these trees may be used for the playing field. **RB**
- **Bus Service 253** There had been no further news regarding the possibility of some services calling at Ayton. MC agreed to pursue this with Colin Douglas, SBC Transport Manager. **MC**
- **High Street/Beanburn Yellow Lines** - see Councillor's Report
- **Salt Bin** It was generally agreed that the salt bin which had been resited to the top of Lawfield Drive would cause less of an obstruction if moved to the other side of the road. MC to contact SB Local. **MC**

## 6 Councillor's Report

- Plans are in hand to reinstate the double yellow lines for 10m on both sides of the Beanburn from the cross roads. **MC**
- Following a site meeting, SBC has agreed to build the pavement out next to Clock Tower House to facilitate easier crossing of the High Street by disabled persons. The question of whether a zebra crossing could be installed was raised. MC agreed to investigate if this is an option. **MC**
- MC spoke on various aspects of the SBC budget. There will be no increase in council tax.
- There will not be any change in the arrangements regarding non collection of garden refuse from villages.

## 7 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Account: £911.15

Project Account: £616.31

### Planning

Redundant Kennels At Kennels House Ayton Castle - change of use. Alterations and extension to provide dwelling house from redundant kennels.

The CC agreed to support this application.

## 8 Relevant Correspondence and Emails

BCCF – Minutes of November Meeting

ASSCs – December and January Bulletins

SBC – Recycling Team Newsletter

SBC – Winter Maintenance

Borders Health Board – Healthy Living Network Grant Scheme

Energy Saving Trust Newsletter

SB Woodland Strategy

Energiekontor - Horn Burn Wind Farm. Request for meeting with CC Chairman and notice of a community exhibition on Thursday 1st March 2012 in Ayton Community Hall.

SBC Budget Spending Priorities

SB Business Excellence Awards

National Network of Community Councils – New Website

SBC – Safer Borders Newsletter

Southern Upland Partnership Newsletter

SBC – Budget Information  
Scottish Borders Walk Fest  
Co-op Bank Community Energy Challenge  
Affordable Rented Housing – Consultation  
Post Office Ltd – Closure of Ayton Post Office  
SB Elder Voice

**9 AOCB**

**Ayton Enhancement Group.** The group's AGM is being held in Ayton Community Hall on Monday 5th March at 7.00pm.

**Hedges in the Village** Concern was expressed that some hedges were encroaching on to the pavements. It was decided to review this at a later date when hedges are actively growing.

**12 Next Meeting**

Tuesday 6th March 2012 at 7.30pm in Ayton Community Hall