

CRAILING, ECKFORD & NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2016
ECKFORD VILLAGE HALL – ECKFORD – 7:00
DRAFT MINUTE

1. **Attendees:** John Campbell (Chair), Sylvia Seivwright (Secretary/Treasurer), Caroline Cook, Charlie Robertson, Donald Linton, Sheila Campbell, PC Gary Chisholm and Jim Brand a member of the public and new owner of Eckford Parish Church
2. **Apologies:** Cllr Rory Stewart, Elliott Lewis, Marie Hogg, Ron Leddy
3. **Minute of Previous Meeting** (25th May 2016 following AGM) – approved.

4. **Matters Arising:**

> Linda Coles was formally co-opted in her absence.

> It was noted that an application to the Community Paths Grants Scheme has been rejected due to the quantity of requests made. It was agreed that we should re-submit our grant application at the next opportunity. **Action: SC check application opportunities**

5. **Treasurer's Report:**

There has been little change since the last meeting. There are sufficient funds to take account of anticipated expenses. It was noted that money will need to be ring fenced for Website Hosting, Defibrillator Pads and Batteries which have an ongoing cost attached to them. A budget outlining the position and identifying the ongoing costs to be prepared and submitted to the next CC meeting. **Action SS: prepare budget proposal**

It was pointed out that monies raised as a result of community involvement in marshalling for the Jedburgh Half Marathon is currently donated to Lothian Hall and Eckford Village Hall/Well Road Productions. It may be necessary for these monies to be retained by the Community Council in the future with effect from 2017 to contribute to ongoing costs such as defibrillator costs and maintenance of the Community Council website.

It was noted that the CEN defibrillator equipment is fairly unique in its provision of child pads. Most communities have standard pads only. It was agreed that further information was required before a decision could be made on whether or not the child pads should be renewed in 2017. **Action SC: investigate benefits and report back**

6. **Police Report – PC Gary Chisholm**

Road Safety, Anti Social Behaviour, Rural Crime and Drug Dealing and misuse are the ward priorities. PC Chisholm outlined the issues that had been dealt with over the past 8 weeks.

It was noted that there had been 4 road accidents between Jedburgh and Kelso and the speed of the traffic using the A698 was highlighted again. PC Chisholm advised that speed cameras continue to be deployed in the area but there had been no recorded speeding incidents within the last 8 weeks.

7. **Three Year Plan 2014 – 2017**

(a) Jubilee Path – The launch was deemed a success and lots of feedback had been received, mainly positive but there were also some constructive suggestions which were discussed and are being attended to. CR thanked JC and SC for their work in making the launch a success but had hoped for more press coverage. JC advised that it had been picked up by the Southern Reporter and BBC Radio Scotland, The Jedeye and various other places. JC had promoted it to walkers he met in Austria, SS advised that friends of hers had promoted it via Facebook. The walking groups that had attended are also spreading the word. CR has also been invited to give presentations on the walk to the Jedburgh Rotary and a group in Kelso.

All sponsors were thanked for their contributions and it was noted that Teviot Smokery had been exceptionally generous with their support.

EL had advised, via email, that he was disappointed that the route had not gone through Crailing. This was discussed and it was noted that as a Community Councillor EL should have been aware of the route, in detail, and it had not deviated from its original path in respect of Crailing. The booklet states that there is a half mile detour to Crailing and there is as much historical information on Crailing as there is on Eckford and Nisbet. It is also anticipated that from this initial circular route that there will be spin off routes which could specifically incorporate Crailing.

Signage from Eckford – There is an issue with signing the starting point which CR and SK (SBC) have investigated. The best solution would be to have a metal sign fitted to the lamppost – this would cost approximately £180. It was agreed that this should go ahead and that an application to cover the cost should be made to the Local Community Paths Maintenance Grant Scheme in the first instance. **Action SC:** Confirm with SK and submit application.

Kalemouth to Eckford - Weather conditions and the volume of people walking the route had made this stretch wet and slippery on the launch day. The situation has been monitored over the summer and there has been no repeat of this. However CR and SK (SBC) have discussed the matter and SK(SBC) is organising for the Path Wardens to deal with this as soon as their busy season is over.

SK(SBC) had also identified that an access could be made at the Teviot Smokery side of the A698 which would bring walkers down and under the road. It is a very steep slope and would require steps. This is a longer term project which she feels the Criminal Justice Team could assist with. **Action CR/SC:** liaise with SK on this matter.

Eckford Mill to Eckford Several people have raised concerns that they have found this final stretch of the route to be hazardous due to speeding traffic. Several options were discussed e.g. working with the farmer to provide a path inside the edge of the field but this would require significant maintenance to keep this part of the route clear. The other stretches currently take 4/5 hours a month to keep under control. CR suggested that having a white line painted along the offside of the road would have two benefits (1) slow traffic down (2) provide a safe area for walking. **Action SC:** Contact SBC to arrange a site meeting.

- (b) Website Update SC advised that the website is up and running and asked for the support of Community Councillors in using the system. Defibrillator monitoring is active and SC has uploaded details of Businesses that supported the Jubilee Path Launch to the Business Section. It was agreed at the previous meeting that local Businesses should be asked to take an entry at £25 per annum (to help cover the ongoing hosting costs). SC asked for help from other Community Councillors in contacting these businesses to encourage them to participate. JC suggested obtaining a list of local businesses as a starting point. **Action SC:** Contact SBC to request a Business list

The oil section has not been completed as an offline test environment is being set up to thoroughly test it before it goes live. It was agreed that Elliot and Vera Smith should be asked to be the primary testers as they are the ones who are currently administering the Oil Group Purchase Scheme. **Action SC:** Liaise with Sandu and Elliot and Vera.

Cloning Sandu has submitted their costs for cloning the site in full or in part e.g. Full site (front and back end), or in Sections i.e. Resilient Communities; Oil Purchasing; Defibrillator Monitoring; Community Council; Village Halls with limited front end. The quote provided is based on the process of cloning and restyling the design to personalise it for new customers. There are a couple of potential interested parties. It was agreed that given the volume of voluntary work undertaken by SC towards the development of this site that it would be fair and reasonable for the Community Council to receive a share of the income from any cloning. It was agreed that a reasonable figure for the full site would be

£500 and an equivalent percentage for the other sections would be appropriate. The copyright for the site is owned by the Community Council but the grant conditions will have to be scrutinized to ensure that there are no clauses that prevent this from progressing. **Action SC:** *Check grant conditions, liaise with Sandu and interested parties.*

- (c) Resilient Communities Update CR advised that there was little happening in this area and that new staff were being appointed at SBC. It was noted that First Aid Courses are being offered out to Resilient Communities and that this should be promoted via the Newsletter. **Action SC:** *Promote First Aid Courses*

Participant Contact Details These are held in excel format at the moment but can be added to the website for people to manage their own details. CR advised that the contacts remained the same. **Action SC:** *Contact Resilient Communities participants via the website and request they update their details online.*

- (d) Defibrillator Heated Cabinets SC advised that a solar option for heating cabinets does not appear to be a viable option at this time. She has obtained quotes for Heated Cabinets with Scottish HART being the preferred option and that connections could be made to phone boxes in the following way:
- > Eckford – via the Village Hall which has been approved by the committee
 - > Crailing – either BT Sub Station (awaiting feedback from BT) or move the Defibrillator to Lothian Hall which would require the approval of the Lothian Hall Committee. **Action DL:** *Seek approval from Lothian Hall Committee*
 - > Nisbet – there is a source in the phone box which could be used
 - > Ulston – There is a suggestion that the defibrillator should be moved to a more central location which has been identified by Elliot Smith. The property owner has queried insurance coverage which is being investigated. **Action SC:** *Liaise with SBC/Elliot Smith re insurance cover*

There was discussion around how necessary it would be to change from our current insulated cabinets to heated cabinets given that the number of times the units had to be brought indoors over winter was very small. This should be investigated before proceeding. The need for pediatric pads was also discussed and further investigation is required before a decision is made.

Action SC: *Check with Scottish Hart and Jim Fraser SBC re the above and report back*

8. Community Updates from Local Community Councillors

- (a) Crailling – Jedburgh Festival - After receiving invitations from the The Jethart Callants Festival it was noted that the CC had not been represented at some events this year. Apologies to be sent to Callant Festival Committee with a request for invitations to be sent via the current Secretary and that there should be a concerted effort to ensure that the community is represented in future years. **Action CC:** *Contact Callants Festival Committee request change*

Crailling Rideout /Presentation - DL raised the Crailling Rideout which was discussed. There is limited time spent in Crailling and CCs are aware that this is because the main event takes place at Nisbet with speeches etc. Suggestions were made that the presentation at Crailling could be made at the Crailling War Memorial or at Nisbet but it would be useful to seek the feedback from the Crailling Community before contacting the Callant Festival Committee: **Action DL,CC and EL** *To check the feeling of the Crailling villagers and report back*

Bus Stop DL raised an issue in relation to bushes obscuring the bus shelter. **Action DL:** *Report this matter to Alistair Finnie, SBC or Lothian Estates whoever is responsible.*

- (b) Eckford – The Village Hall is experiencing problems due to wet rot. Investigations have been carried out and options to raise funds to carry out repairs are being explored.

There is an issue with the Loaning Buckets where contents overflow making an unsightly mess. A representative from SBC has visited the site and will provide a report on whether or not the capacity of

the bucket provision is in keeping with the volume of properties.

Buckleuch Estates have also made a site visit and suggested several options for screening the buckets.

Action SC: Await feedback from SBC and liaise with Eckford CCs

Scottish Water have agreed to put sealed lids on the Bioseptic tank in the centre of the village.

Jim Brand confirmed that he was the new owner of Eckford Parish Church, an area around the church, the watch tower and the paddock. He had received complaints from the public regarding the condition of the graveyard, which is owned and maintained by SBC and a penalty notice in relation to people using the lay-by for parking. He is an experienced property developer and wishes to be cooperative with locals and the Council to maintain both access to the graveyard and the appearance of the graveyard.

It was suggested that Mr Brand make contact with Cllr Rory Stewart. **Action SC:** Put JB and RS in touch with each other.

It was noted that a ceremony to commemorate Private Black a veteran of the Korean War whose name has recently been added to the War Memorial will take place on 11th November 2016. The Community Council will provide a wreath to be laid on behalf of the CC at this service. **Action SC:** Order wreath promote service via Newsletter.

Charlie Robertson and Margaret Jeary were concerned about the state of the gates into the cemetery and have offered to paint them. **Action CR** Liaise with Alistair Finnie SBC

The Church will feature on a restoration project programme on Channel 4. An archaeological dig will be taking place in the paddock and a stone, thought to be one of the most important stones in Scotland, has also been found – JB is liaising with Historic Scotland on this matter.

Nisbet – 30 miles Signs have been installed however the heavy farm vehicles are hitting the signs at the Roxburgh side of the village.

There was an issue with a tree at the site of the Scottish Waste Water Works at West Nisbet. SS and some villagers met with Scottish Water onsite, the matter was discussed, Lothian Estates were contacted and the tree has now been removed.

SS reported bushes obscuring the view of oncoming traffic at a dangerous bend to Lothian Estates who immediately attended to the matter.

- (c) Ulston – Confirmation of progress in respect of the signage from A698, which was suggested by DL at the last meeting, is required. **Action SC:** Check with Cllr RS

9. **SBC Update** – No updates

10. **Planning Applications**

- (a) Bonjedward - the application was rejected then appealed but the original decision was upheld.
(b) Wester Ulston – No objections were made
(c) Land North of Nisbet Mill There were no initial objections and a further application has been made for 2 garages, one at either side of the semi detached properties. No objection was made. **Action SS:** notify SBC

11. **Jedburgh Half Marathon 30th October 2016**

Eckford may be short of volunteers this year. See also 5 above.

Action CR/SC: Seek additional helpers

12. Correspondence

- (a) Cheviot transport event 7th June 2016 - circulated
- (b) Community energy Scotland Members Bulletin - circulated
- (c) Local Authorities Consultation - circulated
- (d) Community Council Websites and Social Media - circulated
- (e) HM Fire Service Inspectorate - circulated
- (f) Christmas Lighting – circulated
- (g) Path Training for your Organisation 15th and 22nd September - circulated
- (h) Scottish Heritage Angel Awards - circulated
- (i) How PAS can support your Community Council – circulated
- (j) Scottish Rural Parliament 2016 (Invitation) 6th-8th October Angus
- (k) Rural Innovation Sought
- (l) Scottish Borders Cycle Tourism Strategy Workshop – Comments by 16th Sept 16
- (m) Safer Borders Newsletter
- (n) Local Housing Strategy – Consultation August – October 2016
- (o) National Park Stakeholder Meeting 17th November Jedburgh **Action SC:** *Newsletter article*
- (p) CAB AGM Invite 4th October, Abbey Row, Kelso
- (q) Data Protection Registration Information – circulated **Action SC:** *Add to website and request change of contact details.*

13. AOB

Playground Equipment Brochures had been received – no further action.

Festive Lighting Promotional brochures had been received – no further action.

Village Regeneration CR highlighted a trip he had made to Ford and Etal Estates and outlined how it had held its population and created job opportunities using a proactive approach creating small business units. He suggested that there were lessons that could be learned by the Crailing, Eckford and Nisbet Communities.

Three Year Plan JC advised that the three year plan should be revisited and that Village Regeneration is a matter that should be discussed further and involve members of the wider community.

Action SS: *Village Regeneration/Three Year Plan to be added as an Agenda Item for next CC meeting*

14. Date of Next Meeting

16th November 2016, 7:00, Lothian Hall, Crailing