

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 29th November 2018

Present:

Esther Daborn, Robert Laird, Ross McIntyre, Katy Miller, Sara van der Vat and Cllr Heather Anderson

Apologies:

Andrew Clark, Isobel Hunter and Ian Storie

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 27th September approved by ED, RL

Correspondence Received

- Request from Upper Tweed Community Council for Skirling CC to consider signage at the bottom of Spittal Brae to limit HGV access on the B7016, which runs between two A roads (A701/2)
 - Cllr HA reported that TCC had already been in contact with Jim McQuillin at the SBC and the request has been denied. JM is retiring in January.
 - Skirling CC happy to support further action if there was more data about the lorry usage in the area (i.e. lorries using the road as a short cut rather than for local access)
- Email from Louise McGeoch at SBC regarding the Tweeddale Citizen of the Year awards, which has a closing date of 31st December
 - CC agreed to nominate IS for his work on behalf of the community (this to be omitted from minutes to IS)

ACTION

- SV to contact TCC to pass on response
- SV & KM to work on application form for IS nomination

Police Report

- Police report attached with minutes:
 - Quad bike stolen from Muirburn Farm, recovered in Mid-Lothian in November (no arrests)
 - Quite a few vehicle and household thefts in and around West Linton
- CC members mentioned another spate of break-ins in Biggar stores
- Warning regarding overpayment of cheques scam, [click here](#)

ACTION

- SV to send copy out with minutes

Windfarm Funds

- 1 application received for funds from Glenkerie windfarm for the Community News publication to be provided free to households in Skirling (formerly available in Broughton Village store)
 - CC agreed to provide funding for 1 issue for the village of approximately 90 households equalling £63.00

ACTION

- SV to provide cheque to applicant

Local Bus Services

- Cllr HA updated the CC with the news that to cover the later bus trips out of Edinburgh and application has been made via the Small Grants Scheme for people carrier taxis
 - Passengers using the service will pay on the day, so the taxi firms will only claim for empty spaces, thus keeping the services running

ACTION

- Cllr HA to keep Skirling CC informed and was thanked by all for her efforts to keep the services running

Village Maintenance

- Following a meeting between Jason Hedley, ED and Bob Hunter in October, Jason's report on various issues has followed:
 - **Cemetery**
SBC are in possession of the Kirk's quinquennial report on maintenance requirements and will be working out what work is feasible within budgets allowed
 - **Path Erosion (Skirling to Skirling Mill)**
Jason has been in touch and notes that the erosion has progressed even since the October meeting. The Asset Team Leader has undertaken to consider a more permanent repair in the next financial year, whilst instructing a temporary repair in the interim. No dates for this are yet available
 - **Trees**
Jason confirmed that the roads inspector has followed up with local landowners to check and make their trees safe, which is their responsibility.
If we have any concerns regarding specific trees, he is happy to help trace the landowner

- **Other**

- SV checked re defibrillator maintenance and has been assured that the FRX self-tests daily and weekly and a warning beep would sound if maintenance was needed
- ED reported that Skirling Mill residents are not particularly in favour of having a notice board
- Concern was raised regarding the lack of white lines on the A72 towards Biggar

ACTION

- ED has sent a picture of erosion and exposed utility pipe to Jason for further advice and will advise re white lines on A72

Resilient Communities

- Villagers looking after the Resilient Communities actions are KM, Bob Hunter and Tony Foley
- SV received an email offering a free online course 'Staying Safe – How to be Prepared in the Modern World' from Brian MacFarlane, which could be useful

ACTION

- SV to forward email re course to KM to consider

Any Other Business

- Cllr HA updated the CC on SBC news:
 - The council is to check the local impact of the change to Universal Credit
 - At present SBC reject 7 out of 10 applications for welfare funds – this is to be addressed through training
 - Due to Brexit, the area will be losing access to EU funds of £61m – the shortfall is to be made up from the Prosperity Fund via UK Government
 - Peebles High School investment will not be going ahead until 2032 – the school came last on the shortlist of 4 schools

Meeting Dates in 2019:

31 January 2019, 28 March, 30 May (AGM), 26 September and 28 November