



COLDSTREAM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Coldstream & District Community Council held in person and online Thursday 17th February 2022.

Present:

Alison Campbell (AC)
Iain Dickson (ID)
Diana Findlay (DF)
Colin McGregor (CM)
Fiona Shepherd (FS)
Joy Thomson (JT)
Henry Wallis (HW)
Wendy Myers (WM)
SBC Councillor John Greenwell (Cllr G)
SBC Councillor Donald Moffat (Cllr M)
SBC Councillor Mark Rowley (Cllr R)

Visitor

Bill Purvis from Berwickshire Community Council Federation (BCCF)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

The Chairman welcomed Bill Purvis, Treasurer of BCCF. The BCCF have not met during Covid but have an AGM planned in March. They are looking to organise training for new members and asked for suggestions of topics – suggestions made were communications with communities, grant applications and what grants are available, planning processes and data protection and GDPR requirements.

2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes for 20th January were proposed for approval by FS and seconded by DF.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- Still awaiting additional sign for the playpark. Cllr G confirmed the original sign will be moved to the main entrance to the park and another sign is being sourced.
- AC confirmed that she had spoken to Kerry Hague for advice on how to post as CDCC on the Community Facebook group and Kerry had confirmed that was not possible. It was agreed that AC would continue to post any items sent to her as Community Council Secretary that should be shared under her own name on this group but with the hashtags #CDCC & #coldstreamcommunitycouncil.
The SBC website is not working appropriately for CDCC minutes (registration required to access now) so it has become more important to make progress on a

new website, presumably in conjunction with the proposed revamp of the Community Trust/Community Centre. **AC agreed to chase SB to send details of what is required to Cllr R**

- The walkabout had gone well. The wooden bridge is getting rebuilt, we have received details of the grounds maintenance schedule, agreed to take over some banking once brambles are removed that will be planted with wildflowers supplied by SBC, two conifers have been removed at Henderson Park and prices are being sought for the repairing/replacing the flagstone path along the river.
HW agreed to check whether the slabs from the old swing park at the bridge can be reused for this purpose to keep costs down.
There will be a revisit in the summer with the grounds maintenance team.
ID had marked up a map of where access points could be made down to the river. There was some discussion about whether there would need to be a lifebuoy provided at Leet Point if we are making access easier.
AC agreed to find rough cost (circa £300 including housing etc) and discuss with SBC when maps are returned. It may be that the Fishing Club might be willing to finance the purchase.
- 1400 copies of the questionnaire are being added to the CCN news at a cost of £90. Completed forms to be returned to AC and the Community Centre. JT and WM agreed to help collate responses. An extra 100 copies with the article on the reverse will be available for distribution too.
- ID and FS are arranging to talk to Youth Group at Community Centre. Chrissie is very enthusiastic. **ID to suggest to Chrissie that she get in touch with Cllr G re Connect Youth taking over the annex.** There is a proposal that there be an asset transfer and that those organisations currently paying to use the nursery room could use the annex and pay Connect Youth and allow the nursery room to return to school use.
- Louisa Coates has suggested setting up a Business Forum. It was suggested that we might be able to get Borders Chambers of Commerce to bring their Friday morning session to Coldstream and potentially pull in other experts and councillors etc. If they haven't already been to Coldstream recently that would be worth trying to organise. **AC to discuss with Louisa Coates and if appropriate talk to Borders Chamber of Commerce.** It was agreed that it would be good to have CDCC representation at any of these meetings if possible.

4 REPORTS FROM SBC

Planning – Besom Inn have made an application to form a covered beer garden. Listed building status means that can be awnings only but a flue will be added to the chimney which will require a building warrant. It was agreed **AC write to planning confirming that CDCC had no objections and were encouraged to see this expansion of a business within Coldstream.**

5 UPDATES FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr M confirmed he had asked the Police to look in on the playpark. FS raised concerns about weed smoked in Henderson Park and asked **that Cllr M also ask the police to look in at Henderson Park too.**

Cllr G said there had been complaints from a Market Square resident about dog fouling. This had been reported to the Dog Education Officer at SBC who had organised for some stencils to be marked out in the area and some signs to be erected. Facebook correspondence suggested that there were not enough dog bins and some were not emptied promptly. Cllr G has asked for more bins but with budget constraints this may not be possible. HW confirmed that bins are emptied twice a week and that the picture on Facebook was of a bin that had been inappropriately filled by a duvet reducing the space available. The placing of bins in relation to the areas liable to flooding is crucial as we have lost bins in previous floods. **HW agreed to find a map of dog bins that can be sent round to all of the committee before next month's meeting which the Dog Education Officer will be attending via Teams.**

Cllr R said that he hoped the responses from the questionnaire would give us the ammunition required to really generate some action particularly on the issue of new car parking beyond the public toilets. He also hoped that a move towards responsive transport (dial a bus) may help plug the local public transport gap.

Cllr R agreed to forward some contact details for Tweed Forum so that AC can contact them to arrange an invitation for them to come and talk to us in the summer about what opportunities might be available to us. There will be significant funding available and we should have an important link into it with Biodiversity and Art projects along with other opportunities.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The proposed changes to Community Council constitutions had been sent round early in January and comments had been received from WM. It was agreed we would accept that a three year term of office was appropriate and that **AC would respond to SBC on the constitution by 18th February deadline as discussed.**

It was agreed that AC complete the insurance return by the 18th February deadline on the basis that the campsite on Tweed Green would not be provided this year and that people would be advised to use the new caravan park and that there might be some Jubilee celebration (as yet undefined) and the Scotland Year of Stories event in October.

FS agreed to discuss this with the Mr Gregg at the caravan park and confirm that he could accommodate the Civic week demand.

Cllr G confirmed he would advise Tommy Hermiston of the intention to relocate all camping to the new caravan park.

New Year's greetings had been received from Bennecourt. **AC agreed to source an appropriate card to send in return.**

The flag protocol had finally been signed by SBC and was signed at the meeting by the chairman. **AC to send scan of the final agreement to SBC to be lodged.**

7 TREASURER'S REPORT

AC is being added as a third signatory on the account. It was agreed that we would apply for full access internet banking. As an extra level of security the treasurer agreed to bring a copy of the bank statement each meeting to be signed by the chairman. This was all proposed by ID, seconded by FS and passed unanimously.

8 GRANTS

No update on plans for Diamond Jubilee.

Cllr G had been approached about the crest in the Market Square which needs to be cleaned and restored. Cllr G provided **AC with contact details for D Silcock to start the process for grant claim to help towards repair of the crest.**

ID wondered whether we could apply for grant towards the purchase of a sit-on mower. Gillian Jardine was identified as someone at the council who could advise. Cllr R confirmed that Eyemouth had been given a mower in exchange for taking on duties so there was a precedent.

There was some discussion of whether more benches in the town might be required and it was noted that the Criminal Justice Department can provide benches for free made by ex-offenders if the materials are provided to them.

9 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Story Waggon

12-17TH October there is an event which will see the Story Waggon stopping in Coldstream on the Saturday and Sunday on its journey on the Tweed. There will be lots of opportunity for community involvement and JT has written an article for CNN encouraging all organisations in the town to think how they can get involved.

Pinch point

A resident had written to SBC irate about the proposed introduction of double yellow lines outside his property. B Young had responded to the resident confirming that he had spoken to his road safety team and was now proposing that the loading/unloading restrictions be removed.

It was agreed that AC should write to B Young and query why such a decision appeared to have been made without the involvement of the Community Council or Councillors.

Common Good

HW provided a booklet which suggested that some bequests had been made historically to the town which did not appear to have been transferred to the Common Good Fund. In addition the flat above the museum was thought to have belonged to Common Good but had been sold/rented out. If that were true then the rent or proceeds of the sale should have come to the Common Good Fund. **AC agreed to write to Hannah McLeod and ask her to investigate.**

Next meeting 17th March 2022 7pm in Town Hall

Meeting closed 9:05 pm