



## COLDINGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes - Draft

19<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 7pm Coldingham Village Hall

#### Present

Coldingham Community Council:

Phillipa Allen (PA)	Jack Eeley (JE)	Alice Fisher (AF)
Rhona Goldie (RG)	Krishna Ramcharran (KR)	Dawn Tait (DT)
Richard Thomas (RT)	Ethne Turnbull (ET)	Norman Wood (NW)

Members of the Coldingham Community: 8

Councillors: Cllr James Anderson

Coldingham Police: 0

#### Apologies for absence

Peter White, Cllr Carol Hamilton; Cllr Aileen Orr.

#### Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes for 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were approved – NW nominated, RT seconded.

#### Sustainable Selkirk Community Energy Advice Centre

Hannah Parks gave a presentation on the role of Sustainable Selkirk Community Energy Advice Centre and the services they provide. A copy of the presentation and handouts will be made available on the CCC website.

In summary, Sustainable Selkirk provide domestic home energy advice. During a two hour free site visit they will assess the energy efficiency of your home and advise on the steps you could take to improve it. This can comprise some low cost quick solutions which are free to implement, including fitting 10 LED lightbulbs, and or involve referring you to one of their specialist partners.

#### Matters Arising/Actions from Previous Minutes 20/02/2023

Updated action table in Appendix A. Key discussion points below:

**Dog Fouling signs for the Priory:** Friends of the Coldingham Priory confirmed the signs are ready to be installed.

**BHA:** RG reported she had met with BHA. It was confirmed that only properties 1-4 were affected. Properties 5-8 were unaffected and there was no suggestion they could be affected. The Engineers report states that the foundations were shallow, localized

underpinning, and the foundation malleable – poor/low weight bearing. In July 2023 cracking over the lintel in property 2 was reported. Actions will follow a prolonged assessment and ongoing dialogue with the residents. To date all the residents have been spoken to and there are no safety concerns. BHA are now starting a full communication process during which the housing needs of each resident will be assessed and alternative housing options discussed. The focus will be on ensuring comfort, safety and wellbeing. NW commented that to his knowledge BHA had been tactful and understanding. Whilst there is no timeline for relocation and addressing the issues NW believes the cost will be at least £200k-£300k per affected property. CCC will be kept updated by BHA. It was commented by those in attendance that BHA had not acknowledged the potential impact of the situation on residents Health or Mental Health.

**Wishlist:** RG reported that 430 survey forms had been issued and 86 had been returned completed. The table below lists all the ideas received with the top five most popular highlighted.

Project Idea	Number of mentions
Playpark	67
Luckenbooth Support	34
Local Walkways	21
Memorial Garden	15
Teenagers' Facilities	10
Playing Field	9
Defibrillator(s)	4
Heritage Centre	3
Use the Old Surgery Building for community venture	3
Blindspot Mirrors/Speeding Measures	3
Restore Gravestones	2
Support the SPAR to take the Post Office	2
Repair the path to the beach	2
Community PA System	2
Additional Dog Poo Bins	2
Salt Truck for the village	1
Improve Bus Shelter(s)	1
Establish allotments	1
Service the Community Beach Hut	1
Employ a village caretaker	1
Employ consultant to report on beach sustainability	1
Music lessons for school pupils	1
Set up the beach/St Vedas as a "Dark Sky Place".	1
Bus for school swimming lessons	1
Refurbish path from beach to Eyemouth	1
Support Crochet Group	1
Puppy Park	1
Priory Garden	1
Enhance/Upgrade the village website	1

The ideas and outline process for taking ideas forward were displayed at an open session at the village hall of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023, in addition to a request for volunteers to help with progressing the ideas.

NW asked JA if the region would take responsibility for maintaining the grounds of the playpark and the new equipment. JA indicated that in Reston this had been done through an Memorandum of Understanding between SBC and the CCC. JA agreed to provide JE with a contact. JA further indicated that the company providing the service to Reston were now an SBC approved supplier which would make the process of engaging and appointing them easier. It was also mentioned that in Reston the local school children had been consulted in relation to their playpark. NW said this had been done by Pamela Doonin. **Action: NW to put JE in touch with Pamela Doonin.**

It was agreed that JE would lead on the playpark upgrade.

Ms. Hallows indicated that there were grants that CCC could apply for to add to the funds available for the playpark. A list of grant sources could be obtained from Malcolm at Foundation Scotland. JA confirmed he would help.

Mr. Kerr asked for clarity around the instructions for completing the survey form. His understanding was that it was one form per household. He had also heard that multiple sheets could be completed per household which could lead to an idea being suggested multiple times by the same household. RG reiterated that it was one form per household but additional sheets could be used to detail the ideas. The outcome of the collating and counting of ideas was clear and there was no concerns. The open session on 12 March 2024 was to display the ideas to the community and the results highlight the popularity of the ideas only. At this point an idea with 1 vote was equally as important as an idea with multiple votes. No decisions have been taken.

**PA System** – Ms. Hallows asked if the request for the PA system could be moved up with the Coldingham Gala approaching. JA confirmed that SBC had awarded funds in response to an application submitted by Jim Taylor. The grant had been award to the whole community meaning that the PA system would be an asset belonging to and for use of Coldingham Village.

**Flooding on Coldingham Road** - RG thanked Ms. Hallows for her actions and emails to the SBC CEO which had resulted in SBC taking swift action to address the flooding issues on the Coldingham Road as you leave Coldingham heading to Eyemouth.

### **SBC Councilor's Report**

Key points relayed by James Anderson (JA) were:

- Notice Boards for Coldingham Cemetery approved
- St Abbs playpark is to be redone
- Coldingham Primary PFA have been awarded funding for Coldingham Primary playground

- The Coastal Adoption Plan is out for consultation. It is important for the Coldingham Community Council and its community to comment as the Scottish Government will be investing heavily and the Coldingham/St Abbs area is categorised as a 10m – 20m port which makes it a prime target for investment.
- There is a Area Partnership meeting at Eyemouth High School on 20 March 2024, 18:45 – 20.30. Helen Lain has been asked to lead the community element of the agenda. RG has a copy of the agenda for those interested.
- Moor Road Closure – Julie raised concerns about the inappropriate diversion of HGVs along Coldingham Moor and through the Village. She had passed an HGV sitting on the side of the road that was close to tipping over. It was clear the Coldingham Moor road lacks space and the gullies are being destroyed by the HGVs. JA confirmed he was discussing the matter with Phillipa Gilhooly.

### **Police Report**

There were no representations of Police Scotland present and a copy of the Scottish Borders Area Command report for February 2024 had not been received. JA confirmed that there were no entries for Coldingham in the version of the report he had seen.

### **Treasurers Report**

NW informed the meeting that:

- £9758.61 had been deposited in March 2024 from the Penmanshiel Windfarm.

### **Correspondence and Discussion Points**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Key Discussion Points</b>
Planning Applications	<p>RG reported that two planning applications had been received, one for a Beach Hut and the second for the creation of a dwelling house and ancillary east of Roden Southwell (silver wells).</p> <p>KR asked how the Community were going to respond. RG indicated that the planning application response for the Beach Hut was required by the 20<sup>th</sup> March and had only been received on the 19<sup>th</sup> March. KR said this was unacceptable. As a statutory consultee SBC were obliged to ensure CCC had the mandatory period to respond. ET confirmed that in the past CCC had had to trawl the local newspapers to identify the planning applications. NW asked JA what was the point of responding. As far as he was aware SBC Planning had not listened to CCC in over 40 years.</p> <p>JA said it was important for CCC to respond to planning applications even with 'No Comment'. CCC represented the views of the community. An objection from the Community Council and seven individual Community Council members would trigger a review of a planning application.</p>

Topic	Key Discussion Points
Resilience Group	AF reported she had had a positive meeting with SBC – Neil Ingles. A number of people had expressed an interest in being involved. <b>Action - AF to explore availability of Neil Ingles to attend on 16<sup>th</sup> April or 21<sup>st</sup> May 6pm to discuss resilient communities.</b>
Lawfield to Abbots Row to Manse Road - Safe route to school	Mrs Prentice reported that the path from Lawfield to Abbots Row to Manse Road (often referred to as the safe route to school) was now a nightmare to use since the flooding. JA confirmed he would add the path to the permanent repair list which already included the Manse Road to the Burn path.

## AOCB

Topic	Key discussion points
Road Closure	Lawfield would be closed for two days starting on the 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 from 9am – 4.30pm.
Constitution	<p>KR requested that the Constitution be discussed as submission to SBC was overdue. He highlighted that at the end of the last meeting RG had agreed to look again for the signed version. RG confirmed she could not locate it. DT sought confirmation that neither CCC or SBC had been able to locate a copy. RG and JA confirmed this to be the case. In parallel KR had drafted and circulated a single amendment re the number of terms an office bearer could hold a post.</p> <p>KR sought confirmation from JA if CCC could extend the date of submission. JA said in principle no and that CCC had to seek permission from SBC. KR confirmed he had issued an email to SBC on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 and a follow up email to which no response had been received. As a result he had escalated the matter to Cllr Hamilton in an attempt to receive a response from SBC Democratic Services.</p> <p>KR stated his understanding based on JA statement in December 2023 was that the Community Council only had to consult on substantive changes as the Model 2014 Constitution had been approved by Scottish Government. KR indicated he had sought guidance on two occasions from SBC as to the definition of substantive change to which no response had been received. As a consequence the assumption made by CCC was that the single amendment under consideration was not substantive.</p> <p><b>Action - CCC agreed to review and confirm acceptance of proposed amendment directly after the meeting and to submit a signed copy to SBC as soon as possible.</b></p>
Coldingham Community Website	The Community Council thanked David Hood for the huge amount of effort he had invested in developing the new version of the Community Council Website which was now live.

### **Summary of actions agreed in meeting**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Put JE in touch with Pamela Doonin.	NW	31/03/24	Open
2	Explore availability of Neil Ingles to attend on 16 <sup>th</sup> April or 21 <sup>st</sup> May 6pm to discuss resilient communities.	AF	31/03/24	Open
3	Review and confirm acceptance of amendment directly after the meeting and to submit signed copy to SBC as soon as possible.	CCC	29/03/24	Open

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 7pm at the Coldingham Community Village Hall.

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## Appendix A - Actions arising from previous meetings

### 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Action	Description	Owner	Due Date	Update	Status
1.	Reston Coldingham Junction – RG and KR to liaise with DJ to understand the history and outcomes on previous discussions re this junction	KR	31/01/2024	KR spoke to Dave Jones and it was agreed it was best for KR to engage Logan at Reston CC.	Open
2.	Review, comment and agree amendments to the 2014 Constitution for CCC	CCC	20/02/2024	See minutes 19/03/2024	Closed
4.	Identify replacement options for village outside Christmas lights and costs	NW	31/01/2024	No update	Open
10.	CCC to submit response to SBC re Sunny Bank planning application for a studio	RG	12/02/2024	No update	Open
11.	Speak to Sheila Wilson to understand what Coldingham Primary School did with respect to recording stories from long term Coldingham residents.	NW	16/04/2024	NW spoke to Sheila Wilson – no stories available. NW and ET to speak to Joan Blatchley	Open

### 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Action	Description	Owner	Due Date	Update	Status
1.	Obtain replacement signage re dog fouling and keeping dogs on leads from SBC for Coldingham Church.	RG	30/04/2024	No progress. PA to talk to Lynn Bogle and Hannah Redden. Signed provided by Friends of the Coldingham Community.	Closed
2.	Consult Coldingham Community on ideas for finishing the paving around the Mercat Cross.	NW	30/04/2024	NW to chase and PA to nudge him. Andrew agreeable. Work to be progressed on ideas.	Open