

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 29th March 2018

Present:

Andrew Clark, Esther Daborn, Bob Hunter, Isobel Hunter, Katy Miller, Robert Laird, Cllr Eric Small and Sara van der Vat.

Apologies:

Marlene Davies, George Noble and Ian Storie.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 25th January approved by IH and RL.

Skirling Community Council Appointment

- IH welcomed Esther Daborn, who has agreed to join the CC as a temporary member.
 - CC delighted to have representation from Skirling Mill.

Correspondence Received

- SV received an email from SBC regarding the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services launch of the Community Asset Register (CAR) – a register of local volunteers who can provide skills to support emergency services and responders to an incident or in harsh weather.

ACTION

- SV to send out details and links for volunteers to community database.

Police Report

- No rural thefts, speeding/road traffic or indiscriminate parking offences report between 25th January to 28th March 2018.
- CC members reported that the abandoned property Waulkmill on the back road has had several break-ins.
- RL spotted a suspicious van between Skirling and Biggar. Cllr ES says the correct policy is to report this by ringing Police Scotland on 101.

ACTION

- Cllr ES to find out what we can do regarding the abandoned property.

SBC Grants

- SBC Grant balance stands at £1,379.97.
- AC asked for amount to be ring-fenced for planting in 2018.

ACTION

- SV to confirm previous annual sums for planting to AC.

Windfarm Funds

- The Border Community Fund from SSE has up to £25,000 available for community groups. The remaining deadlines this year are:
25th April | 1st August | 28th November.
- Suggested applications from meeting include:
 - Screen and projector for village hall.
 - Pots and catering equipment for village hall.
- CC agreed to allocate 2nd half of YBS funding to 2 x applicants as promised at initial allocation.

ACTIONS

- SV to inform YBS applicants and approach Gareth at SSE to see if YBS being renewed in 2018.
- SV to send new guidelines to CC members.

Broadband Update

- BH looked into getting broadband for the village hall, but suggested we hold off at the moment until we know what is happening with FTTP provision and therefore pricing.
 - Village hall doesn't have a phone line, which would mean needing to get that installed as well as broadband.

Village Maintenance

- CM and Joyce Clark have £111 left to top up the soil at the memorial and refresh plants.
- SV asked about the possibility of getting a dog waste bin in the village due to the many dog walkers.
- Potholes continue to be a problem – these can be reported directly to SBC - [click here](#) for the link and ensure to include photos and exact location.
 - SV thanked Jason Hedley for swift reaction on reporting the large pothole outside of Skirling Mill (a crew arrived within a few hours of reporting).
- It was noted that the pavement between Skirling Mill and Skirling is in a state of collapse and that there are large, deteriorating wooden structures in the burn around the same area.
- SV asked if the CC was interested in the Adopt a Kiosk Scheme by BT, which replaces old phone boxes with the iconic red kiosk.
- SV asked who was responsible for the maintenance of the two bus shelters in the village, which could do with painting etc.

ACTIONS

- CM/JC to provide final receipts when work finished (by April 2018).
- SV to ask Jason Hedley about possibility of a dog waste bin.
- SV to contact Jason Hedley re Skirling Mill pavement (include photos) / IH to check wooden structures in the burn.
- SV to look into more details for the red kiosk and send out the details to CC members.
- Cllr ES agreed to look into who is in charge of maintaining the bus shelters at the village green and Goatfoot.

Resilient Communities

- Flood defence refresher training requested by MD still to be organised.
- The sheds provided for the equipment are too small, BH to measure up what size is needed as much of the equipment is stored at the Hunters'.

ACTIONS

- IH to ask BH about organising another training session with the flood defences (possibly during bad weather).
- BH to provide shed measurements to Jason Hedley to see if we can get some funds for the larger version.

Orphaned Land

- BH approached Jason Hedley regarding ownership, who provided details on what the council owns and the adopted road network. He also provided a link to the Registers of Scotland and BH put in an enquiry at a cost of £24.00.
- Another option is for residents to claim land, which would pass into ownership after 13 years.

Any Other Business

- The Community Council thanked AC and Ross Robison for their help in clearing the snow and keeping the village moving during recent harsh weather.
- CM received a response from AMEY regarding the white line at Toftcombs saying they were sending someone out to look at it (no date or time provided) – will forward any further information received to the CC.
- Cllr ES update:
 - Broughton Village CC is looking into getting a speed camera with the police. Cllr ES will keep us updated
- BH has discovered that the village hall is not in the postcode database, so he has emailed the SBC to advise.
- CC would like to publicise the AGM in May, add some refreshments etc. to encourage more local people to get involved with the Community Council.

Meeting Dates in 2018:

31 May (AGM), 27 September and 29 November