

Newcastleton & District Community Council
Minutes of ORDINARY MEETING
Tuesday 18th September 2018 @ 7:00 pm Grapes Hotel

Present: Scott Wilson (Chair) Laura Paterson (Vice Chair), Joan Robson, Shaun Turnbull, Barbara Elborn (sec), Gordon Steel, Lyndsay Patterson, Greg Cuthbert, Ian Nicol, SBC Cllrs Watson McAteer, George Turnbull, & 1 members of the public.

Apologies: Gary Cuthbert, Margaret Elliot, Adrian Downey Cllr Davie Patterson, PC Allan Paterson

POLICE REPORT: JULY Call regarding two young children playing on South Hermitage Street unsupervised. Youths were traced, mother made aware. Call from a resident of Frank Coutts Court about a possible attempt to gain access. On attendance the front cover had fallen from the key safe, no attempt to break in. **AUGUST** Call to Moss Place regarding a large fight with mention of a knife and baton.

On Police attendance two males were arrested and later cautioned and charged with various offences. Call to Singdean area regarding a single vehicle VA, a motorcyclist had fallen from their machine. Call regarding children finding an old tub containing a suspect substance in woods. Tub was collected, and contents field tested appears to have contained some inert substance. **SEPTEMBER** Call regarding four males cold calling, they were passing their religious beliefs. Call to Whithaugh farm house regarding unknown persons walking on grounds. Males not traced unknown why they were in area, does not appear suspicious.

Following a recent spate of Fly tipping in Hawick near to the Hassendean and Southfield areas, a male has been identified and charged with 4 offences. A further 4 involving garden waste, there is a suspect however to date not enough to charge.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting** - were presented and accepted, proposed by Laura, seconded by Shaun.
2. **Matters arising:**
 - a. **Travellers** – Douglas Scott advised as SBC officer responsible for travellers. Paperwork still awaited from SBC confirming protocols.
 - b. **Parking in Douglas Square for civic events** would now require formal procedure to be adopted with any group needing to have valid public liability insurances in place and risk assessment protocols. CC had met with NTMF following the concerns over behaviours in the Square after last festival. They were informed of new protocols and issues raised over the burger vans, lack of marshals, hawkers, boat and caravans parked in the square which were unnecessary and caused overcrowding. Many of the occupants were disrespectful of the CCR traditions and blocked access to the square via the disabled path during the ceremony. A follow up meeting would be held post the NTMF AGM. CCR will decide how they wish to manage their event going forward.
 - c. **Flooding update** Open meeting 2nd October 10 till 8pm, village hall, preceded by closed meeting Mon 1st 7pm village hall for members. Tree Planting on the Flood Plain report was circulated; additional modelling shows that there is potential once these trees are mature for them to increase flood risk to 2 properties in a 1 in 200-year event. This could obviously be further exacerbated by a woody debris from upstream getting caught in the mature woodland causing a damming effect, there is also the potential for an increase in woody debris entering the watercourse causing issues to the bridge downstream. Likely they will be required to be removed from the woodland as part of any scheme proposed for Newcastleton. This will be subject to further design and analysis. Hartsgarth Farm; Erosion Members of SBC team have been out and reviewed this, they report that although the erosion is significant there is no flood risk implications apart from farmers land. The road is not currently at risk, but they did note some power lines and poles at risk from increased erosion and we have notified SP Energy Networks.
 - d. Road works North Liddel Street & Kirndeane – all commencing subject to weather conditions
 - e. Road signage – to be followed up when time allows
 - f. Lynx /SBC position – email Andy Tharme, SBC conservation officer confirmed that SBC still not received any correspondence regarding this proposal from the groups concerned.
 - g. Hedges in park – had now been cut
 - h. Carlisle airport contacts/SBC engagement had taken place. Newcastleton attending function on Oct 1st as guests.

- i. Pathways budget/actions feedback meeting with JR/PR additional works agreed asking Polysport to keep roadside hedges trimmed, extend management to both entrances to village north/south and across the bridges, use chippings to improve paths on old railway track above caravan site. Usual items; Whithaugh pool to Braefoot, walk to filter beds both strimming and low branches will also be continued.
 - j. Street signs needing washed – picture to be sent to Cllrs to follow up given some of them were inaccessible
 - k. Village entrance signage needs repainting, request for this to be done from the small schemes budget.
 - l. Community questionnaire – now closed. 215 usable responses + 63 attended open meeting. Shared at coffee morning on Nov 11th held to raise funds for NDCT to keep engaged with influencers etc.
 - m. Eildon housing follow up – corrs previously circulated. Useful meeting. Actions being monitored.
3. **Planning applications** – there were no objections, letter of support would be sent; 18/01137/FUL Commercial pods, 40 North Hermitage Street 18/01153/LBC Buccleuch House upgrade.
- a. **Replacement windows/conservation status.** Change was acknowledged in the recent MIR which precedes the Local Development Plan but this would not be adopted until the MIR process was concluded in 2021 when the new plan was running. Anyone replacing windows is encouraged to object if applications are turned down – the more people that do the quicker this decision is likely to be over turned.
4. **Community issues**
- a. Bitumen seeping from telegraph poles had caused damage to cars parked near to them. This issue had been reported to SPEN and outcome awaited.
 - b. Top Teri award for young people now open for nominations
 - c. Smiddy Bridge corner opposite Bankend – request to maintain trees over hanging road will be made.
5. **Correspondence**
- a. "Uncovering the Environment: The Use of Public Access to Environmental Information" The project has two separate surveys: the first survey is aimed at individuals and bodies which make use of the right of access to environmental information (https://dundee.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/uncovering_the_environment_public)
 - b. New headstone testing program www.scotborders.gov.uk/headstonetesting
 - c. Letter of endorsement provided for Stefanie Sim/ Rock UK
 - d. PAS support for local place plans and community engagement
 - e. SBC Health & Social Care report <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/integration>
 - f. Community policing survey-seeking feedback previously circulated to members
6. **Date of next meetings**
- Oct 16th CC ordinary meeting
 - Nov 10th – coffee morning, NDCT, CC, NBF, poly, Holm Show, Golf
 - Nov 13th CC ordinary meeting
 - Dec 11th CC ordinary meeting