



COLDINGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - Approved

17th September 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: 4

Councilors: Cllr Carol Hamilton, Cllr James Anderson

Coldingham Police: n/a

1: Apologies for absence

Cllr Aileen Orr.

2: Agenda

The revised agenda was proposed by KR & agreed w/o objection. No additional urgent AOCB items were proposed. RT agreed to take minutes.

3: Previous Minutes

The minutes were approved subject to a minor typo correction (PW/JE).

4: Matters Arising / Actions from Previous Minutes

Headstones - JA confirmed he is awaiting a reply from SBC Parks Department (Carol Cook) with respect to (w.r.t.) Health & Safety aspects.

Speeding Signage - KR explained a response had been received from SBC (Philippa Gilhooly). SBC agreed to:

- Paint 20 mph road signs and dragons teeth markings on three of the approach roads to the village. (PW noted a desirability for something similar on St Abbs road).
- Explore the addition of a 'School' warning sign on Westloch Rd approach to Coldingham Primary School
- Issue notes to landowners with respect to foliage obscuring electronic signage.

SBC also indicated that they:

- Had allocated all their electronic signs for the current year but would add Coldingham to a list for an additional sign should funding become available.
- Would not support the extension of the 20mph speed limit on the approach to Coldingham from the Moor Road. KR explained this was a misunderstanding and was working with members of the community on revised wording.

The work will be undertaken before the end of March 2025. CCC will push for completion before winter. An attendee noted continued speeding on approach from Eyemouth.

Coldingham Paths - Plans for KR and PA to meet Dr. Fenty to discuss scoping work of the Coldingham paths were delayed due to illness. This and the idea of forming a working subgroup to handle this project will be progressed.

PA confirmed an invoice for the completed CCC-funded path trimming work was expected imminently for submission to SBC. An attendee noted private garden foliage obstructing Chariot Row path - PA agreed to pursue informally. PW noted overgrown hedge on School Rd (Sooty Duck) - KR agreed to pursue informally. Cllr JA informed the CC that that SBC could issue letters to landowners in this context if required. ET noted an overgrown hedge area between Abbots Row and Lawfield - PA agreed to address.

Actions - KR summarised progress on key actions and invited comments on the new format of the action log.

5: SBC Report - JA provided updates on the meeting with BEAR Scotland at the Berwickshire Community Councils Forum on 13 September 2024 and confirmed an electronic copy of their presentation will be made available. Substantial resurfacing works on the A1 are expected over the next 6 months to utilise the 2023/24 budget. BEAR Scotland confirmed that only northbound traffic will be diverted through Coldingham. A list of scheduled works will be shared, and the issue of drivers skipping designated diversions will be addressed by reminding haulage companies.

CH

- reported changes in 'large item' refuse collection, requiring the pre-booking of certain items – a full list can be found on the SBC website.
- reminded the community of the SBC 'Improving Cancer Journeys' initiative which is free and available to anyone in the Borders newly diagnosed with cancer
- urged the community to continue to report potholes which are now formally mapped.

AF queried the situation regarding Eyemouth Primary School proposed site changes/development. CH outlined the proposed 'campus model'. She indicated that with a fixed budget of £16m discussions were required with the PPP partners. JA added that the decision-making process is complex and engaging with and explaining the developments and issues to the community is non-trivial.

6: Treasurers Report - AF reported that she and PA are now official signatories on the CCC bank account, though online banking access is still pending. Key points to note re the accounts were:

Current balance: £126,908.01.

Cheques issued include:

- £3,612.42 for the Coldingham Gala.
- £33 for a wreath for the British Legion.
- £60 for the village hall.

AF confirmed no significant movement in wind farm fund balances (£126k).

7: Police Report - KR summarised the report for August 2024 (see Appendix A) and confirmed a copy of the report would be made available on Coldingham Info website.

8: The Cross - A graphical rendering (DJ) of the proposed completed arrangement was displayed. PW walked the CC through three quotes received for the completion of the base works of "The Cross". The first quote was from PK Landscaping (£13,720 incl. VAT) which included stone bollards from Hutton Stone. The second quote was from AGF (£12,243 incl. VAT) but excluded Hutton Stone bollards. A third quote was from C.P.S. Construction (£11,500). The quote was ruled out as it was considered not sufficiently detailed. PW favoured the quote from PK Landscaping due to the company's reputation and quality of work.

KR raised a number of queries w.r.t. to the composition of the quotes and terms of payment, and sought confirmation from PW that the final choice of materials in the PK Landscaping still had to be confirmed by CCC. PW confirmed that the costs for the information boards and benches were excluded from the quote and would be obtained at a later date.

The Community Council voted in favour (7-0) of proceeding with PK Landscaping as preferred contractor. PW agreed to set up a meeting with PK Landscaping, himself, RT and KR to work through design details, process, final costs and payment schedule.

KR reminded the meeting that discussions re a formal agreement with the landowner were still pending and a condition of the release of funding from Foundation Scotland.

An attendee proposed formal thanks to DJ for the graphics work and stressed the need to get the essential work completed ASAP.

9: War Memorial Garden - CCC is investigating whether to bring the remembrance board comprising Scottish Regimental crests, which is currently obstructed by trees off the wall and into plain view.

PW presented a quote received from K. McClure (£1333) for the design, layout and printing on Di-bond aluminum and supply of timber posts for mounting. An attendee summarised the history of the current board and images and expressed surprise over the cost. JA advised that the CC should as a matter of best practice always obtain three quotes. A discussion ensued w.r.t. possible alternative sources of graphical, print and manufacturing work and it

was agreed that a number of them would be pursued via personal contacts. PW to clarify quote components.

10: Coldingham Bay Defibrillator

CCC have agreed in principle to the installation of a defibrillator at Coldingham Bay. AF received several quotes covering purchase and hire options (with varying arrangements for pad replacement, annual checks etc.). Quotes for purchase ranged between £1000 and £1469 excl cabinet installation and replacement parts. The quote for five year hire was £438/annum all inclusive except for the electrical connection.

KR queried the status of SBCs permission for the installation and visibility of the written confirmation. AF confirmed that SBC is content for the equipment to be fixed to the WC block, and a local electrician has confirmed the location to be technically suitable. KR asked enquired about the exact composition of the quotes and in the case of the St Johns Ambulance quote annual recurring costs. AF agreed to check responsibility for recurring post-installation costs, inspections, repair and maintenance and consumables.

JA noted CCC asset insurance implications of CCC owns the apparatus - AF to confirm.

CCC members to consider and subsequently vote on a preferred supplier once all the additional information had been supplied and supplementary questions answered.

11: Playpark Stakeholder Engagement

JE explained that the purpose of this section was to provide a short update and seek advice on the proposed stakeholder engagement plan. JE summarised the key stages for the Playpark:

- Obtaining SBC permissions, agree the MoU and obtain insurance
- Agreeing the design
- Obtain quotes.

The option currently being considered - due to cost - involves sandblasting and repainting the existing equipment, installing additional items; and fencing the area. To date 3 recommended manufacturers of equipment have been shortlisted. An attendee asked if the equipment had had a safety check. Jack confirmed one of the manufacturers had confirmed the equipment to be safe enough to be enhanced. JE agreed to obtain the most recent safety check report carried out by SBC on equipment.

The stakeholder engagement plan proposes consulting with:

- Gala Cttee Chair (NR) given their use of the playing field for the annual Gala;
- Pupils at Coldingham Primary School (3 potential equipment supplier/installers have supplied brochures, these will form the basis of a discussion);
- Wider community (likely a Village Hall event to address the expressed preferences from the School engagement).

JE clarified that the current consultation plans are focused on the children's play area exclusively.

KR advised that it was too early to discount options. The community had to be presented with a series of costed options that reflected the suggestions on the Wishlist, for example the Gym Trail. Consultation would fix the scope and influence the funding strategy - there were a number of funds which CC could apply too.

An attendee noted that other communities had received fully-funded playparks from SBC funds. KR agree to seek clarification on the rationale for the allocation of funds to Playparks in Duns, St Abbs, Chirnside, Ayton and Eyemouth. If need be KR proposed submitting an Fol.

KR proposed that those currently involved in looking at the options for the Playpark (JE, Robbie Broomfield, Jan Walker and Hollie Dougal) be acknowledged as a subgroup of the Community Council as it may provide benefit when applying for grant funding and would provide a formal reporting route into the CC. The CC voted in favour (7-0) to establish the subgroup.

12: Launch of Microgrant Applications

KR confirmed that members of CCC (KR, AF & JE) had attended a useful Hot Tips online Foundation Scotland training session focused on the evaluation and award of microgrants. KR confirmed that the presentation slides will be made available to other CCC members.

KR confirmed that CCC were now accepting microgrant applications. AF confirmed that a poster covering key information including grant amounts and dates had been prepared and would be posted on the community notice board and online (Coldingham Info & "What's on in Coldingham - FB). It was agreed that the closing date for this initial pilot would end on 15th October 2024 and that further rounds would follow. The date would be added to the poster.

13: Calendar Dates

Berwickshire Area Partnership took place on 5th September 2024. KR was due to attend but could not due to illness. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 5th December 2024. KR and PA have agreed to attend.

Community Benefit and Shared Ownership of Renewable Energy – the last physical meeting was on 17th September 2024 in Duns. An online session is scheduled for 24th September 2024.

14: Correspondence

Planning Application - A planning application (24/1025/FUL) had been received to form 30 hard standing pitches and the erection of 20 camping pods, and five additional pitches for static caravans. Closing date for comments 11/10/2024. RT, PW, JE, and ET expressed no objection. KR and AF raised some concerns re the additional traffic this could cause through the village and the need for some contribution to the community. KR, PA and AF to confirm their position.

Accessibility to disabled parking spaces - A member of the community had raised concerns around the accessibility to the disabled parking spaces opposite St Vedas and the parking in front of village defibrillator at the Luckenbooth. The community member had raised the concerns previously. KR agreed to raise the issue with SBC.

15: AOCB

- It was reported that the railings on path from School Rd to surgery car park were badly corroded. KR agreed to raise the concerns with SBC.
- An attendee proposed that the crochet group to add to Remembrance Day displays. This was supported unanimously by the CC.

16: DONM – Tuesday 15th October 2024, 7pm Village Hall.

Appendix A – Scottish Borders Area Command Report for Aug 2024 - Summary

Scottish Borders Police attended 186 Mental Health related calls, 29 missing person enquiries and 75 domestic related incidents. East Berwickshire 9 mental health related calls and 2 missing person enquiries.

- Reducing violence and antisocial behaviour

No incidents in Coldingham. 6/7 occurred in Eyemouth – The Tavern Carpark and Co-Op carpark.

- Vandalism

Report of car being keyed on both sides whilst parked at Coldingham Bay – 15/08/2024

- Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Housebreaking - No incidents in Coldingham. 2/4 in Eyemouth, one in Chirnside and the other at Hutton Stone workshop

Theft – 3/6 incidents in Eyemouth, 1 in St Abbs, 1 in Co'path and the other in East Mains.

- Serious and Organised Crime

Scottish Borders CID executed 6 Drug warrants, all positive and 9 people charged with drug related offences.