

Coldingham Community Council (CCC)

Notes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7:30 pm in Coldingham Primary School

Present : (CCC Councillors)	Apologies:
Rhona Goldie (RG) Finn Warholm (FW) Mike Beatt (MB) Alan Simmons (AS) David Jones (DJ) Ann Pennaluna (AP)	Rhona MacKay (RM) Ged Hearn (GH)

Also in attendance were Cllr J Fullarton (JF), PC Alan Richardson (AR) and various members of the public.

1. Apologies were received from those noted above, also Cllr M Cook & Cllr D Raw.
2. Previous Minutes were accepted as a true record of the previous meeting
3. Treasurers Report : £266.02 in the bank
4. Police Report : AR reported that the serious weather recently had curtailed various activities in the area, fortunately also criminal activity. Unfortunately, there had been 2 fatal accidents in the area over the festive period, and a hit & run at Northfield. 1 chap was caught drink/driving and he fell into the category where the recommendation was made to have his car seized. This experiment has received favour with the Crown Office and may be continued. The abnormal loads heading to Crystal Rigg will continue until probably March. The timing of their arrival in Borders area is unfortunate, but they SHOULD allow passing on dual carriageway stretches. 4 Edinburgh men were arrested for the recent Spar break-in, going on trial at the end of the month. Daytime break-ins are still causing a problem. Residents are advised to be careful and vigilant, and report (e-mail or phone or in person) anything suspicious. The malicious door knockers are back, again, be alert and report ANYTHING that doesn't seem quite right. JF brought up the possibility of CCTV again. Although this was denied in the past, there is no harm in trying again. JF also reminded us that dog wardens etc are all part of the new scheme and can be used where appropriate. AR was able to add that dog fouling is one of the few crimes where only 1 witness is required. The culprit would have a fixed penalty of £40. Places where dog fouling is a problem should not hesitate to contact the authorities for assistance. He will try to get a warden to attend one of the next CCC meetings
5. Matters Arising : Cemetery: the land currently owned could be turned into a memorial / wildflower garden or orchard space, where folks could walk and sit and remember loved ones. With Houndwood crematorium having received permission, more folk may wish to be cremated, and space could be found to put up memorial plaques. JF will bring this up with the appropriate department, and RG will write also. SBC still looking for burial place. Road clearing : the recent bad weather has used up 100 days worth of NORMAL salt/grit. This weather was NOT normal. Deliveries are starting to get back to normal, and SBC are looking at possible solutions for another such occasion. It is recognised that personnel worked long hours in very difficult conditions to get roads cleared, and for that we are all very grateful. Personal thanks must go to JF, our own local hero, who helped get supplies in to the Spar shop. SBC used the Borders Machinery Ring (local farmers and businesses) to help with clearing works to great effect. The bad weather has inevitably led to huge potholes and drivers are urged to be cautious as SBC do their best to repair using a hot tar formula. Recycling : new bins etc will be delayed slightly whilst we all get back to normal uplifts after the bad weather, so too with Xmas tree collections. Scottish Power Energy have applied for 3 road closures, which will be publicised in the local press, to drill trial holes for cabling works connected with Drone Hill windfarm. The closest is the C119 at Press Castle on 25/26thJan. On Drone Hill : an initial meeting has been held with the traffic company, where all the concerns from the community

were handed over. They will meet with SBC planning people at the end of the month and then there may be an opportunity for discussion.

STOP PRESS : A1107 will be closed at Pease Bridge for 1 week between the hours of 09:00 and 16:00 starting Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>.

6. Planning : There were 2 applications :  
Extension of toilet facilities and external cladding at Crosslaw caravan site;  
Replacement windows at Helenville.  
Neither application gave any cause for concern.  
AS drafted official reply re Bogangreen site on behalf of CCC based on the meeting notes. It was agreed he would send this.  
Post Office : The old Youth Hostel Community Company has some funds left (having sold the drawings to the eventual buyer) which it has donated to help procure and fit out the temporary Portacabin for the Post Office. This will arrive next week, and will be open by 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. There is a Coffee Morning on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb to celebrate the reopening and raise money. We need a lot more funding to support grant applications etc for the longer term solution. This will be explained in greater detail in the village newsletter due out at the end of this week.
7. SBC Cllrs Report : JF informed us that the final budget draft is now in place, a meeting to explain the workings of this to CCs will be held in Newtown St Boswells HQ on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb at 7pm. Each CC can send up to 4 people if desired. TOPS (Transforming Old People's Services) is coming to fruition. It should improve the standard of care, especially in Duns & Eyemouth, but requires money to be spent to upgrade facilities in some of our Homes. Next years budget will be tight, as we expected. The fear is that Central Govt will cut the predetermined spend for local authorities to help meet the cost of extra Central expense!
8. Correspondence : Letter of Thanks received from Entertainment Committee for our help at OAP Christmas Dinner. (Next year we should try and get organised earlier)
9. AOCB : Need cable reels for storing lights. MB has researched this on the internet, can get 12 for about \$17 (about £12). Have about £35 left in the grant, agreed to just get these.

Re the bad weather : if we needed to get folk into the village hall for shelter if weather was bad, we wouldn't have power for heating or cooking. If it came to the point of having emergency generators airlifted in (for example), we would need a changeover switch from mains to generator. It was agreed this should be pursued. (There is no point in having a generator ourselves as the expense could not be justified, however a changeover switch or parallel wiring would be a good idea.)

10. DONM  
Next meeting will be on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 at 7:30pm in Coldingham Primary School.