



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 27th January 2022
via Zoom

Present:

Andrew Clark, Esther Daborn, Isobel Hunter, Katy Miller, Robert Laird, Ross McIntyre, Sara van der Vat and Dominic Ashmole (Dawyck)

Minutes Approval

RL & IH approved minutes from 25th November 2021

1. Community Speedwatch

AC, ED, Cllr ES and Cllr HA attended a speed limit consultation meeting on TEAMS on the 26th November with Philippa Gilhooly and Sam Elliott (SBC Road Traffic Safety).

ACTIONS

- SV to attach minutes from meeting, notes:
 - Skirling requests 3 signs in total (includes existing) – at the village green and by Goatfoot and Bank Cottage
 - SBC advised that solar panels do not work so mains power required – waiting for Scottish Power by end financial year
 - Skirling will need to purchase the third sign, but AC minuted SBC's offer to install it for us
 - Final limits are to be decided by this summer
 - Cllr HA to report back on 'pop up Bob' option as well as speed gun
 - ED checked online costs for bin signs – to be pursued when final limits agreed

2. Funds Update

Endowment Funding Report

RL and SV attended an Endowment Fund meeting via Zoom on the 20th January with Gareth Shields (SSE), Giles Ruck (Foundation Scotland), Nick Shapowal and Andrew Beveridge (Upper Tweed) and Gavin Parker and Mark Cullen (Tweedsmuir):

- In summary:
 - SSE act as an informal advisor only
 - Funds left over from annual allowance of £140k would then be put into the endowment fund with Foundation Scotland
 - Expectation is a return of between 7-10% per year
 - Up to 4% of monies already invested can be withdrawn if needed
 - Funds are invested ethically and by EQ, who are cautious investors
 - Fees payable to EQ and Foundation Scotland
 - Would require a management panel or 3 signatories

Platinum Jubilee Fund

Funds of up to £2,500 available for celebratory events and/or community and legacy projects to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in June

- Applications close on 30th April

Other Funding

Bob Hunter is continuing in his quest to get WiFi for Skirling Village Hall

- In order to do so, the hall must have a post box to get an official postal address

ACTIONS

- Meeting between 3 community councils to be organised mid-March
- SV waiting for clarification on panel/signatories set up and fee amounts – chase up
- IH and KM to discuss Jubilee Fund ideas with Village Hall Committee and take forward

3. Village Maintenance

New Paths

Dominic Ashmole provided SV with a report from 2013 detailing plans for paths in the Borders.

- Active travel options are being encouraged and budgets trebled – so a good time to start planning possible path options to Broughton and Biggar

General Maintenance

- The new salt bin for Howes Brae (paid for via windfarm funds) has arrived and been installed
- Parking issues:
 - Parking outside of the village hall
 - Parking at the village bus stop

Village Clean

- KM to step aside this year due to work commitments – CC to take over general organisation to include picking a date, organising groups, providing equipment and sorting out waste disposal

BT Hut

SV looked back at previous minutes and noted to CC:

- Committee had been set up who then met with Scottish Land Fund in November 2019
- Idea was to identify parcels of orphaned land and apply for funds to purchase them with the owners' permission (in the most part owned by Wheeler Carmichael)
- Then Covid hit and all was put on hold

Children's Playground

- £12k currently on hold for the playground by the Village Hall Committee
- Plan is to build a multi-purpose park in the village hall garden (above the recycle bins)
- Francesca Bell is interesting in starting up organising the site

ACTIONS

- SV to check back on previous meeting minutes re path to Broughton efforts in the past
- IH to contact SBC to request refill for Howes Brae via emergency refill
 - KM to ask Lisa Thomson to advise when this has been done
- IH to speak to resident re parking outside village hall, to be mindful of when the hall is in use
- RL to speak to resident re parking at the village green bus stop as this has led to erosion of small triangle of green as cars try to get past
- CC to consult on date and requirements for village clean – SV to look at previous dates
- BH to pick up on the Scottish Land Fund and orphaned land and AC to contact dry wall builder to get a quote on rebuilding the wall outside the BT Hut
- KM to co-ordinate with Francesca and organise a site meeting in the village hall garden in March to kick off plans for the playpark

A.O.B.

- Next CC elections to be discussed at AGM in May
- CC to find new secretary by March meeting

Meeting Dates in 2022:

31 March, 26 May (AGM), 29 September, 24 November