



COLDSTREAM & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Coldstream & District Community Council Thursday 17th March 2022 held **ONLINE**.

Alison Campbell (AC)
Iain Dickson (ID)
Diana Findlay (DF)
Colin McGregor (CM)
Fiona Shepherd (FS)
Henry Wallis (HW)
Wendy Myers (WM)
SBC Councillor Mark Rowley (Cllr R)

Visitor

Rose Hogg, Dog Education Officer, SBC

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Greenwell, Donald Moffat, Joy Thomson and Jannette Simm.

2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes for 17th February were proposed for approval by DF and seconded by WM.

3 DOG EDUCATION OFFICER - SBC

Rose Hogg, the Dog Education Officer attended from SBC. The fixed penalty route can be used but is only effective if you know the address of the person and this route must be pursued within a very short timescale after witnessing the event. Rose had attended Coldstream the school pre Covid about issues with dog fouling on the back field where she promoted responsible dog ownership. She can offer a cleanse or posters in specific areas where we identify there is an issue and she can try to get the Community Action Team to take a look at hot spots. She can also do more school visits to educate the children.

Stewart Marshall from another Community Council is drafting a letter to drop through doors in areas where dog fouling is bad and whilst Rose can help with wording on fine values etc SBC cannot write these letters or deliver them for us. Signs do make a difference at least for a while if there a few. **Rose has dog fouling posters and will laminate these and send them to us.**

Dogs Trust used to supply poo bags but no longer do – SBC are looking to source some compostable bags.

Irresponsible dog owners often leave filled bags even if there are bins nearby. The main hotspots are Leet Green, Market Square, the Lees, Coldstream Mains grass margins and Home Terrace & Duns Road even though there are bins at many of these sites.

There are no bins at the Lees – SBC can laminate a sign for us to put up there as private. **HW will try and get a wheelie bin at layby at Lees cable tied to fence for a trial period to see if that helps.**

RH will ask for bins to be put on the Leet Green, Rutherford Corner & Lees and some “pick it up” stencils on the ground.

If SBC are not willing to give more bins then we can ask them to relocate some. There are 37 bins in Coldstream currently.

Rose will ask if we can have stencil for us to use. If not then we can ask her to arrange for Neighbourhood Services to stencil where we feel warnings are needed.

Rose asked us to contact her directly if we had specific issues.

C McG to email Rose to arrange for her to visit Coldstream Mains to discuss what can be done there (DONE)

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Park sign has been moved to main gate- waiting for new sign to be made. HW to chase

ID attended the Youth Group and they had a list of what was important to them. They don't have a lot of space for them but do have a lot of enthusiasm. Chrissie is keen to get the annexe. **ID to send details of the children's wish list to MR.** SBC has a food growing officer if that was wanted – work with Abundant Borders. Skate park or a bike track were among the children's wish list and these could be achievable if agreed as a priority but we would need to identify a location. Some of the children just want somewhere to hang out – how did the dry bar in Selkirk do it? We could possibly use the annexe at the school. This is what place making is all about.

The slabs at the park can be reused.

SBC have confirmed that they are currently looking at water safety throughout the Borders and once this is concluded they will let us know whether lifebuoys need to be provided.

Borders Chamber of Commerce have been contacted. ID and AC are arranging to discuss with them before bringing a proposal on next steps back to Community Council.

Ask the Police to look into Henderson Park too Cllr M

Tweed Forum will attend our next meeting.

Insurance was discussed at SBC Community Council Forum joint meetings – some community councils have had to make a contribution for insurance if they have multiple events.

Camping – C Gregg happy to have caravans and tents at the Campsite which officially opens on 2nd April. Presenting Coldstream Association will make it clear to those who normally camp that there are spaces for them at the new campsite.

100 yard markers are now in place near the campsite entrance to the town.

Although AC had made contact with White Rose Tiling there is no quote yet for fixing the town crest. **We need an alternative quote for the crest grant funding – AC to contact James Mitchum at Duns JD Plasterer and Tiling (DONE)**

5 REPORTS FROM SBC

AC to email Planning to confirm that we have no issues as a Committee with the proposed extension at Planning for conservatory at Westfield Duns Rd (DONE)

6 UPDATES FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Greenwell's update had been provided by email. The Estates Team are currently looking at how to progress this and once they have some ideas and a provisional plan they will contact us to seek our views.

Samantha Elliott from the Roads Safety Team has confirmed the bollard is in place at the Community Centre and the yellow lines will follow.

The bridge repairs at the Leet are complete and feedback has been good.

The low take up of pension credit by our older peoples is an issue across Scotland.

We need to encourage as many pensioners as possible to check if they are entitled. SBC will be carrying out a series of promotions on different advertising platforms very shortly.

There has been some confusion about how the £150 council tax rebate will be administered. No application is necessary and people will receive this automatically.

Cllr Rowley confirmed that SBC's new council budget gone through and more monies will be available in the small works scheme for such items as bus shelters, benches, repairs etc. Please let MR know the details of what Coldstream needs.

The work at Reston station means that SBC are going to provide as a trial some responsive transport and Coldstream is included. The transport will allow people to connect with other bus routes and to travel to Reston.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Police Report – There have been a lot of ASB incidents in Coldstream although it is not clear what has caused them or how or if they have been resolved. This report is quite worrying as very few of the statistics show a positive trend. PS Alas offered to come and talk to us and we may want to take up that offer later in the year. may

Questionnaire

10% of population replied and a good cross-section including school children. The highest ranking issue is parking and that is true across all categories except the 0-

18 year olds. Their highest ranking issue was parking, followed by bringing business to the town. Although further down the list as only relevant to some, affordable housing came third as a first choice.

A list of people who have said they are willing to help has also been collated and they may be able to help us with some of the actions.

Of those who raised issues beyond the 7 listed on the sheet the main categories were:-

Activities for older kids – an issue raised by nearly all age groups (22 mentions)

Potholes/ pavement and road conditions (11 mentions)

Traffic calming/road markings etc (10 mentions)

Lorries/bypass (7 mentions)

CCTV/Security for the park (7 mentions- mainly from the children)

Dog fouling (4 mentions)

Another pedestrian crossing (3 mentions)

Community larder and community garden (3 mentions)

Recycling (3 mentions)

More electric car chargers (2 mentions)

Anti-litter campaigns (2 mentions)

ID and AC to analyse the results and report back. It will hopefully bring CAP up to date.

AC to share the questionnaire results on Facebook (DONE)

“Fix my street” seems to work for things that are not working if we can encourage people to log it – **WM will post something about it on the Facebook page with the hashtags.**

Litterpicks used to happen in the past and there are pickers and bags etc at the Coldstream Community Centre. The intention is to have a monthly evening litter during the lighter nights. **ID will coordinate litter picking to start April.**

WM, DF and ID are attending the online Place making session and will report back next time

8 TREASURER'S REPORT

Our first cheque has been sent. We have had a hiccup setting up internet banking so are completing a new mandate for one account. The year end accounts need to be prepared at end of the month for the AGM in May.

9 GRANTS

Jubilee grant applications need to be in by end of April. Legion have three events on the Saturday and there was no proposal that the Community Council make an application.

10 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Community Larder – of 250 referrals to the Berwickshire foodbank in a year 101 from Coldstream. There is a clear food poverty issue in the town as is shown by the

national deprivation statistics. People can leave donations there too. It is a range of different ages that use it and it can be temporary issue for some. The car and domestic fuel price increases are going to make matters worse soon. Slow cookers have been provided in some places as these can be a very economic way of cooking

Lots of communities set up Community larders during Covid. They don't need to be manned. Fairshare distributes excess stock from food producers and newly out of date stock. In Berwick the aim is minimising waste which has less stigma and it is worth talking to them about how they have made it work **MR will send photo of the community larder shed at Duns and some details of good practice.**

Pension credit leaflets could be there too and get help from CAB.

Would the Community Centre be willing to help and have the larder on their site? AC and ID to discuss with Susan Burnett

There are ongoing roadworks planned for High Street -HW will provide details to AC for her to share on Facebook

Next meeting 21st April 2022 7pm in Town Hall

Meeting closed 20:35pm