

## CRAILING, ECKFORD & NISBET COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Chairman's Report – 2018 (June 2017 – May 2018)

Over the past year community Council achievements are as follows:

- At the AGM of the Community Council, the Chairman post became vacant and the Community Council were unable to appoint a new Chairman. Following discussion it was agreed to hold a further meeting, to allow time for various options to be explored. The retiring Chairman John Campbell agreed to chair the rest of the Meeting. Subsequently, a special Meeting of the community Council was held on 19 June, where I (Sylvia Seivwright) was appointed Chairman. This left a vacancy for Treasurer, which was filled by Peter Jeary and we were please to advise that Linda Cole from Crailing would be taking on the role of Secretary. Linda later gave up this role and we are pleased to advise that Victoria Wood from Crailing has now taken over as ecretary on an external basis. Many thanks to both for all your help and support.
- **THE THREE YEAR PLAN (2014-2017)** Significant progress has been made over the various projects.
  - Jubilee Path A new route has been completed allowing walkers to go under the road on the A698 at Kalemouth, so it is now much safer. Further changes will be made on the stretch at the top of the Loaning to make it more accessible and be more helpful to the farmer. Charlie will be able to explain more about this. The path is proving very popular with individuals and groups and the booklet is in the process of being updated and reprinted. Many thanks to Charlie, who continues to keep the path strimmed and in good order. A proposal for the erection of a bus shelter at the Teviot Smokery, the starting and finishing point for many of the walkers, is currently being investigated. Concerns raised at the last meeting regarding the speed of traffic on the A698 at the Teviot Smokery has also been raised with the police and is also currently under investigation.
  - Website Sheila Campbell continues to administer the Community Council website, which has been well viewed and has proved a huge success. Work continues on updating the site and website functionality. The addition of the Oil Group is currently being tested. Many thanks to Sheila for all the hard work she continues to put into the project.
  - AED Defibrillators As you are aware, Elliot Smith gave notice that he would be giving up as overall administrator of the project. The pads in all of the AED'S have now been replaced and the batteries will require to be replaced in August. We were fortunate to have Malcolm McGregor from Nisbet agree to take over from Elliot and he now has all the training equipment. Malcolm has already had a hand over with Elliot. So thank you Malcolm.

- The Group Oil Purchase Scheme continues to be a success and Jane Vickers has now taken over the administration from Elliot Smith. It is worth noting that the community have saved around £16,031 by being part of the scheme. Our thanks to Jane for all her hand work.
- Our very successful and much appreciated e-newsletters are now being created and distributed via MailChimp so they have a more professional look. 17 e-newsletters have been distributed in the last year. Many thanks again to Sheila.
- New Three Year Plan A new Three Year Plan was proposed and the Community Council are currently considering items to include on the Plan.

### **RESILIENT COMMUNITIES.**

The equipment in the Resilient Communities sheds, provide by Scottish Borders Council, has proved invaluable, some of which was made good use of during the recent spell of bad weather.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Submissions from Scottish Borders council were considered and discussed.

### **Other**

The Community Council have dealt with a large amount of correspondence sent to us for consideration. We hosted the Annual Crailing Ride-out and provided a wreath for the remembrance service at Eckford Parish Church. The Community Council has also registered an interest in the Watchtower at Eckford Parish Church should it become available for sale. Following a proposal from the Community Council a 30 MPH speed limit was introduced at Ulston.

### **THANKS**

My thanks to all the Community Councillors, SBC local Members, SBC Officials, grant funders and local residents for their contributions and help and support over the last year and I wish the Community Council all the best for the future. Our Community Council is seen as a shining light and is highly thought of by other Community councils, long may it continue.