

**WALKERBURN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18th January 2012**

Present:

Members:	Mr G Thornton Mr R Brett Mr E Lavender Miss MM McIntosh MBE Ms I Ogilvie Mr JJ Purves MBE Mrs L Thornton Mrs PS Purves CBE	Chairman Secretary
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Ex Officio: Cllr W Herd, Cllr G Logan

<p>ITEM 1: Chairman's Introduction. The Chairman welcomed everyone including the team from Scottish Borders Council who would give a short presentation on the Resilient Communities initiative.</p> <p>The team then gave a presentation on Resilient Communities Planning describing how the idea had first emerged and been trialled with particular reference to the plan produced by Yetholm Community Council. They stressed that the aim was to help people be good neighbours and not to replace any existing services. The idea has received broad support both in Edinburgh and at Westminster. They answered a number of questions and most people present seemed enthused by the prospect of launching a plan for Walkerburn and District. A draft plan has already been written with the help of the team and the next stage is to find some volunteers to do some further research. The Chairman thanked the team for a most informative presentation.</p>	<u>ACTION</u>
<p>ITEM 2: Open Questions. The Chairman invited open questions from members of the public.</p> <p>a. A resident raised the problems being caused by the lack of adoption of the road at Tweedbank Court and of the messy common areas. Members were aware of the problems and the difficulty SBC seemed to be having in forcing the developer to carry out the remaining work, including the road plates on Tweedholm Avenue. The subject had last been discussed at the December meeting and Cllr Herd had produced some pictures of the plate covers in Tweedholm Avenue as a result of his discussions with Roads Planners when he was assured that action was being taken. Cllrs Logan and Herd would follow this up yet again. Afternote: The developer of Tweedbank Court has again been reminded of the tasks to be completed before SBC can adopt the road and has apparently promised quick action. The Community Council has sought further clarification on the maintenance of the 'public areas'.</p> <p>b. A resident asked that more action be taken to deal with the 'puddle' on the A72 in front of the retaining wall of Stoneyhill. This is a very long running problem which never seems to be dealt with satisfactorily – Cllr Logan promised to chase the roads department again to try to find a permanent solution.</p> <p>c. The removal of one lamppost near the church was raised as an issue of road safety. A resident felt that the level of lighting at the entrance to the village from Galashiels was badly affected. Members did not share these concerns but asked Cllr Logan to find out why the lamppost had been removed.</p> <p>d. The broken windows at Sunnybrae Lodge were causing concern. This had been reported. Cllr Logan will chase for action.</p>	<p>Cllr Logan/ Cllr Herd</p> <p>Cllr Logan</p> <p>Cllr Logan</p> <p>Cllr Logan</p>
<p>ITEM 3: Monthly Report from WCDT. Mrs Sutherland reported that the Trust was continuing to pursue options for the development of the green field above Tweedholm Avenue and had approached the owners, SBHA, to seek permission for a number of potential enhancements. She noted that the Trust hoped to enlist the co-operation of the Festival Committee, the school and all residents to make sure that the village presented as attractive appearance as possible when the Olympic Torch passed through. All agreed that the aim should be to decorate the village throughout June to</p>	<p>Mrs</p>

cover the Jubilee weekend, the Torch day and the Festival. Both the Trust and the WCC secretaries would liaise with others on how best to take ideas forward. Cllr Logan reported that several schools might be rendezvousing in Walkerburn on Torch Day with the children then being hosted by Clovenfords School.	Sutherland Secretary
ITEM 4: Police Business. PC Rogerson had submitted his report in advance but was able to clarify a number of points. He stressed again that the 3 parking spaces at Tweedbank Court were for general use, not just for residents of Tweedbank Court, and that a recently erected sign was not official. He explained that a recent period using a speed camera on the A72 had resulted in a number of motorists being warned about excessive speed through the village. Members were delighted that this exercise had been undertaken and several stressed the need to stop the very high speeds of some thoughtless drivers in the early morning and late evening. PC Rogerson also noted that some recent break-ins were still under active investigation.	
ITEM 5: Apologies and Notices. Apologies from Cllr Garvie and Mrs Horsburgh.	
ITEM 6: Minutes of December Meeting. Miss McIntosh proposed acceptance of the minutes of the November meeting. This was seconded by Mr Brett and passed unanimously.	
ITEM 7: Matters Arising. Nil.	
ITEM 8: Planning. The Planning Committee reported no movement locally although the decision on the Broadmeadows Appeal was expected shortly. Afternote: Broadmeadows Windfarm Appeal has been rejected by the Reporter.	
ITEM 9: Correspondence. The list had been circulated as usual. It was agreed that the secretary would pull together comments on the draft SB Woodland Strategy paper from the Pathways Group, the Trust and members and circulate a draft before the 7 February deadline. Mr and Mrs Thornton and Miss McIntosh would attend the budget briefing for Community Councils and report back at the February meeting.	
ITEM 10: Reports by Members. There was concern at the lack of lighting at the bottom of Jubilee Road. The secretary pointed out that this had been raised before but was almost impossible to solve because of the need to avoid light shining directly into people's houses or into the eyes of drivers. It was agreed not to take action at present.	
ITEM 11: Reports by SBC Councillors. Cllr Herd reported on a recent initiative to install 'talking' litter bins in schools. There was no support from members who generally thought it an idiotic waste of money. He went on to report on the work of the community wardens, which was applauded by all, in tackling dog fouling. Cllr Logan reported on the next stages in attempts to solve the river bank erosion problem. Pricing of a possible scheme was underway with costs being potentially met by SBC and the landowner. Cllr Logan also reported on moves being taken to save Peebles Sheriff Court.	
ITEM 12: Any Other Business. Nil.	
ITEM 13: Date of Next Meeting. Wednesday 15 th February at 7.30pm.	
ITEM 14: Chairman's Closing Remarks. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.	

Date: February 2012

Mrs PS Purves
Secretary

Mr G Thornton
Chairman