

JED VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

of the Jed Valley Community Council held on
Tuesday 10th March 2020 at Edgerston Village Hall .

Welcome and Declarations

The meeting was opened by the Chair who welcomed all present, thanked people for their attendance , invited declarations of interest and requested notice of apologies.

Apologies

Sheila Wilson, Cllr Sandy Scott & Cllr Jim Brown & Matt Tile.

Members present

Michael Barker, Anna Bradley, Jenny Brown, Peter Hincks, and Nichol Renwick

Approval of minutes

The minutes of previous meeting were approved subject to a correction being made to the Treasurers report.

This should have read :- “As at the 10th January the balance of accounts stood at £ 946.69 with an addition of £ 237.60 being ring fenced for the picnic bench making a balance of accounts of £1184.29.”

Matters arising

[a] Scottish Borders Walking Festival :- There had been no response from the community and the JVCC therefore accepted that there was no interest in the subject. It was pointed out that there were no suitable walking routes within the area that enabled a circuitous route to be achieved.

[b] Scottish Borders Budget meeting :- there was no representation from the JVCC at this meeting

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[c] Nominations for the Regional Economic Partnership No nominations were received

[d] Litter picking:- It was suggested that we once again organise a litter picking operation within the various lay-bys on the A68. It was agreed that a Sunday in March/ April would be arranged. Michael agreed to notify members of the selected date and ensure that appropriate safety apparel and picking sticks etc were available.

[e] VE Day 75 Celebrations :- a letter from SBC was discussed concerning a Fund having been allocated to assist in celebrations. Applications to the fund stood at £ 7,575.00. As there had been no tangible suggestions or ideas put forward for celebrations it was decided to continue with those already organised. A notice of the event would be circulated locally at Carter Bar and a photographer sought to record the event.

Police Report

A copy of the new Police Report had been received from our Community Officer. A copy has been passed to each of our councillors but copies are available to members of the public on request via our web site.

SBC Councillors Report

[1] The Jed Forest Filling Station:- At long last a new contractor has been awarded the demolition job and the building has now been demolished and awaiting final clearance of the site.

[2] In respect of the “Dark Woods”,(A68 south of Camptown), site Messrs BAM Construction have begun the final stages of underpinning the carriageway and hope to have there site cleared and resurfaced before the commencement of the tourist season.

[3] The Jedburgh Grammar School campus is moving into the final stages, decorating and furnishings are being installed, with a view to students moving in after the Easter break. SBC Councillors were pleased to attend the formal handover ceremony of the Golden Key from Messrs BAM Construction on Monday 9th March.

[4] It is possible that traffic lights may have been noticed on the A68 near the Laidlaw Pool. Our ward Councillor Jim Brown has been working with Messrs Amey for a couple of years looking at improving pedestrian safety in the area. Different options have been assessed and from a short list

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of 4 a Pelican type pedestrian crossing was chosen. An improvement in safety is confidentially predicted especially for those with mobility issues.

Secretary's Report

There is nothing to report here except to say that all correspondence from third parties to our Secretary have been diverted to the chair during our Secretary's absence and that a large proportion of emails and literature received has nothing to do with the community council. Those that are relevant have been dealt with elsewhere in the minutes. We all wish Sheila a speedy recovery and hope that she will be able to return to the fold , fit and well, in the near future.

Treasurer's Report

As at the 10th March the balance of accounts stood at £1,184.29 including £237.60 having been ring fenced for the picnic bench.

A request has been made to each of the Community Halls to present their invoices before the end of the financial year.

Any Other Matters

(1) Auld Coaching Brig

Michael has gathered information and completed a time consuming form for HES with a view to having the Brig (bridge) allocated as a historical building. Following final acceptance of the form the application was acknowledged last week with the proviso that a result could take 6 to 9 months to process. A job number has been issued so that tracking progress can take place. Research has shown that the bridge originally formed part of the turnpike between Carter Bar and Jedburgh which was also part of the major route between Newcastle and Jedburgh around 1768.

(2) Picnic Bench update

The bench has been manufactured and is in store awaiting a suitable "weather window" before installation. It has been agreed with Southdean and Messrs Kaimburn that two invoices be issued ; one to each Community Council.

(3) Insurance renewal

A renewal form had been received, completed and returned several times due to administrative issues. The main activities noted on the form were:- Xmas Party, Litter picking in A68 lay-bys and VEDay 75 celebrations at Carter Bar.

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(4) Planning applications

There was one planning application made during the period January to March concerning an agricultural building.

(5) Logging at Edgerston Tofts Farm^[1]

A communication had been received from Messrs Forest Direct informing us that logging operations were due to re-commence at Edgerston Tofts. Following the tree felling operations timber haulage would commence using the C33 road but lorry movements would be restricted to 4 per day Monday to Friday.

It is expected that vehicles taking timber from the eastern exit on the C33 would head towards Oxnam to join the A68.

High sided lorries collecting brush chips for biofuel may need to access the A68 at Jedburgh. The communication is devoid of any planned dates although it is stated that confirmation of dates is awaited from the hauliers.

The communication requested the JVCC to advise names and addresses of local residents affected by the logging operations. The request was refused due to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations.

Community Councillors expressed concern about the C33, and other minor roads in the area, that had been flooded and seriously damaged by recent flood waters. Although the damaged areas had been temporarily repaired it was questionable as to whether the road was safe for vehicles to pass each other especially if one was a heavy goods vehicle. Our ward councillor has been asked to look into the matter.

A map outlining the proposed route will appear on the JVCC web site.

(6) Communication from Southdean CC

During the recent heavy rainfalls a considerable amount of serious flooding occurred in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership and the Community Councils within that area partnership are seeking solutions to resolve future flooding issues from the River Teviot, River Rule etc. meetings are proposed to collate information. The Jed Valley CC ⁽²⁾ has been asked if it is interested in contributing to the discussions seeing that the Jed Water and some of its tributaries rise in Southdean CC area. The chair has already expressed an interest in case anything comes out of those meetings that could affect the Jed Valley.

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Within the Jed Valley the A68 saw various areas of flooding and from information received Messrs Amey have already contacted some land owners to discuss such matters as “run off” from fields. It was noted that ditches had been excavated in places in an attempt to catch “the run” off before the road. Community Councillors have been asked to advise where flooding does, or has historically, happened within the valley.

Meeting close

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Date, Time & Place of next meeting

Tuesday 12th May _at 7.30pm in Glen Douglas Community Hall and will be split into two parts. The first being the Annual General Meeting followed by the normal business meeting.

Chairmans note :-

-[1] Should you have any queries we advise you to contact Andy Wiseman on 07733121178 or Messrs Forest Direct Ltd on 01896 850615

-[2] The Jed Valley Community Council falls in the Cheviot Area Partnership within which the Jed Water flows before reaching the River Tweed. Southdean and other CC's mentioned above fall within the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership.

Jed Valley Community Council Members
Michael Barker, Anna Bradley, Jenny Brown (Treasurer)
Peter Hincks (Chairman), Nichol Renwick, Matt Tile (Vice Chairman),
Sheila Wilson (Secretary)
