

# **CRAILING, ECKFORD & NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018 – LOTHIAN HALL, CRAILING – 7PM**

### **Welcome by Chair**

The meeting was opened by Interim Chair Charlie Robertson who thanked those present for their attendance.

- **Attendees/Apologies:**

- **In attendance:** Com Cllr Charlie Robertson, Com Cllr Malcolm McGregor (Vice Chair), Com Cllr Peter Jeary (Treasurer), Victoria Wood (Secretary), Com Cllr Linda Coles, Scottish Borders Cllr Sandy Scott, Douglas Scowen and three members of the public.
- **Apologies received from:** Com Cllr's, Caroline Cook, Dinah Nicol, Marie Hogg and SBC Cllrs Scott Hamilton and Jim Brown.

- **Casual Vacancy / Co-Opted member:**

A vacancy within the Crailing, Eckford and Nisbet Community Council area arose at the last quarterly meeting (25.6.18) when Ron Leddy (Ulston) stood down from his post. The vacant position was filled by co-option which will be ratified at the next AGM of the Community Council.

Douglas Scowen from Eckford was proposed by Charlie Robertson and seconded by Peter Jeary. Term of office until 2021.

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- **Election of Chair:**

A nomination was received for the position of Chairperson from the Vice Chair, Malcolm McGregor.

Malcolm McGregor was proposed by Charlie Robertson and seconded by Peter Jeary. The vacant position was therefore filled and will be ratified at the next AGM of the Community Council.

There is currently no position of Vice Chair, nor election sought unless a nomination is put forward at a later date.

Following this appointment, Charlie Robertson thanked those who had stood for nomination and immediately stood down as Interim Chair.

Malcolm McGregor thereafter took over Chair of the meeting.

Malcolm McGregor asked for agreement to take some of the agenda items out of order, specifically an item to be raised under AOB relating to the ownership of Crailing Bridge. This item was raised by Mr Pearson of Crailing who was present in the audience. (Minuted under item 12 g - AOB)

- **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018 @Eckford Village Hall were approved pending an alteration to 6 (i) replacing the word "Cornet" with the word "Callant". The minutes were thereafter proposed by Charlie Robertson and seconded by Peter Jeary. (**Action for amendment complete**)

- **Matters Arising:**

The following matters arose from the minutes.

- **Speed Limit Teviot Smokery.**

Discussion was had in relation to the request at the previous meeting whereby it had been agreed to invite, along with the Community Police Officer, a representative from SBC and PC Howlett Road Policing Officer to tonight's meeting. All the correspondence by the Secretary and latterly by the Interim Chair had proved unsuccessful in raising a reply of any sort from Police Scotland and this had impacted on all the road safety issues under discussion at the meeting.

All the correspondence by the Secretary (logged in an email trail) and several phone calls by the Interim Chair have proved unsuccessful. However, contact with Jim McQuillan - Assistant Road User Manager, Scottish Borders Council had proved more successful. It is unfortunately not feasible for SBC representatives to attend out of hours meetings such as CC meetings however, the preference is for a meeting to take place during office hours. With this in mind Charlie Robertson has agreed to provide Jim McQuillan and Brian Young, Network Manager, Scottish Borders Council with a synopsis of the relevant issues and with their liaison consider a mutually agreeable date to have site meetings at the various locations. This will cover all the road safety matters hereafter mentioned in these minutes.

**ACTION – Secretary and Chair to liaise and collate the relevant road safety issues and contact SBC representatives (VEW + MMcG )**

- **Eckford Watchtower** – Position to be reviewed regarding maintenance by SBC and any potential future purchase by CEN CC. (VEW)

The Secretary read the contents of an email she had sent to Norrie Curtis, Estates Strategy Surveyor at SBC regarding the Watchtower at Eckford. The Watchtower is currently owned by SBC but is under offer to Mr Jim Brand who owns the Church at Eckford, pending his application for planning to turn the church into a dwelling. The meeting was informed from the reply by Norrie Curtis that to date (19/7/18), no such planning application had been received regarding the change of use of the church.

Scottish Borders Council noted the interest of CEN CC in the Watchtower and in the event of it being put on the market or being sold then CEN CC would be advised.

It was agreed that Com Cllr Peter Jearv would speak with Mr Brand informally to see what the future held for the change of use for the church to a dwelling and whether a planning application could be expected at any time the near future which would underwrite the potential sale of the Watchtower.

**ACTION – Informal contact to be made to Mr Brand (PJ).**

- **Resilient Communities** – supply of head torches – update (MMcG)

A supply of head torches and batteries had been received from Assistant Emergency Planning Officer Brian MacFarlane at SBC and are to be distributed to the huts. **(Matter closed)**

- **Fundraising for purchasing of future AED batteries and pads** (and potentially machines) and date check of battery/pad/AED expiry. (MMcG)

Four new batteries had been purchased to fit the AED machines at a cost of £200 per battery. The invoice which had arrived was passed to the Treasurer.

AED Pads are to be replaced as required in each area.

The AED's are not currently old enough for their replacement to be an issue however in the future this will need to be considered. Malcolm McGregor had contacted the AED Powerheart O5 Technical Dept and they had advised it would be reasonable to start fundraising when they reached 8 years old, (warranty expiry date), so that money was in place for their replacement at 10 years.

It is suggested that fundraising be considered when they reached 8 years old so that money was in place for their replacement at 10 years.

Charlie Robertson highlighted a possible fund-raising idea in nearby communities whereby potato boxes were laid out at strategic locations and filled with surplus/wind fall apples which were then traded with Thistle Cross cider. The proceeds could then be used to offset against the AED'S. This suggestion was unanimously accepted as a proposal for revisiting in Autumn 2019.

**ACTION – Secretary to add to summer 2019's agenda for inclusion in Autumn (VEW).**

The Treasurer confirmed that he continued to ring fence funds so that CEN CC would be able to meet this monetary requirement in the long term as it was a known outlay. **(Matter now closed)**

- **Appreciation to be made to SBC for roads maintenance** work carried out over the last few months in the CEN area. (VEW)

The Secretary read out an email exchange between herself and Alastair Finnie, Area Neighbourhood Manager (Cheviot) following an email on behalf of CEN CC recording their appreciation at the road maintenance work carried out over the summer months. – **(Matter now closed)**

- **Eckford planning application** – letter opposing the use of The Loaning, Eckford for access to the site / use by construction traffic to be lodged with SBC planning by 3/7/18. (CR)

Charlie Robertson read an extract from the letter (Planning application 18/00667/PPP ) which he submitted to the Planning Department following the recent planning application by Buccleuch Estates at Eckford as outlined. The matter had generated a lot of discussion from residents at the last CEN CC meeting and the road safety/increased traffic issues raised were documented to the Planning Department on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018. (<https://eplanning.scotborders.gov.uk/online->

[applications/applicationDetails.do?  
activeTab=summary&keyVal=P9FBD5NLTAT00](http://applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=P9FBD5NLTAT00)

A similar response had also been submitted by the SBC Roads Planning Department Keith Patterson (Roads Planning Officer) on the same grounds as the letter submitted by CEN CC. Three further objections had also been raised by residents. As a result the planning officer has written to the applicant indicating that an amendment of the site plan is required removing private access from the C40 and demonstrating access from the C40 road to the north west. At the time of the meeting there had been no response to this from the applicant.

the application remains open pending the observations made being considered and addressed by them. **(Matter now closed)**

- **Feedback re Bus Shelter Request – Teviot Smokery. (PJ)**

Com Cllr Peter Jearv updated the meeting about the bus shelter request he had been progressing with Alastair Finnie. Following a site meeting earlier in the year the request has now been approved and a shelter will be erected at the locus in due course. **(Matter now closed)**

- **Road Maintenance – Nisbet (MMcG)**

Com Cllr Malcolm McGregor gave an update on the various aspects of road maintenance/road safety that he has been liaising with SBC on over the summer months. This included poorly maintained drains, undergrowth encroaching on the roadway, eroding verges and lack of grass cutting. It also incorporated white lining on the Nisbet section of the B6400 which unlike the Ancrum counterpart did not have white lines. A reply from SBC suggested this as because the Nisbet section of the B6400 was narrower than that at Ancrum and did not meet the necessary regulations, however measurements taken by the Chair showed that in numerous places this was not always the case. Further correspondence has been sent outlining this and a reply is yet to be received. However, all the other seasonal maintenance matters have been addressed and work surrounding pot holes, verge and road edge damage is to be monitored. A letter of appreciation was sent by Malcolm McGregor to SBC roads department for the work which has been carried out. **(Matter now closed)**

- **FloGas –**

For clarity surrounding the details of FloGas and supply, the following is a copy of the background and procedure in relation to the scheme introduced in 2015 by CEN CC. As the scheme has now expired, any future scheme would need to be renegotiated by the CC.

*“ The LPG scheme, which was agreed in 2015, is quite different from the Oil Group Purchase Scheme.*

*People with LPG are subject to two year contracts with their supplier. There are also tank rental costs, site inspections and tank transfers etc consider.*

*At that time prices for LPG varied significantly between individuals some paying up to .75p per litre.*

*FloGas and Avanti were approached and gave presentations on the best deal that they could give to individuals within our area.*

*Following comparison it was agreed that FloGas should be promoted as the preferred supplier and the community were advised.*

*New and existing customers were able to take advantage of the new deal. The Community Council received £25 for each of the three new customers.*

*There is no way of telling how many existing customers took advantage of the scheme as they deal directly with the supplier and there is no obligation for them*

*to tell the CC.”*

*“ The expiry date for people joining the special deal expired in 2017.*

*Any new people to the area seeking information are directed to FloGas”*

**ACTION – Secretary to add to December agenda for discussion surrounding future presentations in order to update the deal (VEW).**

- **Treasurer’s Report:**

The Treasurer provided a report to the meeting highlighting an income of £2632.51 and expenditure of £580.00 leaving a balance of £2051.51 before anticipated expenditure through to March 2019 of £582.00 which leaves an anticipated balance of £1470.51.

- **Police Report – Community Police Officer:**

To be considered alongside item 5 (1). It has been established that PC Chisholm is on sick leave and has been for some time. No alternative representative from Police Scotland has been offered regarding Community Council meeting attendance. No police report had been made available prior to this meeting despite the efforts of the Secretary and Interim Chair. There has been no police attendance at CEN CC meetings during 2018 and only a partial report in February and at the AGM in May. It was agreed that the newly appointed Chair write to Police Scotland requesting an update on police attendance and police reports. SBC Cllr Scott also offered to contact Police Scotland at their co-located department at SBC.

**ACTION – Chair to write to Police Scotland seeking clarity on attendance.**

(MMcG)

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- **Community Updates from Community Councillors:**

- **Crailing** – An update was provided by Cllr Linda Coles on the revised committee of Lothian Hall, Crailing. Regular coffee mornings are now held, as are wood turners meetings. In October Stick dressing begins and in December an antique fair and candle making demonstration are due to take place.

Cllr Charlie Robertson highlighted the war memorial area and old Crailing bridge and suggested that the Crailing rideout ceremony would be ideally suited to taking place in its entirety in this area rather than between there and the village cross, located at the other side of the road. This suggestion to be cascaded to the Crailing Community by Cllr Linda Coles for consideration for 2019.

**ACTION – Cllr Coles to make suggestion regarding Crailing rideout ceremony for 2019 to take place in the war memorial area where presentation of the quiche and other duties could take place.**

- **Eckford** – Cllr Peter Jearv raised the possibility of a remembrance ceremony at Eckford and consideration to laying a wreath to mark the 100 years centenary of the end of WW1.

**ACTION – Cllr Jearv to contact Mr Jim Brand who now owns Eckford Church to establish if access could be gained to the adjacent field for use on 11<sup>th</sup> November and together with Cllr Charlie Robertson to make all the necessary arrangements for the ceremony. (PJ/CR)**

- **Nisbet** – To be read in conjunction with section 5 (h).

There were no new matters for consideration.

- **Ulston** – There was no representation from Ulston due to Cllr Hogg not being present. No intimation of any issues had

previously been lodged with the Secretary prior to the meeting.

- **SBC Update:**

- **Dog Waste Bin – Mounthoolv.** Although SBC Cllr Hamilton had tendered apologies (and confirmed matters for action dealt with) as he was at another meeting and Cllr Scott was in attendance there was no update in relation to the possibility of a waste bin for the use by dog walkers at Mounthoolv. Cllr Scott said he would advise were the matter had been left and update the Secretary.

**ACTION – SBC Cllr Scott to update Secretary.**

b) **Road Safety – various** – To be collated and discussed at site meetings with SBC representatives.

- **Planning Applications:**

No current planning applications.

- **Correspondence: Circulated/Discussed:**

Correspondence circulated since the last meeting was agreed as accurate.

- Scottish Government Climate Challenge Fund Information Surgery
- CCN participation request refusal - Eyemouth CC
- National Council of Rural Advisors – Together we can, together we will.
- SBC- Physical Disability Consultation



- SBC - Localities bid funding.
- SBC - Various road network documents from John Henderson, Technical Services.
- Community Councils Network Meeting – dates, agenda and minutes.
- SBC – Programme of planned revenue and capital works for Cheviot – 2018/2019
- SBC – Scottish Border Council Household Survey -play#yourpart.
- Headstone testing programme update - SBC
- Update, Campaign for a Scottish Borders National Park - SBC Community Councils
- Localities Bid Fund - Communities & Partnerships Team, SBC
- Water resources update - Scottish Water
- Transport Scotland Bill – view sought - Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee
- Meeting Information – Bipolar Support Scotland Group
- Making Places Initiative – Scottish Government
- Scottish Borders Community Council Information – various
- Date of meeting - Community Energy Innovation Event –
- Health and Social Care Partnership Annual Performance Report 17/18 - Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Partnership
- What Matters Hubs - Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Partnership
- Shaping the future of your water and waste water services – Scottish Water
- Members Bulletin – Community Energy Scotland
- headstone safety testing programme – SBC Updates
- Volunteer Recruitment Poster - Alzheimer Scotland
- AGM notification - Roxburgh and Berwickshire CAB AGM
- Coffee and Collaboration – Live Borders

- **AOB:**

- Feedback from **Cheviot Area Partnership meeting 12/09/2018** "Our Place". (MMcG)

Cllr Malcolm McGregor gave a comprehensive report on the meeting he attended in Jedburgh where the theme was "Our Place". Round table discussions with other relevant organisations as well as SBC, various officials and students took place. Topics covered included town centre regeneration, housing, infrastructure, climate change, housing in the countryside and vacant / derelict sites.

The date and topic of the next meeting is not yet known.

**SBC Cllr Scott wished to highlight that the Area Partnership meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend and are not restricted to Community Councillors.**

- **Bulb Planting** – It was established that no bedding plants had been purchased this year through the CC for the CEN community and in order that this be addressed in 2019 it was agreed that the matter be put on the agenda for February 2019 so that it could be dealt with in time next year.

**ACTION – Secretary to add to February's agenda. (VEW)**

- The issue of **GDPR** was raised by the Chair following the minutes from the Community Council Network meeting being circulated and received last week. (*item not noted in correspondence as it arrived after publication of the agenda*). Previously, it was believed that CEN complied with GDPR following notification to residents on the mailing list by Sheila Campbell, Website Administrator. As per the minutes from the CNN Meeting it would appear that CEN CC need to have a certificate showing which parts of GDPR are complied with as per the Information Commissioners Guidelines. This is the same for all CC's in the Scottish Borders. The fee associated with this is to be funded by SBC as per Clare Malster who was present at the CCN meeting on 15/8/2018.

**ACTION - Chair and Secretary to establish what level of GDPR CEN CC need to be compliant with and how certificate is**

thereafter obtained. (VEW + MMcG).

- **Participation Requests:** Participation Requests were raised by the Chair as per the CCN which suggested that Community Councils consult their communities to take advantage of the access granted by new legislation with regards local decision making of government funded bodies such as SBC NHS Fire Policing and education. Cllr Malcolm McGregor stated that CC's seemed to be encouraged to act as the conduit for information to be passed to Community Projects or groups. Further information can be found on the internet under Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 or through the CCN.
- **Community Bid Fund:** The Chair gave an overview of the current situation with regards funding in our area. The fund was now open for bids to be made between 2nd July and 1st October 2018 the allocation of funds by area being as follows:- The cheviot area has £50,568. Cllr Sandy Scott suggested that should further information be required then Clare Malster or Shona Smith be contacted (Communities and Partnership Manager SBC)

The Chair updated Cllr Linda Coles to the fact that Live Borders have an excellent syllabus of events which can be run at various hall locations FOC to encourage use by the Community.

**ACTION – Cllr Coles to make investigation into Live Borders offers and to liaise with Annette Fraser who keeps the bookings for Eckford hall.**

- **Crailing Bridge ownership:**

Mr Pearson Crailing attended the meeting to update the CC on his work in relation to the old Crailing Bridge. The bridge is currently not in too bad state of repair although it may need some maintenance work in the future. Mr Pearson has been unable to establish ownership and has been keen to try to have the bridge listed, this can only be considered if the owner is traced.

**ACTION – Secretary to liaise with SBC to establish owner details. (VEW)**

- **Date of next meeting:**

**Monday 3rd December 2018 Eckford Village Hall.**

