



COLDINGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - Approved

20th August 2024, 7pm Coldingham Village Hall

Present

Coldingham Community Council:

Philippa Allan (PA)	Jack Eeley (JE)	Alice Fisher (AF)
Krishna Ramcharran (KR)	Richard Thomas (RT)	Ethne Turnbull (ET)
Peter White (PW)		

Members of the Coldingham Community: 10

Councilors: Cllr Carol Hamilton, Cllr James Anderson

Coldingham Police: n/a

Apologies for absence

Cllr Aileen Orr.

Agenda

The proposed agenda was agreed. Nominated PW, Seconded JE.

Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes for 18th June 2024 were approved, PA nominated, AF seconded, subject to two minor amendments:

- Correction of date of next meeting to 20th August 2024, and
- Confirmation that Brenda Alexander will audit the 2024/25 CCC annual accounts.

Presentation from Border Community Action

Beth Landon from Border Community Action gave a presentation on the work carried out to assist Community Councils develop Community Action Plans (CAPs). The plans set out the long term vision for a community, are produced collectively by the community and can take over a year to develop. They are useful in assisting in large funding applications. A copy of the slides and supporting material will be made available. Good examples of CAPs include those for Copath and Abby St Bathans.

Matters Arising / Actions from Previous Minutes

KR confirmed little progress had been made on the actions from the last CC meeting. He apologised citing the need by the Community Councilors to take a short break over the summer.

Verges

KR confirmed correspondence had been received from a member of the community concerning visibility issues due to overgrown hedges on the Reston Road close to the Bees Edge Farm turning and by the Coldingham side of Pease Bay Bridge. Cllr Hamilton indicated that these might be addressed when SBC resume Hedge Trimming in September.

Actions

BEAR – JA stated that BEAR had confirmed they would not instigate North and South diversions running through Coldingham going forward. BEAR would also hold a Community Council forum to which CCC would be invited to discuss up coming diversions.

Headstones – JA to pursue and provide an update. ET informed the community that a member of the public had been irate about the state of the headstones. A challenge was how to manage headstones for which it was impossible to identify the family.

Paths – KR confirmed SBC had provided a map of the Core Paths. CC were yet to contact Mike Fenty to help identify the non core paths. He also suggested that the scoping of paths might be an initiative best undertaken by a subgroup.

Speeding Signage – KR confirmed a written request had been submitted to SBC. Both Carol Hallows and Michael Clift and reported an omission which KR had now corrected and a revision submission due. JE asked if School Warning Triangle could be included on Westloch Road given the number of delivery drivers now using the Road. AF asked if a 40mph zone could be introduced on the Reason Road approach to Coldingham as it was a sudden drop from the national speed limit to 20mph. JA indicated that this was not possible as a trial period was required first and such measures could only be consider on an annual basis.

SBC Report

Cllr Hamilton – In comment to the creation of Community Action Plans Cllr Hamilton indicated that key to the process was to formulate a plan first. She had witnessed the efforts by Eyemouth CC who have been going through process for over a year. She confirmed that the process does require a lot of consultation.

Cllr Anderson – The next Area Partnership meeting is scheduled for 5th September at Reston. An email will be issued. Three automotive thefts had been reported in Eyemouth – detailed in the Ward report.

A member of the community asked if the Cllrs were aware of the reports on social media that local children were being approached. JA confirmed he was aware. The matter had been investigated and the claims posted found to be false.

Treasurers Report

AF confirmed there had been no change in the financial position since the AGM in June 2024. Nio payments had been made due to the ongoing issues with the Bank of Scotland and change of signatories application. BoS staff had very apologetic that the forms had again been lost yet again, had helped file a complaint, and provided £40 compensation for the

trouble to date. BoS promised to fast track the application on receipt of a new set of forms. The new set of forms were submitted on 20/08/2024.

AF confirmed that:

- CCC had complied with SBC requirements to access the Annual Support Grant which would amount to £740 for 2024/25.
- the CCC Wreath for Remembrance Day had been ordered
- £374 was allocated to the replacement of Xmas Tree lights.

It was asked if Tommy had submitted his invoice yet for path cutting. PA indicated that Tommy would only supply it once all the cutting had been completed. When asked JA confirmed that the funds were not in situ indefinitely and that the sooner invoices were submitted the greater the likelihood of them being paid. PA agreed to chase Tommy.

Police Report – KR confirmed the last report received was for June 2024. No incidents had been reported in Coldingham.

The Cross Update – PW presented two proposals for finishing the base of the Coldingham Cross. The aim was to keep the finishing aligned materials used for the Cross and minimise maintenance. The plans included space for two parking spaces and room for benches, planters and an information board. Both quotes were in the region of £13k. A quote had also been received for the supply and installation of stone bollards and chain to cordon off the area and protect it from cars. Dave Jones (DJ) kindly agreed to create some graphics of PW's plan to bring it to life. The visuals would be presented at the next CCC meeting and a decision made on how to proceed. KR explained he had been trying to contact National Heritage Scotland and SBC to seek advice on liability for the Cross. When asked who owned the Cross no one was able to provide a response. It was suggested that Pauline Hood at Cockburnspath might be able to advise as they will have experienced a similar issue.

Grants and Funding

KR informed the meeting that:

- CCC had received training on the administration of funds from RES and Foundation Scotland on 3rd July 2024
- Foundation Scotland were holding an online training session on 'Hot Topics' for on 29th August 2024
- The Local Action Group Fund - The closing dates for applications were 14 August, 4 and 24 September 2024. Two funds were available – The community Led Local Development Fund (£1500 - £20,000) and The Growing Local Economy Fund (up to £5000). Key themes for all applications were Net Zero/Climate Change, Social Inclusion and Poverty Alleviation
- The closing date for applications for the latest Drone Hill funding round was 8 September 2024.

A member of the community mentioned they had recently spoken to a senior representative of the offshore wind farm. They had expressed their willingness to engage with local communities. The community member agreed to help set up a meeting with KR.

CCC Microgrant Policy – AF summarised the purpose and key principles of the draft policy which had been circulated to the CC for review and uploaded onto Coldingham Info. KR advised that Foundation Scotland had confirmed there was no differentiation between applicants that were individuals or organisations or the value of microgrant that could be awarded. All applicants were to be treated fairly and therefore the second paragraph should be amended accordingly. The CC agreed that a subgroup should be formed to evaluate microgrant applications and to make recommendations of award to the Community Council. Community Councillors Philippa Allan and Ethne Turnbull and Mary White from the community volunteered to be the subgroup. Subject to the amendments discussed, CCC voted 7-0 in favour of adopting the policy.

A member of the community asked if microgrant applications could be made retrospectively, they had invested their own funds in a community sport initiative the previous year. KR advised that only forward looking applications could be made.

Communications Policy

- KR apologised for items not making it to the Village Notice Board due to difficulties with the lock.
- AF summarised the key purpose and elements of the draft policy which had been circulated to the CC for review and uploaded onto Coldingham Info. JE proposed revising the bullet point under ‘The importance of good communication’ to be more inclusive. It was also agreed to delete the last sentence from the section ‘Village Notice Board’. Subject to these amendments, CCC voted 7-0 in favour of adopting the policy.

View to the end of the Year 2024

KR informed the community that with changes in the CC, he wished to start discussing these events early to avoid issues later on.

- Remembrance Service – With invaluable input from ET, KR was putting together a checklist of things that needed to be completed. He welcomed the input of all the community. He informed the meeting that PW had advised of the need to move the WW1 information board in the memorial garden to an area of greater visibility. There was general consensus that this should be done and PW was asked to get quotes if required to carry out any necessary works and improve the weather proofing of the information board itself. NW confirmed his agreement to help with the WW Soldier silhouettes.
- Xmas Lights - RT confirmed he would supply the Community Xmas Tree this year. JE confirmed he would work to get a crew together to help with the installation. NW confirmed he agreement to carry out necessary arrangements.

Correspondence

Two items had been received from the Community:

- The use of a formal change control sheet on all CC formal documents detailing review dates and approvals – KR confirmed this would be implemented.
- Acknowledgement by the CCC for the contributions made by the previous Chair and Treasurer and Ann and Bobby Kerr for their running of the Luckenbooth – KR confirmed the CC were had been discussing this for a few months and would implement the agreed actions imminently.

Four items had been received from SBC:

- SBC's initiative to provide CC's with Non Financial Support were looking to establish a short life working group. Parties interested in participating were to confirm by 11/08/2024. KR explained he had missed the date by a couple of days. He had emailed the organiser to express interest and was waiting for a reply.
- SBC Berwickshire Community Conversations – The latest rounds of conversations had started with the next session scheduled for 22/08/2024 in Dunns. SBC had indicated that the conversations the previous year had proved successful. An outcome had been the installation of electronic speeding signs in a number of villages across Berwickshire. CC had missed out as for part of the time CC was not operating.
- Local Development Plan – SBC were scheduled to adopt the Local Development Plan on 22 August 2024. The Coldingham section of the plan references tow developments – Bogan Green (36 properties) and The Firs (10 properties)
- Tour of Britain Cycling – The event was taking place on 3 September 2024 with roads closed in Jedburgh, Coldstream, Galashiels and Greenlaw.

AOCB- The topic of training for first responders was raised. Whilst the installation of the defibrillators was great some members of the community raised their concerns about the lack of trained individuals in the area and the opportunity to use some of the wind farm funds to provide training to the Community Response Group.

DONM – Tuesday 17th September 2024, 7pm Village Hall.